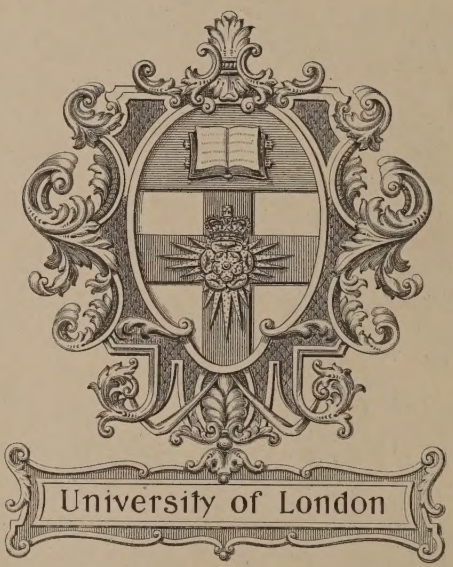
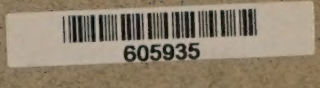

University of London


605935

REPORTS

FROM

COMMITTEES:

ELEVEN VOLUMES.

—(11.)—

THEATRICAL LICENSES AND REGULATIONS;
TRADE IN ANIMALS.

Session

1 *February*—— 10 *August* 1866.

VOL. XVI.

1866.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

1866.

ELEVEN VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

ELEVENTH VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

THEATRICAL LICENSES AND REGULATIONS:

373. REPORT from the Select Committee on THEATRICAL LICENSES and REGULATIONS; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, MINUTES of EVIDENCE, and APPENDIX - - p. 1

373-I. INDEX to the above REPORT - - - - - - 351

TRADE IN ANIMALS:

427. REPORT from the Select Committee on TRADE in ANIMALS; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, MINUTES of EVIDENCE, and APPENDIX - - - - - - - 423

427-I. INDEX to the above REPORT - - - - - - 831

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

THEATRICAL LICENSES AND REGULATIONS;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
28 *June* 1866.

Wednesday, 28*th February* 1866.

Ordered, That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the working of the Act of Parliament for Licensing and Regulating Theatres and places of Public Entertainmen in Great Britain, and to report any alterations which may appear desirable.

Wednesday, 7*th March* 1866.

Committee nominated,—

Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Walpole.
Lord Eustace Cecil.
Lord Ernest Bruce.
Sir Arthur Buller.
Mr. Clay.
Mr. Clive.
Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Powell.
Mr. Selwin.
Colonel Sturt.

Ordered, That the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, That Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Thursday, 28*th June* 1866.

Ordered, That the Committee have power to report their Opinion, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, to The House.

REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - - - - p. v
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 277

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the Working of the Acts of Parliament for Licensing and Regulating Theatres and Places of Public Entertainment in *Great Britain*, and to Report any Alterations which may appear desirable;——HAVE considered the Matters to them referred, and have come to the following RESOLUTIONS, which they have agreed to Report to the House:

I. As far as relates to the Metropolis,

Resolved—THAT it is the opinion of this Committee,

1. That the present system of double jurisdiction under which theatres are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and music halls, and other places of public entertainment, by the magistrates, is inconvenient and unsatisfactory.

2. That the power of licensing of "any house, room, garden, or other place kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind," hitherto vested in the magistrates by Act 25 Geo. II. c. 36, sec. 2 & 3, be transferred to the same authority, which may be empowered to grant licenses to theatres, so that the entire regulation of theatres, music halls, and other places of public entertainment, be placed under one authority.

3. That such power of licensing could not be efficiently exercised by a subordinate authority, and that it is therefore desirable that it should be placed in the hands of an officer of high position and dignity.

4. That it is desirable that the Department of the Lord Chamberlain be so organised as to be able to deal with all such places of public entertainment within the metropolis.

5. That it is desirable that any Act of Parliament dealing with the licensing of theatres, music halls, and other places of entertainment, should render compulsory the inspection and survey of such places, as regards the stability of structure, due security against fire, ventilation, and facility of ingress and egress; and that the authority to whom the licensing may be entrusted, be required to frame regulations from time to time for ensuring the safety and accommodation of the public, which regulations should receive the sanction of the Secretary of State, and be laid upon the Table of the House of Commons.

6. That, apart from the question whether an identical form of license should or should not be given to theatres and music halls, it is not desirable to continue the existing restrictions which prevent music halls from giving theatrical entertainments.

7. That there be different forms of licenses; one where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may be consumed in the auditorium of the building, the second where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may not be so consumed.

8. That the control which the Lord Chamberlain now exercises over the performances in theatres, should be extended to other places of entertainment for which licenses may be required.

9. That the censorship of plays has worked satisfactorily, and that it is not desirable that it should be discontinued. On the contrary, that it should be extended as far as practicable to the performances in music halls and other places of public entertainment.

10. That it is desirable that when application is made for a license for a theatre, music hall, or other similar place of entertainment, the applicants should be required to furnish such security as shall be satisfactory to the licensing authority, not exceeding *l.*, and satisfactory evidence as to their respectability as to the fitness of the building for the purposes for which it is intended, and as to the convenience of the site; and that in the event of such evidence being satisfactory, the license should be granted without reference to any question of competition with other establishments.

11. That the decisions of the Lord Chamberlain should be subject to an appeal to the Home Secretary, as far as the original granting of licenses is concerned.

12. That the provisions for enforcing the proper working of the Act of 25 George II. c, 36, relative to the licensing of music halls, are insufficient and unsatisfactory, as there is no legal authority under which the police can take direct proceedings against unlicensed houses, in which music and dancing are going on, although they are empowered to deal summarily with cases of unlicensed theatrical entertainments.

13. That it is desirable to repeal the 7th section of the Act of 5 & 6 Will. 4, c. 39, which empowers the Excise to grant beer and spirit licenses to all buildings licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or the Justices.

II. As far as relates to the Country,

14. That it is desirable that the licensing of a new theatre should be by the Lord Chamberlain instead of, as heretofore, by the Magistrates; but that the powers now exercised by the Magistrates, both as regards the renewal of licenses and as regards regulations, should continue in force.

15. That it is desirable that the proprietors of music halls, and other similar places of public entertainment, should be required to apply to the Magistrates for a license, under the same or similar provisions to those which may be enacted relative to similar places of entertainment in the Metropolis.

16. That the 12th Section of the Act of 6 & 7 Victoria, cap. 68, relative to the censorship of plays intended to be produced or acted for hire in any theatre in Great Britain, continue in force, and that such censorship be extended, as far as practicable, to music halls, and other places of public entertainment throughout Great Britain.

28 June 1866.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 13*th March* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Walpole.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Powell.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Selwin.
Lord Ernest Bruce.	

Mr. *Goschen* called to the Chair.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 19*th March* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Sir Arthur Buller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Lusk.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Lord Ernest Bruce.

A Memorandum on Theatres by the Honourable *Spencer Ponsonby*, was handed in, and read.

Mr. *Spencer Ponsonby*, examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 23*d March* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair:

Mr. Locke.	Sir Arthur Buller.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. Powell.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Selwin.	Lord Ernest Bruce.

Mr. *Henry Pownall* and Sir *Thomas Henry*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Monday, 16th April, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 16*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Lusk.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Powell.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. O'Beirne.	

Sir *Richard Mayne*, the Hon. *George Norton*, and Mr. *Frederick Strange*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 20*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Du Cane.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Mr. Lusk.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Walpole.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Selwin.	

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. *Locke* was called to the Chair.

Mr. *F. Strange*, further examined.

Mr. *W. H. Bodkin* and Mr. *W. B. Donne*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 23*d April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Sir Arthur Buller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Walpole.	

Mr. *W. B. Donne*, further examined.

Mr. *Frederick Stanley*, examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 27*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Selwin.	

Mr. *Frederick Stanley*, further examined.

Mr. *Benjamin Webster* and Mr. *J. B. Buckstone*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 30*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Walpole.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Lord Ernest Bruce.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Clay.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Powell.	

Mr. *W. B. Donne*, further examined.

Mr. *E. T. Smith* and Mr. *Dion Boucicault*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 4*th May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Selwin.
Colonel Sturt.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Powell.	Lord Ernest Bruce.

Mr. *Dion Boucicault*, further examined.

Mr. *Shirley Brooks*, and Mr. *Horace Wigan*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 7th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clay.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Clive.
Colonel Sturt.	

Mr. *Tom Taylor*, examined.

Mr. *Horace Wigan*, further examined.

Mr. *Nelson Lee* and Mr. *John Hollingshead*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 11th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Sir Arthur Buller.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Clive.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Clay.

Mr. *W. T. Simpson*, Mr. *John Green*, Mr. *John Poole*, Mr. *Stirling Coyne*, and Mr. *David Francis*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 18th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Selwin.
Colonel Sturt.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Lusk.	Mr. Du Cane.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. O'Beirne.

Mr. *David Francis*, further examined.

Mr. *John Knowles*, examined.

[Adjourned to Monday, 28th May, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 28th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Colonel Sturt.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Locke.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Clive.	

Captain *Shaw*, Mr. *Charles Kean*, Mr. *Charles Reade*, and Mr. *Frederick Guest Tomlins*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 1*st June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Powell.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Locke.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	

Mr. *Tomlins*, further examined.

Major *John James Greig*, Mr. *John Jackson*, and Mr. *Daniel Saunders*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 8*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MR. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Locke.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Du Cane.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	

The Viscount *Sydney*, Lord Chamberlain (attending by permission of the House of Lords), examined.

Police Inspector *Reason*, examined.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Friday, 22d June, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 22*d June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Walpole.	Mr. Du Cane.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. Powell.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Clay.

The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 28th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. GOSCHEN in the Chair.

Mr. Powell.	Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Locke.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clay.
Colonel Sturt.	Lord Ernest Bruce.

Draft Resolutions to be proposed by the Chairman, read as follows:

I. As far as relates to the Metropolis,

"That it is the opinion of this Committee:—

"1. That the present system of double jurisdiction under which theatres are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and music halls by the magistrates, is inconvenient and unsatisfactory.

"2. That the licensing of music and dancing saloons by the magistrates be abolished, and that the powers hitherto vested in them by Act 25 Geo. II., as far as relates to music halls, be transferred to the same authority which may grant licenses to theatres, so that the entire regulation of theatres, music halls, and other similar places of entertainment, be placed under one authority.

"3. That such powers could not be efficiently exercised by a subordinate authority, and that it is therefore desirable that they should be placed in the hands of an officer of high position and dignity.

"4. That it is desirable that the Department of the Lord Chamberlain be so organised as to be able to deal with all the music halls, saloons, and similar places of entertainment within the metropolis, and that the additional expense might be covered by the charge of an adequate fee on all licenses.

"5. That apart from the question whether an identical form of license should or should not be given to theatres and music halls, it is not desirable to continue the restrictions which prevent music halls from giving theatrical entertainments.

"6. That it is desirable that any Act of Parliament dealing with the licensing of theatres, music halls, and other places of entertainment, should render the inspection and survey of such places, as regards the stability of structure and facility of ingress and egress, compulsory; and that the authority to whom the licensing may be entrusted, be required to frame regulations from time to time for ensuring the safety of the public, which regulations shall receive the sanction of the Secretary of State, and be laid upon the Table of the House of Commons.

"7. That the control which the Lord Chamberlain now exercises over the performances in theatres, should be extended to other places of entertainment for which licenses may be required.

"8. That the censorship of plays has worked satisfactorily, and that it is not desirable that it should be discontinued. On the contrary, that it should be extended, as far as practicable, to the performances in music halls.

"9. That it is desirable that when application is made for a license for a theatre, music hall, or other similar place of entertainment, the applicants should be required to furnish satisfactory evidence as to their respectability, as to the fitness of the building for the purposes for which it is intended, and as to the convenience of the site; and that in the event of such evidence being considered satisfactory on these points, the license should be granted without reference to any question of competition with other establishments.

"10. That the provisions for enforcing the proper working of the Act of 25 Geo. II., c. 36, relative to the licensing of music halls, are insufficient and unsatisfactory, as there is no legal authority under which the police can take direct proceedings against unlicensed houses, in which music and dancing are going on, although they are empowered to deal summarily with cases of unlicensed theatrical entertainments.

"11. That it is desirable to repeal the 7th section of the Act of 5 & 6 Will. IV., c. 39, which empowers the Excise to grant beer and spirit licenses to all buildings licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or the Justices.

"II. As far as relates to the Country,

"12. That it is desirable that the manager of a new theatre should make his first application for a license to the Lord Chamberlain (or to such person as may be constituted the central authority for licenses in London), instead of, as heretofore, to the magistrates; but that the powers now exercised by the magistrates as regards the framing of regulations, and their due enforcement, should continue in force.

"13. That it is desirable that the proprietors of music halls, saloons, and other similar places of entertainment, should be required to apply to the magistrates for a license, under the same or similar provisions to those which may be enacted relative to similar places of entertainment in the metropolis."

Motion

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the present system of double jurisdiction under which theatres are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and music halls by the magistrates, is inconvenient and unsatisfactory."—Amendment made, by inserting, after the word "halls," the words "and other places of public entertainment."—Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That the power of licensing of 'any house, room, garden, or other place kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind,' hitherto vested in the magistrates by Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, s. 2 & 3, be transferred to the same authority, which may be empowered to grant licenses to theatres, so that the entire regulation of theatres, music halls, and other places of public entertainment, be placed under one authority"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That such power of licensing could not be efficiently exercised by a subordinate authority, and that it is therefore desirable that it should be placed in the hands of an officer of high position and dignity"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That it is desirable that the Department of the Lord Chamberlain be so organised as to be able to deal with all the music halls, saloons, and similar places of entertainment within the metropolis, and that the additional expense might be covered by the charge of an adequate fee on all licenses."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the words "the Department of the Lord Chamberlain," in order to insert the words "the Secretary of State for the Home Department"—(Mr. *Lusk*)—instead thereof.—Question put, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 6.
Mr. Clay.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Clive.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Selwin.	Colonel Sturt.

Whereupon the Chairman declared himself with the Ayes.

Amendment proposed, after the words "Lord Chamberlain," to insert the words "or the Secretary of State for the Home Department"—(Lord *Ernest Bruce*).—Question put, "That those words be there inserted."—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 6.
Lord E. Cecil.	Mr. Clay.
Lord E. Bruce.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Lusk.	Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Powell.

Whereupon the Chairman declared himself with the Noes.

Amendment proposed to leave out from the word "Metropolis" to the end of the Question—(Lord *Ernest Bruce*).—Question put, That the words "and that the additional expense" stand part of the Question.—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 4.	Noes, 8.
Mr. Lusk.	Lord E. Cecil.
Mr. Powell.	Lord E. Bruce.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Clay.
Colonel Sturt.	Mr. Clive.
	Mr. Du Cane.
	Mr. Locke.
	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
	Mr. O'Beirne.

Question, That the words "might be covered by the charge of an adequate fee on all licenses," stand part of the question—put, and *negatived.*—Main question, as amended,—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That, apart from the question whether an identical form of license should or should not be given to theatres and music halls, it is not desirable to continue the restrictions which prevent music halls from giving theatrical entertainments."—Amendment made by inserting the word "existing" before the word "restrictions."—Question, as amended,—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question put, "That there be different forms of licenses; one where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may be consumed in the auditorium of the

building; the second, where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may not be so consumed"—(Lord *E. Cecil*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 7.	Noes, 5.
Lord E. Cecil.	Lord E. Bruce.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Powell.	
Mr. Selwin.	

Motion made, and Question put, "That in places of entertainment where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco are allowed to be consumed in the auditorium, no more than three actors or actresses in all, exclusive of dancers and singers, take part in the performance"—(Lord *E. Cecil*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 5.	Noes, 7.
Lord E. Cecil.	Lord E. Bruce.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Lusk.
	Mr. O'Beirne.
	Colonel Sturt.

Motion made, and Question put, "That where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may be consumed in the auditorium of the building, a more restricted class of performances be permitted on the stage"—(Mr. *Powell*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 6.
Lord E. Cecil.	Lord E. Bruce.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Selwin.	Colonel Sturt.

Whereupon the Chairman declared himself with the Noes.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That it is desirable that any Act of Parliament dealing with the licensing of theatres, music halls, and other places of entertainment, should render compulsory the inspection and survey of such places, as regards the stability of structure, and facility of ingress and egress; and that the authority to whom the licensing may be entrusted be required to frame regulations from time to time for ensuring the safety of the public, which regulations should receive the sanction of the Secretary of State, and be laid upon the Table of the House of Commons."—Amendment made, by inserting the words "due security against fire, ventilation," after the word "structure," and the words "and accommodation" after the word "safety."—Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That the control which the Lord Chamberlain now exercises over the performances in theatres, should be extended to other places of entertainment for which licenses may be required"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the censorship of plays has worked satisfactorily, and that it is not desirable that it should be discontinued. On the contrary, that it should be extended as far as practicable to the performances in music halls."—Amendment proposed at the end of the Question to add the words "and other places of public entertainment.—Question, That those words be there added, put, and *agreed to.*

Main Question, as amended, put.—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 8.	Noes, 4.
Lord E. Cecil.	Mr. Clay.
Lord E. Bruce.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. O'Beirne.	
Mr. Powell.	
Mr. Selwin.	
Colonel Sturt.	

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That it is desirable that when application is made for a license for a theatre, music hall, or other similar place of entertainment, the applicants should be required to furnish satisfactory evidence as to their respectability, as to the fitness of the building for the purposes for which it is intended, and as to the convenience of the site; and that in the event of such evidence being considered satisfactory on these points, the license should be granted without reference to any question of competition with other establishments."—Amendment proposed after the word "furnish," to insert

insert the words "such security as shall be satisfactory to the licensing authority, not exceeding pounds"—(Mr. *Powell*)—instead thereof.—Question put, That those words be there inserted.—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 5.
Lord E. Bruce.	Lord E. Cecil.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Powell.	Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Colonel Sturt.	

Other Amendments made.—Main Question, as amended,—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and question put, "That the decisions of the Lord Chamberlain should be subject to an appeal to the Home Secretary"—(Colonel *Sturt*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 4.
Mr. Locke.	Lord E. Cecil.
Mr. Lusk.	Lord E. Bruce.
Mr. Taverner J. Miller.	Mr. Clay.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Mr. Clive.
Mr. Selwin.	
Colonel Sturt.	

Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "as far as the original granting of licenses is concerned."—Question, "That those words be there added," put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That the provisions for enforcing the proper working of the Act of 25 Geo. II., c. 38, relative to the licensing of music halls, are insufficient and unsatisfactory, as there is no legal authority under which the police can take direct proceedings against unlicensed houses in which music and dancing are going on, although they are empowered to deal summarily with cases of unlicensed theatrical entertainments,"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That it is desirable to repeal the 7th section of the Act of 5 & 6 Will. 4, c. 39, which empowers the Excise to grant beer and spirit licenses to all buildings licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or the Justices,"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question put, "That the magistrates continue to grant licenses for the performance of instrumental music and for dancing by the public only"—(Mr. *Powell*).—The Committee divided:

Ayes, 3.	Noes, 6.
Mr. O'Beirne.	Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Powell.	Lord Ernest Bruce.
Mr. Selwin.	Mr. Clay.
	Mr. Locke.
	Mr. Lusk.
	Mr. Taverner J. Miller.

Motion made, and Question, "That it is desirable that the licensing of a new theatre should be by the Lord Chamberlain instead of, as heretofore, by the magistrates; but that the powers now exercised by the magistrates, both as regards the renewal of licenses and as regards regulations, should continue in force"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That it is desirable that the proprietors of music halls, and other similar places of public entertainment, should be required to apply to the magistrates for a license, under the same or similar provisions to those which may be enacted relative to similar places of entertainment in the metropolis"—put, and *agreed to.*

Motion made, and Question, "That the 12th section of the Act of 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 68, relative to the censorship of plays intended to be produced or acted for hire in any theatre in Great Britain, continue in force, and that such censorship be extended, as far as practicable, to music halls and other places of public entertainments throughout Great Britain"—put, and *agreed to.*

Question, That these Resolutions be reported to the House—put, and *agreed to.*

Question, That the Minutes of Evidence be reported to the House—put, and *agreed to.*

Ordered, To Report.

EXPENSES OF WITNESSES.

NAME OF WITNESS.	Profession or Condition.	From whence Summoned.	Number of Days absent from Home, under Orders of Committee.	Expenses of Journey to London and back.	Allowance during absence from Home.	Total Expenses allowed to Witness.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
John Jackson - -	Chief Constable	Sheffield -	2	3 4 –	2 2 –	5 6 –
John James Greig -	Chief Constable	Liverpool -	3	3 18 –	3 3 –	7 1 –
				Total - - £.		12 7 –

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

PAGE.

Monday, 19*th March* 1866.

The Hon. Spencer Cecil Brabazon Ponsonby - - - - - - - 1

Friday, 23*rd March* 1866.

Henry Pownall, Esq. - - - 15
Sir Thomas Henry - - - - 30

Monday, 16*th April* 1866.

Sir Richard Mayne - - - - 39
The Hon. George Chapple Norton - 50
Frederick Strange, Esq. - - - 55

Friday, 20*th April* 1866.

Frederick Strange, Esq. - - - 61
William Henry Bodkin, Esq. - - 66
William Bodham Donne, Esq. - - 75

Monday, 23*rd April* 1866.

William Bodham Donne, Esq. - - 84
Frederick Stanley, Esq. - - - 94

Friday, 27*th April* 1866.

Frederick Stanley, Esq. - - - 106
Benjamin Webster, Esq. - - - 106
John Baldwin Buckstone, Esq. - - 120

Monday, 30*th April* 1866.

William Bodham Donne, Esq. - - 128
Edward Tyrrell Smith, Esq. - - 129
Dion Boucicault, Esq. - - - 141

Friday, 4*th May* 1866.

Dion Boucicault, Esq. - - - 149
Shirley Brooks, Esq. - - - 158
Horace Wigan, Esq. - - - - 162

PAGE.

Monday, 7*th May* 1866.

Tom Taylor, Esq. - - - - 171
Horace Wigan, Esq. - - - - 177
Nelson Lee, Esq. - - - - 178
H. J. Turner, Esq. - - - - 182
John Hollingshead, Esq. - - - 187

Friday, 11*th May* 1866.

Mr. William Thomas Simpson - - 195
Mr. John Green - - - - 200
Mr. John Poole - - - - 204
J. Stirling Coyne, Esq. - - - 206
Mr. David Francis - - - - 213

Friday, 18*th May* 1866.

Mr. David Francis - - - - 215
John Knowles, Esq. - - - - 217

Monday, 28*th May* 1866.

Captain Eyre Massey Shaw - - 224
Charles Kean, Esq. - - - - 229
Charles Reade, Esq. - - - - 235
Frederick Guest Tomlins, Esq. - - 242

Friday, 1*st June* 1866.

Frederick Guest Tomlins, Esq. - - 245
Major John James Greig - - - 246
John Jackson, Esq. - - - - 253
Mr. Daniel Saunders - - - - 259

Friday, 8*th June* 1866.

The Right Hon. Viscount Sydney, G.C.B. 264
Mr. Inspector Richard Reason - - 274

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Monday, 19*th March* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.
Sir Arthur Buller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Clay.
Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Powell.
Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

The Honourable SPENCER CECIL BRABAZON PONSONBY, called in; and Examined.

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.* 19 March 1866.

1. Mr. *Locke.*] WAS this document entitled "Memorandum on Theatres," drawn up at the Lord Chamberlain's Office?—Yes, and I propose to put it in.—(*The Witness handed in the same.* Vide *Appendix.*)

2. Now, with regard to the licensing of plays in the first instance; originally was it the case that the Lord Chamberlain had no power to license plays?—No, I think he had the power; the Lord Chamberlain acted under the prerogative of the Sovereign.

3. But under the prerogative of the Sovereign, whether he had the power or whether he had not, I believe it was not exercised previously to the 10 Geo. 2, was it?—Yes; he had, before that, complete control over the managers.

4. But to what extent was the prerogative then used, if used at all?—I should say even more strongly than it is at present; he interfered in the copyright of plays, and all other things connected with the stage.

5. Are you aware that the first material interference with managers was so late as the time of Gay's "Beggar's Opera," and that an Act of Parliament was passed, namely, 10 Geo. 2, distinctly giving the licensing power to the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes, the Act was passed, but the licensing power existed long before.

6. Are you aware that that was done from political motives, in consequence of Foote representing the Ministers on the stage, and among them Sir Robert Walpole?—I have heard that story.

7. Previous to that, it was the custom of theatrical managers and actors to represent on the stage anything that they pleased, unless they made themselves amenable to the general law of the country; was that not so?—I think that the Master of the Revels, or some subordinate officer of the Lord Chamberlain had then complete control, and was probably present at all the representations, and therefore saw that there was nothing improper in the performances.

8. I think the Beggar's Opera was brought out at Covent Garden in 1727?—I don't know the date.

9. Now, what is the date of 10 Geo. 2?—The 10 Geo. 2, is 1737.

10. Are you aware that when the Beggar's Opera was introduced, representations were made to Gay upon that subject?—We have no very distinct records of what took place at that period. I have not, however, looked particularly to that point with regard to the Beggar's Opera.

11. Did Gay afterwards introduce a piece called "Polly"?—I can't say without referring.

12. That play was not allowed to be acted, but was suppressed; and then, in consequence of that, in order to define the Lord Chamberlain's powers, in the year 1737, the writings of Gay and others were made the pretext for passing an Act known as the 10 Geo. 2, c. 28, was not that so?—I have heard so.

13. But previously to the passing of that Act of Parliament, the managers and actors had exercised their own discretion pretty much as to what they chose to act upon the stage, whatever might be the power of the Lord Chamberlain under the prerogative of the Crown?—Yes, I believe that was so. But there were only a few

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.*

19 March 1866.

few theatres, and the actors were the servants of the Crown.

14. Therefore, since that time, the 10 Geo. 2, until the passing of the 6 & 7 Vict., was the Act of Parliament which regulated theatres?—Yes.

15. Have you a note of the date of Sir Edward Bulwer's Committee?—That was a Committee on Dramatic Literature, which sat in 1832.

16. Was that Committee of Sir Edward Bulwer's appointed in consequence of the complaints of the smaller theatres, that they had not free trade in acting; that the right of acting the legitimate drama was confined to the two patent theatres, and the theatre in the Haymarket?—Yes.

17. On that ground the Committee was appointed?—Yes, no doubt that was so.

18. Now, I believe that the present Act was the result of that Committee?—The Act of 6 & 7 Vict. was not passed until 1843, which is 11 years afterwards.

19. Was there any other Committee appointed subsequently to that?—No, I think not, not before the passing of that Act. After the Committee of 1832, legislation seemed to have been dropped, and a Bill was introduced into Parliament but was not proceeded with.

20. By whom was that Bill introduced into Parliament?—I believe it was by Sir Edward Bulwer; I think that was founded upon the Report of the Committee of 1832.

21. When was that Bill introduced?—It was in March 1833; but there is no name on the back of the Bill, and I have not been able to ascertain it.

22. You think that that was the result of Sir Edward Bulwer's Committee?—Yes; I have reason to believe so.

23. Then things remained in abeyance for some time, but were the complaints of the managers of the minor theatres still continued?—There was still constant litigation between the managers of the minor theatres and the managers of the patent theatres.

24. Somewhat similar litigation to that which now exists between certain managers of theatres and the proprietors of music halls?—I should say so.

25. The managers of minor theatres claimed the same privileges as the patent theatres, did they?—They did not claim the same privileges, but they tried to get them.

26. That is to say, to be enabled to act every kind of dramatic performance, just as the patent theatres did?—Yes.

27. And they were resisted by the patent theatres?—Yes.

28. With regard to the music halls, they are now trying to obtain the privilege of acting plays, or, at all events, operas, and performing ballets, which the managers of the theatres say they are restricted from doing by this Act, 6 & 7 Vict.?—Yes, the 6 & 7 Vict.

29. After the 6 & 7 Vict. was passed, the magistrates, as well as the Lord Chamberlain, had the power of licensing theatres; what precisely is the Lord Chamberlain's district for licensing theatres?—His district as defined by the Act of 6 & 7 Vict., is all the Parliamentary Boroughs; but the magistrates have not the power of licensing theatres within that district.

30. But has the Lord Chamberlain the sole power of licensing theatres within the metropolitan boroughs?—Yes, the sole power.

31. At Greenwich?—Greenwich is not a metropolitan borough.

32. With regard to Chelsea, that is not a metropolitan borough, is it?—No.

33. The magistrates license the theatres there?—Yes.

34. How is it at Richmond?—Richmond was formerly a Royal residence, and the theatre there was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain under that same section of the Act.

35. Just as the theatre at Brighton was, I suppose?—It was so formerly, but it is no longer the case.

36. When was it discontinued?—When it ceased to be a Royal residence. With regard to the Brighton Theatre, for some time, more from usage than anything else, the Lord Chamberlain went on licensing it; but last year the magistrates called attention to the fact that Brighton had ceased to be a Royal residence, and the Lord Chamberlain discontinued the license. The opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown was taken upon that point, and they considered that it was only as a Royal residence that it was mentioned in the Act of Parliament. It was discontinued only last year; in fact it was licensed for last year.

37. In what way is this licensing now exercised; is there any difficulty whatever in it. Do you ever find that there is any objection to the plays which are sent to be licensed?—The objections are very few; you will see at the end of this memorandum a schedule of plays that have been refused licenses.

38. Do you consider that there is any necessity for the power of licensing plays to be continued in the hands of the Lord Chamberlain?—I have no doubt there would be many more plays of an improper character if that power were discontinued.

39. You think that that acts as a check?—Yes.

40. But you say that that power is never exercised with severity?—Never.

41. Nor is it necessary, I suppose, that any severity should be used?—No, I think not.

42. You state in your memorandum that there are 25 theatres in London; are you aware of the number of music halls that there are?—No, I have no means of knowing the exact number.

43. Have you any statement of the sums of money expended in building music halls?—No; the Lord Chamberlain has no sort of connection with the music halls, therefore I can give no evidence upon that point.

44. But can you state with reference to the theatres, the money that they have cost in building?—No, I am not able to state that.

45. Nor has the Lord Chamberlain any knowledge of the music halls?—None.

46. How many persons will all the theatres in London hold, should you say?—I have made no calculation of that.

47. Will you be kind enough to look at the last page of the paper, which I now hand you (*a paper being handed to the Witness*); can you state whether that is correct; take Her Majesty's Theatre, will it hold 2,200 persons?—I should say that that was about one-half of what Her Majesty's Theatre would contain.

48. Would

48. Would it contain 4,400 people?—I believe about 4,000. I have heard so, but I have made no calculation.

49. Now take Drury Lane; how many persons do you think it will hold?—I have made no calculation; I can only say what I have been told, but these figures, from what I know, appear to be very much under the mark.

50. Take the Haymarket Theatre?—1,503 is the figure given here.

51. Would the Haymarket Theatre hold more than that?—I cannot say, but I believe it holds more than that.

52. You have stated in this paper, with regard to the music halls, that they are established for the purpose of eating and drinking, that that is their principal object?—Yes.

53. And the theatres for the exhibition of the drama?—Yes.

54. Is that the sole purpose for which all those theatres are established; are you aware that in many of those theatres there is a beer-engine in the pit, and likewise barrels of gin, brandy, and all sorts of spirits, and that the privilege of selling those things in the theatres is a very great source of profit to the managers?—I cannot say that I am aware of that. I know that the Excise license is granted under the Act of Parliament.

55. As a matter of course?—Yes, as a matter of course by the Excise.

56. Whenever a theatre is licensed, the license carries a wine and spirit license as a matter of course?—Exactly.

57. To that extent the theatres are as much public-houses as the music-halls, are they not?—Yes.

58. It only depends, then, on the way in which the place is conducted?—Yes; for, by the Lord Chamberlain's regulations, the theatres are not allowed to sell spirits within the audience part of the theatre.

59. Are you quite sure of that?—Yes.

60. Do you mean they are told that they have not that power?—Under the rules of the Lord Chamberlain, spirits and refreshments are not allowed to be sold within the audience part of the theatre, excepting by the people who walk up and down the pit with baskets.

61. But you are aware that some of them have a beer-engine at the back of the pit, which I presume is the audience part of the theatre; and likewise other refreshments, spirits, and so forth?—May I ask which theatre you are alluding to?

62. I understood that that was so at Astley's, and at theatres at the east end of the town?—There are fixed places for refreshments at all the theatres.

63. You say that they must not be in the audience part of the theatre?—Just so.

64. But how do you know that they are not? I think they are not; they may be quite at the back of the pit.

65. I did not mean that they were in the centre of the pit?—Not so as to interfere with the audience.

66. No; but anybody may step to the back of the pit and drink a glass of beer or spirits?—Yes.

67. The pit and the refreshment bar are in the same area?—Yes; but the refreshment rooms do not interfere with the audience part.

68. But still they are in the audience part; they are not in the saloon in another part of the theatre, as they used to be formerly, though they have them there too; they are actually in the audience part?—The back of the pit is scarcely so, I think.

69. Is not that so with regard to all the small minor theatres?—There may not be space for saloons in all of them.

70. Then they put them in the pit?—Yes; but quite out of the audience part.

71. You mean not among the benches; but that the place is at the back of the pit; and then, besides that, people walk about between the seats with cans of beer, or brandy or gin, or whatever they like, to refresh the people as they are sitting there; is not, therefore, the difference between the theatres and the music-halls this: that in one case a man sits down at a table, and has refreshments put on it; and in the other case, that he goes and stands, as he would in a gin-shop, at the back of the pit; or has it brought to him in a can as he is sitting looking at the performance; is not that the result?—I should scarcely say so.

72. You said just now, that refreshments were carried round by women in the pit, "apples, oranges, ginger-beer?"—Yes.

73. But now, instead of apples, oranges, or ginger-beer, it is wine, spirits, or beer; is it not?—They might do it, but it would be an evasion.

74. How would it be an evasion?—By the rules of the Lord Chamberlain they are not allowed to do so.

75. They have the Excise license for selling those things in a theatre, and women take them round; or else persons go up to the counter at the back of the pit, or wherever it may be?—Yes, and the old basket goes round at some of the theatres.

76. And the new tap is there too?—The new tap is removed from the audience.

77. What, then, is the great distinction between music-halls and theatres?—In one the dramatic element is the chief object, and in the other the drinking is the chief object.

78. But they alike combine both, do they not?—To a certain extent.

79. Now have applications been made to the Lord Chamberlain, by proprietors of music-halls for licenses to perform plays?—Yes.

80. By whom were such applications made?—I have no list here.

81. Was one made by Mr. Strange of the Alhambra?—Yes.

82. Have they made an application from the Oxford Music Hall?—I cannot say from recollection, but I think not.

83. But an application has been made by Mr. Strange?—Yes, by Mr. Strange.

84. To what extent did that application go; what were the performances that he was anxious to have at the Alhambra?—I think they were not dramatic performances.

85. What were they?—Ballets, and things of that kind.

86. Do you think, then, that a ballet is not a stage performance?—I should say myself that a ballet is a performance of the stage.

87. But did he not ask leave to perform ballets?—Yes.

88. Then he did ask to perform stage plays according to you, though you said just now that the performances he was anxious to have were not theatrical performances?—He asked for the license I have mentioned.

89. Why was it refused?—Because I explained

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.*

19 March 1866.

to him the Lord Chamberlain's regulations, and he was not prepared to abide by them.

90. What are they?—That no smoking or drinking should take place in the audience part of the theatre.

91. That a person was not to sit down at a table and take his refreshment, but he was allowed to go to the back of the pit, or to some other part of the theatre for his refreshments?—Yes.

92. The Lord Chamberlain's regulations forbid smoking altogether?—Yes; he acts on the recommendations of the Committee of 1832 and the Committee of 1853 and 1854, which recommended that theatrical representations should be divided as far as possible from drinking and its accompaniments.

93. Have you given any attention at all to what takes place in those music-halls?—Not much.

94. They have not come under your notice?—I have visited them occasionally, not officially.

95. But, speaking unofficially, from what you have seen, have you noticed any impropriety there?—Speaking generally I should say not; but they differ very much.

96. Take the Alhambra, the Oxford, and Canterbury Hall; have you ever been to Canterbury Hall?—Yes.

97. Is not that a very well-conducted place?—Very well indeed.

98. Is there any impropriety there?—I am not aware of any.

99. Then the distinction between Canterbury Hall and a theatre seems to be this: that in the one case a man takes his refreshment while he is looking at the stage with a table before him, and in the other case he has got to walk to the back of the pit to get it; but they both take it; there is no difference then, except with regard to smoking, is there?—I think the distinction between Canterbury Hall and a theatre is, that in Canterbury Hall the principal object is the sale of spirits and various things, whereas in the theatres it is only an accessory.

100. But whatever is the object, the sale of spirits takes place in each of those places?—It does to some extent, I believe.

101. Have you ever seen any impropriety in, say, the Alhambra, the Oxford, or Weston's Music Hall?—I went the other day to the Alhambra, as I thought I might be asked the question, and certainly the society was not of the best description.

102. But did that society behave properly?—There was no very great impropriety of behaviour.

103. You thought that something might happen afterwards, perhaps; but was there any impropriety in the Alhambra; in the place itself?—The female part of the audience appeared to be composed principally of women of the town, and that description of person.

104. Women of the town likewise go to theatres, do they not?—They do, no doubt, as a part of the audience, so long as they behave themselves properly.

105. In fact, women of the town go everywhere, do they not?—I believe so.

106. Excepting to church, and probably they go there sometimes. However, of course you cannot expect, in a large city, in places of amusement, that the people will all be saints; but taking the audience generally who frequent those places, the bulk of them are respectable people, is not that so?—It differs very much in different parts of the town; at the Canterbury I saw nothing improper; I visited one at the east end of London, called the Cambridge Music Hall, and the audience was principally artizans.

107. With their wives?—Yes, with their wives; but at the Alhambra it was very different.

108. Now, with regard to what you saw at the Cambridge Music Hall, do you not think that that is a very beneficial thing?—I saw nothing to complain of.

109. If the artizan had not been there with his wife, would he not, in all probability, have been sitting in a public-house, or *might* he not, at all events?—To my mind he *was* sitting in a public-house.

110. But his wife was with him?—Yes; I think that place was extremely well conducted.

111. Is it not a beneficial thing that a man and his wife should amuse themselves together; the wife going along with him at all events restrains him from committing any excess?—Certainly.

112. Probably they would not have liked to go to a theatre, to sit in one spot all the time and have the trouble of getting refreshments between the acts; and if they prefer sitting at a table throughout the whole of the evening, is there any objection to their doing that, that you can see?—None that I can see.

113. There being no objection whatever to their doing that, and seeing the performances at present exhibited, would it not, in your opinion, be still better if the performances were still better; would it not be a great advantage to them if the performances were improved, that is to say, instead of being restricted, as many of those places are, to tumbling, and singing comic songs, and so on, that they should be able to enact a burletta, as they would in France, or a vaudeville, or what answers to a vaudeville here, or any of those light performances which they have at some of the theatres; do you see any objection to that?—I can see none, except that at present it is contrary to the Act of Parliament.

114. Do you think it would be an advantage if the Act were altered so that there should be greater freedom, and that the music-halls should have the power of giving better performances subject, if you please, to a license by the Lord Chamberlain?—I think there should be some license.

115. Seeing that they have become quite established in the metropolis, you conceive that it would be impossible to put an end to them, and the requirements of the public being so great in that way, that it is necessary they should remain?—I think so certainly.

116. That being granted, would it not be very beneficial if the style of the performance at the music-halls was improved, and more extended, so that they could play a little opera, or ballet, or act light pieces, subject to the Lord Chamberlain ascertaining that those were proper pieces to be exhibited; do you think that that would be an advantage?—I am scarcely prepared to say; it requires a little consideration.

117. But you think as they are established now that you could not put an end to them?—No, I think not, certainly; if kept under proper restrictions, they are very good things.

118. Do you not think it would be an advantage to improve the performances?—Yes, no doubt it would be so.

119. And

119. And that they should be placed under the Lord Chamberlain?—I do not know how that would be.

120. That would give the Lord Chamberlain a good many more plays to look at?—No doubt they must be subject to regulations, not only with regard to the class of performances but with reference to the buildings.

121. We will presume that the building is on the established principle, that is to say, subject to proper requirements and regulations, and that either the Lord Chamberlain, or the magistrates, should have the power of insisting that the buildings should be made so as to be commodious and safe?—Yes, that should be so of course.

122. That being so, and the music-halls being presumed to be on the established principle with regard to the buildings, then supposing, to go a step farther, that their performances should be improved, and that they should be allowed to enact stage plays, whether large stage plays or not, and whether Shakspeare or not (though I presume if they acted Shakspeare, and it suited the audience, it would be more elevating than the present performances), would it not in your opinion be an advantage that the privilege in question should be granted to these places?—I wish to give no opinion on that; but as it stands at present, the opinion of two Committees of the House of Commons who have sat on that question has been that the drama and drinking should be separated as far as possible, and on that principle the Lord Chamberlain has acted.

123. But that is years ago; have you no opinion of your own that you can offer to this Committee?—That was in 1854.

124. Yes, 12 years ago, but we march very rapidly in these times (we change our opinions probably in a week), and it appears, at all events, that the public entertain an entirely different opinion to that Committee, which they show by patronizing those places?—They patronize those places no doubt.

125. But in your opinion do you think it would be an advantage to allow a better style of performances at those places?—My own opinion is, that I agree with the recommendation of the Committee of the House of Commons which sat in 1854.

126. To separate drinking and the drama?—Yes, to separate drinking and the drama.

127. Then, if that were so, you would not allow the managers of theatres to take advantage of that Inland Revenue Act?—I think that section of the Act should be repealed; there should always be some means of refreshment at theatres, of course.

128. You mean that persons frequenting theatres should be confined to refreshments in the way of ices, ginger beer, and so on?—No, I do not say that.

129. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] What is your practice with regard to the rules for theatres; do you give those rules to the managers and require them to give bond for their observance?—You will see in the Memorandum a copy of the bond which the managers enter into, but the Act of 6 & 7 Vict. is very vague with regard to the power of the Lord Chamberlain to frame rules.

130. But the Lord Chamberlain does frame rules?—Yes, because he has the power to withdraw the licenses at the end of the year; he makes them conditional.

131. Mr. *Locke.*] How would you manage the refreshment system at theatres?—At all events I think they should apply for their Excise licenses, under some engagement, to the magistrates. That should be quite separate, I think.

132. You think that section 7 of the 5 & 6 W. 4, c. 39, which refers to this subject, should be repealed?—Yes, certainly the Act of Will. 4.

133. Then you would confine the magistrates to the licensing for spirits, and the Lord Chamberlain to licensing the theatres?—The Lord Chamberlain for the theatres, and, if they wanted a spirit license, they might apply in another form. After the passing of the Act of Will. 4 the publicans memorialised the Treasury, that the operation of that Act was very prejudicial to them, and upon that the Treasury issued a Treasury order to the Excise to suspend that Act. That Act was suspended for many years, but when the music-halls began their present very attractive performances, the theatres thought that they were placed at a very great disadvantage. The managers memorialised the Treasury, and the Treasury took the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown on the point, and they reported that to suspend the Act of Parliament by a Treasury order was not legal, and the Treasury order was consequently, in turn, suspended.

134. That was in 1858, during Lord Derby's government; Sir FitzRoy Kelly, and Sir Hugh Cairns gave that opinion?—I think so.

135. Since that it has never been disputed, has it?—No.

136. It was held that the word "may" meant "must," as is usually the case, and since then that license has been given as a matter of course?—Yes.

137. Then the theatres take upon themselves the privileges of public-houses?—They take the privilege which they have under the Act of selling refreshments.

138. The Lord Chamberlain as far as possible, without interfering vexatiously, permits them to sell spirits and refreshments, but not to make it the primary object of their houses; is that the way in which you would put it?—Yes.

139. Now with regard to the music halls; the music-halls are licensed by 25 Geo. 2, c. 30?—Yes.

140. That was an Act which was passed in 1751, which enabled magistrates to license houses for music, dancing, and public entertainments after five o'clock in the afternoon. Section 4 of the Act excepts the patent theatres, Crown licenses, and the Lord Chamberlain's licenses from the penalties of the Act?—Just so.

141. It is under that Act of Parliament that all those music-halls are licensed?—I believe so.

142. But now a spirit licensing Act exists besides?—Yes.

143. Which is quite distinct?—Yes, quite distinct.

144. The licenses under that Act are granted in the spring, and the licenses under this Act are granted in October, I believe?—I do not know, but I dare say it is so.

145. Have not the magistrates, therefore, a double check on these music-halls, as the law at present exists, supposing there were any improper conduct going on there; namely, they have the power of refusing the spirit license, and they have likewise the power of refusing the music and dancing license, and consequently putting an end to those establishments; do you not think that that is quite sufficient for the purpose of inducing

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.*

19 March 1866.

ducing the persons who own those places to carry them on properly?—I can give no opinion on that subject, as I have no knowledge of the rules of the magistrates.

146. But, however, there is that power; can the Lord Chamberlain exercise his powers at once, and shut up a theatre if he pleases?—If anything improper took place, I think he would assume that power at all events.

147. But whether the Lord Chamberlain has that power or not, you are not sure?—The Act is a very doubtful Act altogether, but I think under the rules which he makes, he would do so. I think that the Act, 6 & 7 Vict., is a very imperfect Act; the power of framing rules is omitted altogether.

148. At all events your opinion is that that Act might be properly repealed and fresh legislation take place on the subject?—I think so, but the Lord Chamberlain has had no difficulty under that Act whatever. He has had to deal with the managers of theatres, and they have always been most anxious to do whatever he has suggested should be done.

149. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] The licenses are for fixed periods, I presume?—Usually, but that is not binding in any way.

150. You think that the Lord Chamberlain could revoke his license?—It never has been done, I think, of late years.

151. Mr. *Locke.*] Did any case ever occur in which the Lord Chamberlain revoked his license?—I cannot say from recollection that there has.

152. Nor in which he was desirous of doing so?—Not within my recollection.

153. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Not since the commencement of the present century?—I am not aware of any.

154. Mr. *Locke.*] I think the Lord Chamberlain as you state has lately granted some very peculiar licenses, namely, to the Hanover Square Rooms, Willis's Rooms, and several other places of entertainment like that, to enable them to have performances before five o'clock?—Yes.

155. The music and dancing license, which license is granted by a magistrate under the 25 Geo. 2, c. 30, enables the magistrate to license places for public entertainment after five o'clock?—Yes.

156. Hitherto the Hanover Square Rooms and so on have been licensed by the magistrates?—Yes.

157. And never I believe until the last sessions at Middlesex was any objection taken to that proceeding?—I believe not.

158. The morning concerts all took place as usual?—Yes.

159. But in consequence of this interference with the music-halls notice was given at the Middlesex sessions, that though it was not intended to enforce the provisions of the 25 Geo. 2, c. 30, then, they would be enforced at the next licensing sessions. And these provisions made it imperative on the magistrates, where a performance had taken place before five o'clock, to take away the license and never grant it to the person who held it again; that is the law, is it not?—That is the law.

160. Now, how is it that the Lord Chamberlain has attempted to get over the law, he not having licensed those places at all hitherto?—After that notice was given, several of the proprietors of the concert-rooms, where morning concerts had taken place, appealed to the Lord Chamberlain to protect them, in order to enable that class of entertainment called morning concerts to be carried on as before. The Lord Chamberlain submitted the case to the law officers of the Crown, and they gave it as their opinion, that under 25 Geo. 2, c. 30, the Lord Chamberlain reserved his rights to give licenses for music and other entertainments such as he had given before that Act. Upon this the Lord Chamberlain desired me to consult with Mr. Pownall, the Chairman of the Middlesex Magistrates, and with his concurrence, and with the concurrence of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Lord Chamberlain determined to issue licenses to the proprietors of the concert rooms to give the same performances previous to five o'clock in the afternoon, as the magistrate's license enables them to give after that hour.

161. Under what power does the Lord Chamberlain do that?—Under the prerogative of the Crown, acknowledged by the Act of 25 Geo. 2.

162. You say that the opinions of the law officers of the Crown have been taken, and that they say 6 & 7 Vict. does not affect that in any way?—Just so.

163. That the powers (in that respect) of the Act in question are still in force?—Yes, 25 Geo. 2.

164. But that is empowering the magistrates; is there any clause in it empowering the Lord Chamberlain?—The 4th section of that Act, which you will find in the appendix, says, "That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to the Theatres Royal in Drury-lane and Covent Garden, or the theatres commonly called the King's Theatre, in the Haymarket, or any of them, nor to such performances and public entertainments as are or shall be lawfully exercised and carried on under or by virtue of letters patents, or license of the Crown, or the license of the Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's household, anything herein contained notwithstanding."

165. The opinion of the law officers of the Crown was that that preserved the Lord Chamberlain's right?—Yes, that it preserved his right. The entertainments which are lawfully given and carried on under that section you will find stated on page 8, and you will see that every kind of entertainment has been given under that Act or under the Royal Prerogative.

166. That gives the date?—Yes; there were many other classes of performances; these are only a certain number selected as showing the variety of things licensed by the Lord Chamberlain from time to time.

167. That opinion of the law officers of the Crown is acted on in granting those licenses?—Yes.

168. Has the Lord Chamberlain ever made any restrictions in them?—None, except producing the license of the magistrates; he requires that that should be produced which enables them to give performances after five o'clock, and upon that he grants the license before five o'clock.

169. That is what you may call a license in aid of the magistrates?—Exactly.

170. Mr. *Du Cane.*] On what special grounds has the Lord Chamberlain refused a license for a play at any time?—You will see, in Appendix K., that the instances given tell their own story. The object has been principally to exclude any

scriptural

scriptural subject, or plays in which highwaymen or immorality are exalted, and any personal, or personally political questions.

171. I see that in 13 years only 19 plays have been refused?—That is all.

172. Then of course that has had a beneficial effect, I mean the prohibition of those improper plays?—I think there are certainly some plays that should not be performed.

173. Do you think that in the absence of that power of prohibition many plays of a similar character would have been written, and would have been produced?—Probably; the managers know very well the class of plays that are prohibited.

174. And they do not encourage that style of dramatic literature?—Perhaps not.

175. You think it would be necessary, provided the music halls were put on the same footing as the theatres with regard to dramatic performances, that either the Lord Chamberlain or the magistrate should have this prohibitory power?—There should be some restriction, certainly.

176. You have stated that you have visited the music-halls, was that with a view to this inquiry?—No; I have visited them from time to time for some years.

177. As a matter of curiosity?—As a matter of curiosity.

178. You said, I think, that at some of those music-halls the audience appeared to be of a very respectable character, and at others not so, and your remarks had reference especially to the Alhambra?—More, I think, the Alhambra and the one in the Strand than any other that I visited.

179. Should you say that at the Alhambra there were any respectable tradesmen present with their wives and daughters?—I cannot say that I saw any.

180. The women who were there were principally, in your opinion, women of the town?—They appeared to be exercising their calling most openly.

181. Those women of the town are not excluded from the theatres, are they?—Not so long as they conduct themselves well; they are treated like the rest of the public.

182. Were there more women of the town at the Alhambra and at the Strand Music Hall than you have witnessed at any theatre?—Oh, certainly there were.

183. You have stated that, in your opinion, it would be advisible to separate the drama and the drinking; you did not assign any grounds for it, but I think your opinion is very valuable, and I should like more particularly to hear your reasons?—I think the drama has been considered always as an art, and it has been fostered with that view from time immemorial; it would be a great pity to degrade it. It has been used for the education of the people, and mixing it up with drinking as a principal attraction would, in my opinion, be a degradation.

184. Mr. *Miller.*] I see in this paper that the Lord Chamberlain grants licenses to the building, and also for the performing of particular plays, under 6 & 7 Vict.?—Yes.

185. The Appendix K represents the number of plays that he has prohibited?—Yes.

186. Now, I do not quite understand whether he withdrew his license from the theatre, or for the performance of that particular play?—Under 6 & 7 Vict. before a play is performed it is sent to an officer of the Lord Chamberlain's department, called the Examiner of Plays; he looks through that play, and if he sees nothing objectionable in it, he sends, for the Lord Chamberlain's signature, a form of license for that play; if he sees anything which to his mind is objectionable he sends it to me, and it is then brought to the notice of the Lord Chamberlain, who gives his directions on it.

187. Then he refuses his license to that play?—He refuses his license to that play.

188. But he does not withdraw his license from that theatre?—No; that play is merely banished, and there is an end of it.

189. Mr. *Locke.*] In refusing the license for a play is any reason stated?—I do not know whether it is actually given in writing, but the author or manager who sends it is made perfectly to understand the reason.

190. Mr. *Miller.*] From your experience in this matter, supposing all those music-halls were put on the same footing as the theatres, do you think it would be possible from night to night to restrain particular performances acted within those music-halls?—I think it would be very difficult; it would require a very large staff.

191. You could grant licenses to those music-halls for general performances, but you could not, as in the case of a theatre, withhold your license from any particular performance that is carried on by them?—They vary their performances so constantly, that it would be difficult for them to send in their manuscripts, and still more difficult and onerous for us to be called upon to examine them.

192. I will ask you generally, could you suggest any security for morality and propriety of conduct within this large number of music-halls, if they were allowed to be licensed for the performance of plays generally; I mean any mode by which the propriety of those places should be preserved?—I can see none other than that of a general license for the building in the first place, and then for any larger pieces that were produced, but it would be very difficult, I think.

193. In the large theatres, when you withhold your license from a particular play, that is considered to be inflicting a severe loss, or a contemplated loss or injury, upon the proprietor of the theatre, is it not?—I think that to a large theatre there has been no play refused; it is more at the minor theatres; the play of *La Dame aux Camelias,* which was refused for Drury Lane, was a play which had great success in Paris. I forget who was the manager of Drury Lane then, but it was not quite a temple of the classic drama at that time.

194. Mr. *Powell.*] That is the same play as the opera of *La Traviata,* is it not?—Yes.

195. Mr. *Miller.*] As a general rule, how would you describe the audiences which attend the regular theatres, such as Drury Lane and Covent Garden, and those music-halls and dancing-shops?—I think that the pit and gallery audiences at theatres probably attend the music-halls too; they are the same class of people; those who go to the boxes and stalls do not go to music-halls, I should say.

196. Can persons attend the great theatres, supposing prostitutes are present, without being offended by them?—They only go there as part of the audience.

197. But at other places, would people be more liable to be attracted or offended by their

The Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby.

19 March 1866.

presence than in the great theatres?—Not in all of them.

198. Do they not walk about?—At one or two of those places they do.

199. And they drink together, I suppose. Now, with regard to the costume of those women who walk about those places, is there anything objectionable in that?—No.

200. Taking the ballet performance at those music-halls, is it of the same character as you see in theatres; or is it of a more offensive character?—No, I think not; it is much the same; and, indeed, I saw a remarkably good performance at the Alhambra.

201. Mr. *Clay.*] Does the authority of the Lord Chamberlain's office extend to Ireland?—No, not at all.

202. Under whose authority is the licensing of the plays and the police regulations of theatres in Ireland?—I believe that it is under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant, or some officer of his.

203. Are you aware that at the Irish theatres smoking in the audience part of the theatre is very common?—It is a breach of the rule, I think.

204. You think that a rule similar to our own exists in Ireland?—Yes, I believe so; I have no experience except having been to the Theatre Royal in Dublin.

205. But take the provincial theatres, such as Cork, Limerick, and Derry, and so on, are you aware that smoking goes on all over the house?—No, I have never heard that. They are licensed by the justices there just the same as they are here, I believe.

206. When you have been to those music-halls you have heard, I suppose, music there?—Yes.

207. Of what class is that music?—At some of them it is very good indeed. At the Oxford I heard a selection of music from various operas very well performed; and at Canterbury Hall I believe it was the same kind of music.

208. And at the Alhambra, how was it?—I did not stay there 10 minutes.

209. Do you recollect from what operas you heard selections?—No, it is some time ago; three or four years ago.

210. Are you aware generally that the very choicest class of music is given in selections at the principal music-halls?—I see the advertisements of them, that is all the knowledge I have.

211. You have no doubt that that is the fact, have you?—I believe it is the fact.

212. If that is so would you not modify your opinion when you say that the music-halls are instituted for eating and drinking; would you not say also that they were more or less instituted for music?—If you trace the history of them, you would find that they began from a public-house license; there is no doubt that in some of those music-halls the music is remarkably well given owing to the competition among them.

213. Do you think that before the establishment of those music-halls the English working classes and trading classes ever had an opportunity of hearing at so cheap a price such excellent music as that given at those music-halls?—I dare say not; I have no means of knowing.

214. Do you know the price of entrance to the music-halls generally?—No; I paid one shilling when I went to the Alhambra.

215. Can you say that within those music-halls the performances are of the highest order?—I should say by the advertisements that the Oxford music was a very good selection of music, and also the Canterbury Hall; but I have not studied the subject much.

216. The Alhambra you cannot speak to?—I think the performances there are more in the line of ballet.

217. But you are not aware that they have a remarkably good selection of music there?—I can give no opinion.

218. Are you aware that the works from which they take their selections are very much those of Donizetti, and Gounod, and Offenbach?—I do not know.

219. Have you ever been in music-halls of a lower character than those of which we have now been speaking?—I mentioned that I visited one at the east end of London, which was remarkably well conducted.

220. Can you tell me whether at the Strand Music Hall they used to give selections from fine music, or whether the entertainment was chiefly imitation of drunken negroes, with comic songs, and so on?—The night that I was there, two years ago, the entertainment was of that class.

221. There was no selection of a high order of music?—I cannot say from recollection.

222. Do you know whether it is open now?—I think I saw a large placard upon it the last time I went down the Strand.

223. Should you suppose that that music-hall had been a failing concern?—Yes, I have seen an announcement that the Company is winding up.

224. Has such experience as you have had at those music-halls led you to believe that those which have been the most profitable speculations have been those which have given the highest class of music?—I can give no opinion upon that subject; I have no means of knowing.

225. You have said that supposing the licensing was done away with, and all the theatres thrown open, you would find it difficult to suggest a system for their proper regulation; did you refer to the plays that were to be given, or to the internal regulations of the theatres?—No; what I said was that I thought it would be almost impossible to have a general superintendence of every concert-room and music-hall in London at the same time.

226. Would not the ordinary police regulations be sufficient to keep all those places within the limits of respectable conduct?—Probably they would.

227. Do you exercise any supervision over the pieces played at the Italian Opera?—Yes, they are all licensed in the same way.

228. Then you gave a license for the performance of La Traviata?—That was done before I went to the Lord Chamberlain's Office, and under a different Examiner of Plays.

229. But there was a license given for that opera?—The license was granted.

230. Is it not the fact that a license was refused for the English version of the same piece to be played at one of our own theatres?—Yes.

231. Was that when you were at the Lord Chamberlain's Office?—Yes.

232. Can you explain how it was that the same piece which was not deemed hurtful to the morals of the higher classes was deemed dangerous to the audiences of the theatres?—If I had been there the license would have been refused in the first instance; but certainly at the Italian Opera the

the same number of persons would not have the same opportunity of hearing it as if it had been licensed as an English play, because the knowledge of Italian is not general.

233. Do you think it a story which should not have been licensed in any shape at any theatre?—That is my opinion.

234. *Chairman.*] Do you find generally any inconvenience in the present system of double jurisdiction between the magistrates and the Lord Chamberlain's Office?—I think that the difficulties that have arisen between the music-halls and the theatres have principally been from the imperfect nature of the Act of Parliament.

235. What is the chief imperfection which you consider there is in the Act of Parliament?—I think that within the metropolitan district there are five different jurisdictions: there is the Lord Chamberlain licensing theatres under the 6th and 7th Vict., and he has the power of licensing for other entertainments under the Royal prerogative sanctioned by that Act of 25 Geo. 2; then there are the justices of Middlesex licensing for music and dancing under the Act of the 25 Geo. 2; and for theatres beyond the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, under the 6 & 7 Vict., as well as the justices for Kent, for Surrey, and probably for Essex also, all possibly taking different views of the Act of Parliament. Then I think that the authorities of the City of London come in, and I am of opinion that that multiplicity of jurisdiction is a great mistake.

236. Is that on account of the different views which might prevail in the different tribunals?—Yes.

237. So that it might happen that a particular decision would be given by the Lord Chamberlain in one case, whereas in the same case the Middlesex magistrates might give another decision?—Yes.

238. What would you recommend as the best means of getting over that difficulty?—I think that there should be one responsible officer to license for the metropolis, that would be the simplest plan; the justices in some cases may enter into the question of the safety of the building, and in other cases they may not, there is nothing laid down in the Act. A case arose in this way some years ago (I think it was in the year 1857 or 1858), the proprietor of the Alhambra applied to the Lord Chamberlain for a license for the Alhambra; the Lord Chamberlain took the usual course; he sent an inspector, a professional surveyor, to inspect the building. The surveyor reported that one of the galleries was unsafe for so large a number of persons as it was capable of holding, and that there was only one entrance for the whole audience. The Lord Chamberlain refused the license, but, at the same time, the proprietor had applied to the justices, and the justices, I believe, without any examination, granted the license to the building.

239. Do you know whether the justices consider the safety of the building in granting licenses; is that one of the principal points to which they look?—I have no knowledge personally of that beyond what I have heard.

240. The Lord Chamberlain is guided by several considerations in granting licenses, I suppose; what considerations would guide him either to give or refuse a license to a new theatre, or to a music hall?—He has endeavoured, as far as possible, to separate his jurisdiction from that of the justices, in order to avoid a conflict of jurisdiction, therefore he refuses generally to give licenses to music halls, or places licensed by the justices, for music and dancing.

241. But can the justices license those music halls for theatrical entertainments?—No. Another great fault in the Acts is the vague definition of "stage plays" in one Act, and "music and dancing" in the other.

242. I understand that the Lord Chamberlain does not grant licenses to music halls in order to avoid conflict of jurisdiction, but the magistrates cannot grant stage-play licenses?—No.

243. Therefore the present system would shut the music halls out entirely from stage plays?—Yes.

244. Therefore a change of the law would have this effect, not only to remove the conflicting jurisdiction, but to enable the music halls to do what they cannot do now?—That might be the effect if the new Act provided that.

245. Cannot a magistrate grant licenses for stage plays at all within the boundaries of the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction?—The justices cannot do it within his jurisdiction.

246. Have they the power beyond that to do it under the Act of 6 & 7 Vict.?—Yes, they do it under the same Act of 6 & 7 Vict.

247. Then, in recommending any change of the law, you would have to consider, first, the question of double jurisdiction, and, in the next place, the question of policy, whether the music halls should represent stage plays at all?—Exactly.

248. At present they can only receive a license from the Lord Chamberlain?—That is so.

249. The Lord Chamberlain would not grant them any license for theatrical entertainments?—He has granted his licenses for theatres, for what may properly be considered a theatre, but not for places where various entertainments are given, such as they give at music halls.

250. Then, supposing there are houses open without any license at all, what steps would the Lord Chamberlain take, or would he take any steps?—There is another fault in the Act, that no person is appointed to carry out its provisions. The Lord Chamberlain has not felt himself called upon to act in such cases, but has left it to anybody who felt himself injured by an unlicensed place; to the police in some cases, and in others to the manager of an adjoining theatre.

251. Would the police interfere, simply from the fact of there being no license, provided everything was carried on respectably?—No, I believe not.

252. Then there is no one to interfere with unlicensed houses, unless private individuals chose to take the matter up?—Practically that is so; the police have the power of interference, but they have rarely interfered.

253. The police have the power of interference, and they would take it up if it was a nuisance to the neighbourhood, or it might be taken up from fear of competition?—Exactly.

254. In your recollection, have the majority of those unlicensed places been pulled up on account of competing with licensed establishments, or on account of injuring the neighbourhood?—Principally, I think, by persons who fancied that they had been injured by the competion.

255. But, in your opinion, should the question of competition enter into the case at all?—That is the great fault of the Act, that there is no one

The Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby.

19 March 1866.

appointed to carry it out, it is left to private individuals.

256. But would the Lord Chamberlain be guided by that view, that there were too many or too few theatres in granting licenses?—Up to this time, there have been hardly any *bonâ fide* applications for what can be considered theatres; there have been many applications to cover points in the justices licenses, and to enable music halls and places, which are not properly speaking theatres, to give those *quasi* theatrical entertainments.

257. Have those applications been invariably refused?—Almost all of them have been refused; there have been cases of application for license to give theatrical entertainments for charities and other purposes, but so great was the inconvenience found in the survey which the Lord Chamberlain had to make to be sure that the building was safe, that he thought it better to discontinue those occasional licenses.

258. I suppose that the question of the safety of the building is one of the chief points which would guide the Lord Chamberlain in granting his license?—Yes.

259. You would recommend that both the theatres and the music halls should be put under one authority?—It would simplify matters very much.

260. You think that would get over the difficulty of the definition of a stage play?—Yes, provided the licensing authority had the power of defining what class of entertainment should be given, in fact, that he should define what the building was fit for.

261. Do you think it is possible to divide the entertainments into classes, so as to separate the different kinds of entertainments?—I should think that that might be done, for instance, they might be classed as theatres in one case and music halls in another, where a certain amount of scenery would be exhibited. Another would be concert rooms proper, where concerts might take place; and another would be dancing rooms, and that class of entertainment.

262. Do you think that in a new Act, it would be wiser to put them all in one class, to have one licence leaving them to do whatever they like, or to grant a different license according to the different class of entertainment?—To grant a different class of license according to the different class of entertainments.

263. But do you think that power of granting different licenses could be given to one officer?—I think it would simplify the matter, and make it more easy to carry it into effect if it were so.

264. But at present, are there any funds at the disposal of the Lord Chamberlain's office, for carrying out the provisions of the Act of Parliament?—No, at present there are none, the Lord Chamberlain is paid from the civil list.

265. Do you think that the Lord Chamberlain's office is competent or would be competent, under a change of system, to carry out the system of licensing generally on a broader scale, for the whole of the metropolitan district?—He would require some additions to his staff to carry out so large a function.

266. Are there any analogous duties performed by the Lord Chamberlain at all?—Yes, the supervision of theatres altogether.

267. But beyond that?—No more.

268. What staff is employed altogether, in connection with the theatres in the Lord Chamberlain's office?—All the clerks in the office are employed in the theatrical correspondence as well as that on other subjects; then there is the examiner of plays, who examines the plays and assists at the examination of the buildings at the annual survey. I also, myself, have gone round to all the theatres of late years.

269. In the memorandum that you put in, there is the case of the Rotunda?—Yes, the case on page 16 of the Memorandum, which I have put in.

270. Is that a case which would form a good example of the system on which the Lord Chamberlain treats the licenses?—That was the system at that time.

271. Does that system still continue to be the system always followed?—Yes.

272. Now, if you will refer to that return, you will see that the license was refused, on the application of the neighbourhood?—Yes.

273. Do you frequently have similar instances, of a neighbourhood objecting to the opening of places of that kind?—There have been so few places where applications of the kind have taken place, that I cannot say.

274. But if you had the licensing of music-halls, no doubt you would have more petitions of this kind?—Yes, I suppose so.

275. And if such a system of licensing was adopted, that the whole should be placed under one officer, what considerations in your judgment ought to guide the granting of a license to a music-hall, for stage entertainments?—I have hardly considered that question sufficiently to be able to give an answer.

276. Would you consider the safety of the building?—The safety of the building certainly would be the first consideration, and the public morality to a certain extent.

277. You would consider the character of the entertainment also, I suppose?—Yes, I should consider the character of the entertainment.

278. Would you require that the entertainments of the music-halls should be watched, in the same way as the entertainments of the theatres are watched?—You refer to the Censorship Clause? I hardly know enough of the entertainments given at the music-halls, to be enabled to say.

279. The Lord Chamberlain would not interfere now if there was any entertainment given at the music halls of a questionable character, would he?—He has nothing whatever to say to the music halls.

280. They have no license from him, and if a music hall were performing a stage play it is not his duty to interfere?—It is not his duty to interfere.

281. With regard to the beer licenses, would not it cause some confusion if the whole were put under one officer who had not the power of granting such licenses?—I have already stated, in answer to the Honourable Member for Southwark, that I thought that Act of Will. 4 should be abolished; I think that the Excise licensing should be separate altogether.

282. Mr. *Powell.*] Separate from what?—Separate from the licensing for entertainments.

283. You have said something about the records; are those records very concise, or do they go into the history of what applications have been made?—It is merely the correspondence from time to time.

284. Has that been preserved from early days?—More or less.

285. Let me refer you to the definition of saloons

saloons, as it appears in your memorandum: "Several places called saloons sprang up, which were really public houses, enlivened by theatrical entertainments:" how do they differ (in definition at least) from the Alhambra, except in size?—I must explain to you that they came under the Lord Chamberlain's license by the Act of 6 & 7 Vict.; they were licensed by the justices of the peace formerly for all kinds of general entertainments, and they did give theatrical entertainments. Then, in 1843, when the Act of 6 & 7 Vict. passed, they came under the Lord Chamberlain, and he continued his licenses to all the buildings formerly licensed by the justices; but they were places at which *quasi* theatrical entertainments took place, and they were constructed like theatres.

286. They would now be wholly taken from your jurisdiction?—No, they have ceased to exist; they have become theatres, and are subject to the same regulations. In former times there were two licenses; one to the theatres and one to the saloons.

287. You now cease to license saloons?—We now cease to license saloons.

288. Whence does the Lord Chamberlain derive his authority to give a license to sell spirits in a theatre?—He has no authority.

289. But before the license was granted by the Excise, in an ordinary theatre, I presume that refreshments were supplied to those that desired them?—They were supplied under the rose, I believe.

290. There was no legal authority?—None.

291. Now, with regard to non-application to your office to license a new theatre; do you think that that arises from an apprehension in any person's mind that you would not grant the license?—I have no reason to think so; every application has been considered on its merits, and decided on its merits.

292. I presume the application would be made before the building was commenced?—It should. The principle on which the Lord Chamberlain grants licenses to new theatres is that the proposed site of the building is first specified; it is then inspected, and if it is considered satisfactory, the Lord Chamberlain grants permission for the plans to be sent in.

293. Take the new Covent Garden and the new Adelphi theatres, and so on; were the plans sent in before the building was commenced?—Covent Garden was a patent theatre, and would have no license from the Lord Chamberlain; they performed under a patent granted in the reign of Charles II.

294. Take the new Adelphi and the new Surrey theatres, and the Strand theatre, and apply the same question to them?—The new Surrey theatre plans were deposited in the Lord Chamberlain's office.

295. I suppose that in all cases the plans would be deposited now in the Lord Chamberlain's office?—Yes.

296. The question of the safety of the building would turn a good deal upon the means of exit?—Yes.

297. You guard the means of exit by having large galleries and ample doorways; do you watch the theatres from time to time to see that those doors are kept open?—No; but there is an annual inspection, and every sort of obstruction is removed.

298. What security have you that the doors opening outwards (which are not absolutely necessary, but are desirable,) are open at every time of the performance?—There is no constant supervision to see that that is the case; but the managers are told to make no alterations without giving notice to the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

299. There is another source of danger, even assuming that your galleries and doors are sufficient, and that is overcrowding; you exercise no superintendence over that, from time to time, do you?—No, I think not; it would be impossible.

300. As to what goes on behind the scenes, you have no superintendence whatever over that, have you?—It would be impossible to superintend it entirely, but it is understood that that is conducted with propriety.

301. Should you take into consideration any reasonable complaints that were made to you when an application was made to renew the license?—Yes, certainly.

302. What funds have you to draw upon, in the exercise of your jurisdiction?—None whatever.

303. Do you observe what is going on in music-halls at all, to see whether anything happens which conflicts with the law?—We have no sort of jurisdiction over music-halls.

304. Take this advertisement, which appears in one of the papers to-day: "The Oxford.—On Tuesday next will be produced, first time in this country, a comic opera, by Adolphe Adam, entitled 'If I were King,' supported by the whole of the operatic company;" is it any part of your duty to see whether that performance is or is not a violation of the statute?—I think I have already stated that the Lord Chamberlain does not consider himself a public prosecutor: but no doubt that would be distinctly a violation of the Act.

305. There is another: "Royal Alhambra Palace.—This splendid building, with all its accessories, to be let for morning performances, on moderate terms;" should you notice that as a violation of the law?—No. The Lord Chamberlain has confined himself entirely to buildings licensed by him.

306. With regard to the refusal of plays; supposing a play were in the main such as you approved, but contained a passage to which you took exception, would you give the play back for revision?—The Examiner usually strikes out those parts, if they are very slight alterations, and returns the play in that state, and his alterations are bound to be carried out by the manager; the play is performed as licensed by him, in fact.

307. Supposing it were to happen that the refreshment stall for the pit was so situated that people were to be continually passing to and fro during the performance, so that it would be really a constant process of drinking; should you consider that a violation of your rule?—Certainly.

308. You would visit such a case with your refusal when the application was made for a new license, would you?—Certainly.

309. With regard to the presence of abandoned women in those music-halls, you have stated that although you consider their presence at the theatre scarcely observable at all, yet that at the music-halls, where they are walking about, they are conspicuous; those are two different things?—Yes, I think so; I only stated that I saw it at the music-halls as one of the public, and not in any official capacity.

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.*

19 March 1866.

310. Mr. *Locke.*] You did not go to those places in your official capacity?—Not in my official capacity.

311. Mr. *Powell.*] Something was stated by you about mechanics and their wives going to the music-halls; should you think that a mechanic who had any regard for the morality of his daughters would send them to a music-hall?—I stated that at the Cambridge Hall, at the east end, I never saw a more respectable audience, and that there seemed none of that class of females.

312. You draw a distinction in favour of the east end?—No, I state the same thing with regard to the Canterbury Hall; I do not say that there were none of those women, but they were not openly following their calling.

313. Do you think that the difference of respectability is within the control of the manager, or does it depend on the locality and other accidents?—I dare say it does depend on the locality and other accidents in some degree.

314. Should you think, from the nature of the entertainments and the whole atmosphere of the place, there would be more difficulty in preserving morality in a music-hall than in a theatre?—No, I should think not beyond the fact that there is an unlimited amount of drinking going on in the music-halls, and therefore the people may be more liable to drunkenness.

315. Mr. *Selwin.*] You have stated, that in the year 1846, it was required that the police should be present in all the theatres; was that done with a view of maintaining the Lord Chamberlain's authority over them?—No, it was in consequence of an application from the police, but I believe practically, that at almost all the respectable theatres policemen are engaged by the managers to keep order.

316. Do not the police report to the Lord Chamberlain if any infringement of the rules takes place?—No; they have nothing whatever to say to that.

317. You have no supervision of that sort?—No.

318. Would the police come to your office to report if they saw anything wrong?—I have begged the Commissioner of Police always to report any case of misconduct, and the newspapers are always watched to see if any such cases are brought up to the police courts; with regard to the theatres, there has hardly been a case reported for many years.

319. You have said that the Lord Chamberlain is not exercising any authority over those music-halls; are you aware whether the police are instructed by Sir Richard Mayne to exercise any supervision there?—I cannot say.

320. Now with regard to the number of people which the theatres can contain, there was a great difference; but when the theatres are inspected before they are licensed, do you take no memorandum of the number of people which they would contain?—Yes, with new theatres we should be able to do that; I have no doubt whatever that I could in a very short time get that; I have no doubt an accurate statement exists in the office.

321. Mr. *Powell.*] Will you put that statement in?—Yes, I will do so.

322. Mr. *Selwin.*] The numbers would form an element in the question of safety?—Just so.

323. Mr. *Lusk.*] Of course you are aware that the population of the metropolis has increased very much in the last 25 years?—Yes.

324. It appears, however, that there is no increase in the theatres licensed?—It is very slight; there are one or two more.

325. It stands at the same number since 1843, does it not?—There are two or three more.

326. Can you assign any cause why there has been no increase in the number of theatres?—I suppose it was not considered a profitable speculation.

327. But if the population has increased so enormously, the number of theatres being the same, do you not think that the taste of the people has changed?—No, I think not; I think that they like the drama just as much as ever they did; I cannot account for the facts.

327*. Do you think that the people are inclined to go to music-halls instead of to the theatres?—I think they go to both.

328. But the theatres are the same number that they were in 1843, and the increase in the population would be double, would it not?—Yes.

329. Therefore they cannot go to theatres; do you not think that they must have changed their taste, or that they go to music-halls?—I think, probably, that the supply is limited for the want of material.

330. You speak, in your memorandum, of the legitimate wants of the public?—Yes; I mean that no *bonâ fide* application has been made for a new theatre; there have been constant applications from music-halls to cover prosecutions occasionally, but no plans of new theatres have been sent in and refused.

331. Assuming that the taste of the public is the same as it was 20 years ago, do you think that all the theatres and all places of entertainment should be under regulation?—I think so.

332. You would not leave them open, the same as the newspapers, to do what they liked, and to depend on the good taste of the public for success?—I think in the great majority of places they would be conducted as they are now; but you would always have a certain amount of places ill-conducted.

333. But do you think that if they were left to their own control, those that conducted themselves with propriety would be the only ones that would succeed?—I cannot speak to that.

334. Do you think it would be better for the magistrates to license the music-halls and saloons, or that you should do it?—For a place like London, I think there should be one officer; I do not say who that one officer should be.

335. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] When you license a theatre, the license is subject to certain rules?—Yes.

336. Do you send printed rules to the manager?—No; there are no printed rules; they are generally understood.

337. Is there any intimation made to the manager?—They have been in existence so long that they are practically aware of them; but they have from time to time been given.

338. Do you find the managers willing to accede to your suggestions?—Perfectly willing; we never have any difficulty.

339. Do you remember the first music-hall opening in London, I mean within the last 15 years?—The Canterbury Hall was the first.

340. Do you remember the class of people who attended there originally?—It is a good while ago, but I think it was mechanics and their wives.

341. Was the performance musical or dramatic at that time?—Entirely musical; at that time I think there was a platform at the end of the room on which the singers came forward and sang.

342. Is there any similarity between the performances which have been recently a subject of litigation at the Alhambra and elsewhere, and the class of performances originally heard at the Canterbury Hall?—No, they are entirely different; it was a large room, and at the end of it there was a platform on which the singers performed; as it is now, theatres have been built in many of those places—stages with scenery.

343. You have visited some of those music-halls?—Yes, from time to time.

344. Do you find, as one of the public, any difference between the class of people who attended those places when they were strictly music-halls, and the class of people who now attend when there are other performances?—I think it depends to a great extent on the locality.

345. Which locality do you refer to?—At the time I am speaking of there was only one of those music-halls, namely Canterbury Hall, and the people living in the neighbourhood went to that place; you saw long clay pipes and that sort of thing, but now it is a totally different thing.

346. Have you formed any opinion with respect to whether or not that difference may be the result of a change of the performance?—No I could not say that; they have become more general now, for one thing.

347. I did not quite gather from your evidence what was the reason which led to the licensing of the Italian Opera for *La Traviata*, and which led to the withholding of the license for the French and English version of the same play?—It was under a different licenser.

348. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that you think it should not have been licensed at all?—Yes, I think so.

349. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] The Lord Chamberlain I believe in the year 1863 prohibited dangerous performances of the Blondin type?—Yes.

350. But is not there a later case where the Lord Chamberlain closed Astley's Theatre on account of a man having been killed by a lion?—I have added all those cases in my memorandum in a corrected form, but I know that in addition to dangerous performances of the Blondin type the exhibition of wild beasts in theatres has been prohibited.

351. Wild beasts are not allowed now?—They are not allowed now.

352. With regard to the alterations which have been made in the performances before Easter, you say you close the theatres on Good Friday?—Yes.

353. They are also closed on Ash Wednesday and Christmas-day?—Yes.

354. Now, supposing that to-morrow, instead of being only fixed as a day of humiliation for a diocese, had been fixed by the Privy Council for the whole country, you would have had the power to close the theatres, would you not?—Yes.

355. And you would do it?—Yes.

356. But that would be only in case of the Legislature having approved of it?—Yes.

357. Therefore, the Legislature not interfering in the matter, the theatres will be open to-morrow?—Yes.

358. Now, with regard to prayers and preaching at places of theatrical entertainment, that has become very unusual, has it not?—No, it is constant. I believe that it takes place every Sunday at several theatres.

359. Is there any money paid at the door?—No.

360. That would be illegal, would it not?—Just so.

361. *Chairman.*] There is no means now by which a music-hall can obtain a license for theatrical entertainments at all, is there?—Practically that is the case; it would become a theatre at once if that were so under the Theatrical Act.

362. And the point would always turn on the definition of a stage play, I suppose?—Yes.

363. The justices have no power to license a music-hall for stage plays, have they?—No, the justices have not that power.

364. Is there any Act except that of 25 Geo. 2, under which the justices license?—The justices license for music and dancing under that Act; but the theatrical performances are under 6 & 7 Vict., in other parts of the country.

365. But there is no Act of Parliament which guides the justices, except this Act of 25 Geo. 2?—There is no other.

366. And you think that that is an Act which is not very applicable to the present day?—It is a very clumsy Act. It is a combination of several Acts which were unsuited to the times. That was condemned as obsolete 12 years ago, by the Committee of 1853–4, and also, I believe, it was condemned in 1832. It was, in fact, a compound of the vagrant Acts of former days.

367. Then, as far as you can trace the legislation on the subject, do you believe that the operation of those Acts has been to shut out competition, and give the monopoly to certain theatres?—No, I think not.

368. But has that been the result?—No, certainly not, since I have been in the Lord Chamberlain's Department.

369. But has it had this result, that no place which is not a real theatre can give a theatrical entertainment?—That is the law.

370. Private theatricals are illegal, are they not?—They are, if money is taken directly or indirectly.

371. Now, if private theatricals were given for charity, would they be illegal?—Unless there was a license for the place in which they were given they would be illegal if money was taken.

372. Would it be illegal in case of any private person giving a theatrical entertainment in his own house for charity?—If the public were admitted by paying money directly or indirectly, it would be illegal. But the Act is very clumsy. I believe that the singing of the charity children, which takes place at St. Paul's once a year, is illegal, and that every soul concerned might be prosecuted. Concerts which take place in private houses and others are in the same predicament.

373. In this Act of Geo. II., I see we have these words: "or other place kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind;" has any case ever turned on the interpretation of the words "public entertainment of the like kind"?—The point in litigation between the music-halls and the theatres is the interpretation of the words "dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind." It is whether those words meant that the

The Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby.*

19 March 1866.

the audience were to dance or whether they were to look at the dancing?

374. It has been ruled, has it not, that it means to look at the dancing?—I believe it is not quite laid down now satisfactorily. The last decision in the Court of Common Pleas was that the case went on the question of fact, and not of law.

375. Mr. *Locke.*] That case was with regard to whether a ballet was a stage play?—Yes; it was a mere question of fact, and not of law.

376. *Chairman.*] If a law were to be passed that the licenses granted should be given by the justices, what points, in your opinion, should the justices consider in granting licenses?—If the licensing power were given to the justices altogether, I think the safety of the public is the principal question, with a general power to look after morality as well.

377. Do you mean the morality of the entertainment or the morality of the people who visit those places?—The morality of the entertainment.

378. A kind of limited censorship?—Yes; a kind of limited censorship as to personalties, immorality, and political questions.

379. Do you think that that censorship should be exercised generally by the justices?—They would have some difficulty because they only sit at stated periods, which would cause great inconvenience to the managers, the justices have no power at the intervening times.

380. You think it would be more convenient to have a single officer for these purposes?—It appears to me so.

381. Mr. *Walpole.*] With regard to the licensing of stage plays, have you any reason to think that plays are ever performed without being submitted to the Lord Chamberlain's office for the proper license?—Not in London.

382. In the country they are, I suppose?—Of course, the whole country implies a very large circuit.

383. When a play is submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, does the examiner always take care to read and see whether there are any objectionable passages in it?—Yes.

384. Do you find when the examiner of plays has objected to any particular passage, the author willingly submits to his decision?—Most willingly; we never have any difficulty.

385. I find in Appendix K. a certain number of plays which were refused licenses; did any difficulty occur with regard to the theatres which had submitted those plays when they were refused?—No; it is an absolute power.

386. But no remonstrance was offered?—I think, from time to time, there have been remonstrances.

387. Does the Lord Chamberlain then reconsider the point of such a representation should be made to him?—I think some plays have been sent in (but it is very rare) more than once, and he has adhered to his previous decision.

388. But no complaints have been made?—None.

389. *Chairman.*] Do you think the knowledge that there is such a supervision has checked authors at all in what they have written?—I think so; for instance, the modern French drama is almost entirely immoral; those plays have been transmitted to England, but they are not translated without alteration.

390. Only those 19 plays have been formally excluded; but, practically, you think that a very large number are excluded by the indirect effect of the censorship?—Yes, because the managers know what will be excluded before they send them in.

391. If that censorship were discontinued, do you think that many more immoral plays would be produced?—Yes. I think that you would have plays of the same kind as they have in France.

392. Mr. *Locke.*] And now you have them in England, with the objectionable parts struck out, and something more stupid put in; is not that so?—That is a matter of opinion.

393. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Is there any legal definition of a stage play?—Yes; in the 23d section of 6 & 7 Vict.

Friday, 23d March 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Lusk.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. DuCane.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

HENRY POWNALL, Esq., called in; and Examined.

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

394. *Chairman.*] You have been Chairman of the Middlesex Bench of Magistrates for 24 years, have you not?—Yes.

395. You have had the kindness to send in to the Committee a memorandum on the system of licensing of the Middlesex justices?—Yes.

396. You have stated in this paper certain resolutions that were come to on the 4th of September 1851?—Yes.

397. The first of those resolutions is this: "That the Court will not in future insert in licenses to be granted under the Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, the words 'or other public entertainment of the like kind,' but will in all cases specify the particular entertainment which may be given." Has that resolution been generally acted upon?—Entirely from that period. I would state that previous to that period we only granted licenses for music and dancing. A case was submitted to Lord Campbell, and he decided that we must give the license according to the wording of the Act which was: "For music and dancing, and for entertainments of the like kind." That was as far back as the year 1833. The magistrates were still pressed for an increased number of licenses, but they were most unwilling to grant a dancing license to every publican who applied, and they submitted a case then to Sir Frederick Thesiger and Mr. Justice Crompton, who gave it as their opinion that the magistrates would be perfectly justified in granting a license either for music or for dancing, and since that period the magistrates have acted up to that opinion, and those are the resolutions which the Court came to after they had obtained that opinion. The licenses prior to that period, say for example in the year 1845, were only 67 for music and dancing, but in the next 10 years they had gradually increased, so that in the year 1855 we granted 255 licenses for music only, and 50 for music and dancing. They went on increasing, but not in the same ratio, for the bench were unwilling to extend it too much, but in 1865 there were 291 music licenses and 60 licenses for music and dancing. We continue to act on that resolution at the present time.

398. Are the justices more particular in granting licenses for dancing than they are for music?—A great deal. The magistrates generally go round; in fact, I may say that they always go round, and look at all the houses from which there are new applications. In our list of applications for licenses at the October Sessions which we publish every year, the old applications, unless there is something reported by the police or by the local magistrates, are, as a matter of course, confirmed.

399. They are renewed?—Yes, almost I may say as a matter of course.

400. They are taken on the first day of the October Sessions?—Yes; the new licenses and those which are opposed of the old ones are taken on the second day. Every house, I believe, is visited by the magistrates of the local district. We have them separated into the several parishes and divisions, and we receive a report as you see by the last orders of the Court, of those houses, either from the local magistrates or from the police, and when those cases come before the Court an inquiry is still made with regard to the size of their rooms, but we do not feel that we have much authority to increase the size of their rooms, or to interfere in the least with regard to the public accommodation beyond seeing that the room, if required for music and dancing, is of certain dimensions, and that it will hold, perhaps, 30 or 40 people, according to the size of the house that is applying for the license.

401. With regard to the point that "they will in all licenses specify the particular entertainments that will be given," does that mean simply whether it is music or dancing?—No; there is much ambiguity in the words, "entertainment of the like kind." What is "the like kind," with regard to music and dancing? I apprehend it is from those words that the recent discussion and trial have taken place in the Court of Common Pleas as to what is scenic, or mere ordinary dancing. Some of the places licensed for music and dancing have introduced scenic representations, and have professional dancers, which is thought to be contrary to a license for simple music and dancing.

402. Mr. *Powell.*] A place licensed for music alone would not have dancing; that would be in places licensed for music and dancing?—For music and dancing.

403. *Chairman.*] Do you never license for dancing only?—We never license for dancing only; we license, however, for music alone.

404. Can you give the Committee any instances of any particular entertainment which is specified?—There was an exhibition in Leicester-square of poses plastiques that was exhibited for some time under

H. Fownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

under the music and dancing license. At the Alhambra in Leicester-square there are exhibitions, I understand, under the music and dancing license.

405. Mr. *Locke.*] You mean the ballet?—Yes, the ballet.

406. *Chairman.*] In your license, would it be entered license for music and dancing only, or for such and such an entertainment besides?—It used to be, but now we omit those words altogether. Our intention with regard to the dancing is, that it should be the dancing of the public that are admitted; but that there should be no scenic representation on a stage, or professional dancers employed; that is our interpretation.

407. But you say in your resolution, "That the Court will specify the particular entertainment"?—We give a separate license for music, and we state that on the license; but if it is for music and dancing, we state for music and dancing.

408. Now, supposing it is for a half scenic entertainment, what words do you put in then?—We should put none at all in.

409. Then that point is left blank in the license?—Yes, previously; but that is filled in when we grant the license, stating either that it is for music, or for music and dancing, and nothing more.

410. You grant no licenses at all for scenic entertainments or ballets, or *poses plastiques*, or anything of that kind?—No.

411. Everything of that kind practically goes on without a license?—Everything of that kind goes on without a license, except they get it from the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

412. Mr. *Miller.*] The Lord Chamberlain's area embraces the Parliamentary Borough, does it not?—Yes.

413. But the local magistrates may grant licenses beyond the area of the Lord Chamberlain for scenic entertainments?—That is a separate thing altogether from our music and dancing license.

414. *Chairman.*] The Act 25 Geo. 2 uses the words "music and dancing or any entertainment of the like kind." I understood that in future it was resolved by the Court that the words "or public entertainment of the like kind" should be omitted, but that the particular entertainment should be specified; the vague words "public entertainments" not to be used, but the particular entertainment that is to be licensed. Do I understand that that is not the case?—Exactly. The words music or music and dancing are inserted in the license, and the words public entertainment of the like kind are omitted.

415. Is it the fact that all licenses granted by the Lord Chamberlain are for theatrical entertainments, but that all semi-theatrical entertainments not licensed by the Lord Chamberlain have no licenses at all for that purpose?—I think none.

416. But they use the rooms that are licensed by the justices for music and dancing?—Yes.

417. So that they have their rooms opened under one license, and they give unlicensed entertainments in those rooms?—Yes, it is so.

418. Does not that seem more or less getting a license under false pretences?—I think it is exceedingly objectionable. The Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction and the magistrates' jurisdiction with regard to the Act of Geo. 2, come in conflict in such a way that it would be infinitely better if the Act was altogether repealed and remodelled. It is not at all suitable to the age in which we live; it was passed under a very different state of society, when bear-baiting, badger-baiting, bulls lit up with fire-works to be baited, and women fighting on a Sunday morning for a new shift, and things of that kind took place. We are now differently situated; but anything in the nature of scenic representations is confined to the Lord Chamberlain, and simply music and dancing to the magistrates. With an efficient control over them by the police, those music halls and places that are licensed might be made conducive to a very great degree of amusement and entertainment to the public, but in their present state, I think, they are far otherwise. If in the music halls they continue to sell spirituous liquors, and have private rooms in the building, it is quite impossible but that there should be violations of the moral law.

419. Then I understand you to say that you would rather extend the system of licensing than curtail it?—Yes, decidedly, for those simple purposes with certain restrictions and more power to the police to go in and examine those private rooms which now surround the great saloons. I am afraid (though I cannot speak personally) from what I hear, they are a source of great immorality.

420. You think it would be advisable to license all the minor kinds of theatrical entertainments as well as the theatres?—I think so, but I should say that those places would be better licensed by the Lord Chamberlain than by the magistrates; any admonition coming from the Lord Chamberlain's office would be likely to receive much greater attention by the publican himself, and would be looked at with more respect by the community at large.

421. Do you agree with Mr. Ponsonby, who gave evidence last Monday. He was in favour of centralising the granting of licenses for theatrical entertainments in one hand, either in the Lord Chamberlain's or the Home Secretary's, or that of an officer specially appointed for that purpose?—I perfectly agree with him as far as theatrical or scenic representations are concerned. I think that a divided jurisdiction in matters of that kind leads to great confusion as well as laxity of discipline.

422. When you say that you would retain the music and dancing licenses for the magistrates, I suppose you mean that if a new Act were passed, you would mean by "dancing" dancing by the public?—Yes, dancing by the public.

423. If the music and dancing license were so limited, you think that it would avoid the ambiguities which have happened up to this time?—I think so.

424. Would not singing lead, again, to some ambiguity?—It might; but I think it would be very soon understood that an individual singing a comic song would not be at all restricted from using the gestures which he might think necessary to accompany the song. I would not include having scenery behind and dancers coming down from mountains, and all those artificial adjuncts.

425. But if you had four singers who sang a kind of opera without any scenery at all, what would you say?—I should not object to that; the four might sing at the same time; they might sing in trios, or in any way they liked, provided it was nothing but a song, and no scenic representation

sentation. The more singers they had, the better, perhaps, the public would be pleased.

426. But you think that the chief thing in theatrical entertainments is the scenery and the adjuncts, and not what is sung; in fact, that the essence of a theatrical entertainment consists rather in the scenery and by-play, and not in the absence of story in what is sung?—I think it is more in the scenic representations which they have. I do not know why a publican, if he has a music license, might not have six people joining in a song, and in a chorus, and what not, as well as Exeter Hall, which has only a music license, and where they have 600 or 700 performers.

427. When you say that Exeter Hall was licensed for music only, you mean theatrical entertainments were excluded?—We should not admit theatrical entertainments; so strictly careful have the trustees of Exeter Hall been not to infringe the Act of Geo. 2, that even when *The Messiah* has been performed, or any other oratorio, or piece of music, they have prohibited the friends of the performers coming in the morning to hear the rehearsal; they allow the oratorio to be rehearsed in the morning; but under the Act of Geo. 2, if they were to admit strangers to come and hear it, the license would be void, and the building could never be licensed again, nor could the trustees ever be licensed again.

428. But that is only because it is before 5 o'clock in the afternoon?—Just so.

429. But the point is this, is an oratorio a theatrical entertainment or not?—Does not scenic representation sufficiently define the difference?

430. I apprehend not; but take the case of Mr. German Reed; would you call that a theatrical representation?—Yes; that would go under the Lord Chamberlain, and so would the Egyptian Hall, and all those places.

431. But if the same pieces were performed in a drawing-room without scenery, you would say that would not come under the Lord Chamberlain, would not you?—Certainly; it is when they take money at the doors.

432. What I understand you to say is, that the magistrates on the whole would decide whether a piece was a theatrical entertainment by the question of whether there was scenery or not?—I think that would be the principal point.

433. Do you think that that is the right test?—I have thought much of it, but I could arrive at no other conclusion; with regard to the wording of the song, of course, if there was any improper and very outrageous immorality in the song we should know it, and when the person came for his license next year we should refuse to renew it.

434. I understood you to say before, that all entertainments in public-houses which are licensed for music and dancing now are not licensed for the entertainments which they give, but you recommend that they should be compelled to have a license for every other kind of entertainment that they give; would you not think that license necessary if there was no scenery?—I think all places of public amusement should be licensed. Those for theatres, and like entertainments, by the Lord Chamberlain; those for music and dancing simply, by the justices.

435. Would you let a man get off the necessity of asking for a license for an entertainment by leaving out the scenery?—No, certainly not; if you did you would introduce a source of enormous evil in rural villages where there is music and dancing in every little public-house.

436. I did not mean that we should give up the license for music and dancing; but I understood you to say that if there was ballet or poses plastiques, you think it would be a good system that they should be licensed?—Yes, I think it would be a good system that they should be licensed, but not by the magistrates.

437. But would you not require that license quite independently of the fact of their having scenery?—Certainly; we should require them to have that license if they merely have music and dancing, or music only.

438. But you would recommend their having a special license besides from the Lord Chamberlain?—I should not permit the same building to be used under the two licenses; they should be distinct and separate just the same as a theatre is separate from a public-house.

439. Then do you disapprove generally of their having scenic representations in entertainments given in public-houses?—Yes.

440. You think that it would be a good thing to do away with them altogether?—I do.

441. You would recommend their being held in separate buildings?—Yes, in separate buildings, and as far as possible where spirituous liquors are not sold.

442. You disapprove of those dramatic performances in small public-houses?—Certainly.

443. Now with regard to the check that is exercised by the magistrate; the half-yearly check you mention in your memorandum is, I think, that the licenses for music and dancing are granted at one time of the year, and the licenses for spirits are granted at another period of the year?—Yes.

444. Does that constitute a better check than if it were all done once a year?—I think it does. The spirit license is granted in the month of March, and there are always a great number of transfers at that period of the year, and that gives the local magistrates an opportunity of seeing how the new tenant conducts his business before he is able to apply for the music and dancing license, unless the house has had the license, in which case the magistrates have also an opportunity of seeing how he uses his license, and if it is abused by being kept open at improper hours, or having music and dancing when there is only a music license, that information is given to the bench in October, and they in all probability refuse to renew the license; therefore it acts well by giving us six months' trial of the new tenants.

445. But when October comes, or when next April comes, could you, having given a license for music and dancing in October, compel them again to renew the spirit license in April?—If we found that the man's house was improperly conducted we should in all probability suspend his spirit license.

446. Would that put him into a difficult position with regard to carrying on his business?—He could not open his house as a public-house, though he might go on with the music and dancing license; but I think few of them would apply for a music and dancing license if it was not for the sake of selling a larger quantity of spirits.

447. If he has got a music and dancing license, he can get a spirit license independently of the justices?—Yes, and I think it is a great evil; in fact, we have felt it such an evil that when we have found how the music and dancing license has been used for the purpose of getting a spirit license from the Excise, we have refused to

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

renew the music and dancing license at the following October Sessions.

448. You are aware that there is a clause in the 5 & 6 Will. 4, cap. 39, empowering the Excise to give spirit licenses to all places licensed by justices of the peace or by the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes, and I ventured to urge that subject upon the bench. I showed them that it would be quite impossible for us to have any control over a house as a public-house if they had not got that license from us; and if a music and dancing license were to secure those publicans' licenses, the magistrates' jurisdiction of granting licenses would be void; and therefore I said that the only course open to us is, whenever we find out such a case, to withhold the music and dancing license in October. We have done it at the Dancing Academy in Dean-street, Soho, and in several instances since.

449. Would you think it advisable to reconsider that point in any fresh legislation on the subject?—All licenses for spirits, I think, should be confined entirely to the magistrates. The magistrates live in all parts of the country, and they hold their petty sessions and visit every public-house before it is licensed. They know the character of the individual and how the house is used. It is quite impossible that the Lord Chamberlain can be acquainted with the circumstances so well as the magistrates are. We have in Middlesex very nearly 6,000 public-houses, and if that rule was acted on to the full extent, perhaps two-thirds of them would become music and dancing places.

450. Would this be your opinion, that all theatrical entertainments (in the widest sense) should be referred to one central jurisdiction; but that all licensing for spirits should be left with the magistrates?—Certainly. I have ventured to put down a few suggestions on the subjects: "not only all theatres and other places for scenic entertainments, but also all places at which any stage dancing is carried on, whether 'ballet d'action or ballet divertissement'" (that is from the report of the case tried in the Court of Common Pleas) "takes place, to be licensed solely by the Lord Chamberlain. The justices should be empowered to grant licenses either for music only, or for music and dancing, but such dancing to be by the public and not by performers." Though it is now acted upon, and we do grant separate licenses in consequence of Lord Chelmsford's opinion, it would be better to have it stated in any Act of Parliament, that there might be no ambiguity in future: "No place to be licensed for dancing except under special circumstances, unless rated at a certain rent," so that the magistrates might have some power of enforcing substantial building and a place that is fit for the public accommodation. No place licensed either for music or for music and dancing to be opened for any such purpose between midnight and 6 o'clock in the morning." It would be better to put it in that form, than to say that they should not open until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, because unquestionably the amusements of the public now take place very much by daylight; for instance, the Crystal Palace gives morning entertainments. I have no doubt that at Exeter Hall we should have very many and frequent Sacred Harmonic performances if they were at liberty to open before 5 o'clock. I think it would be very desirable that "the justices should be empowered to grant temporary special licenses to any place either for music or music and dancing in the same manner as is now provided with regard to the temporary license for the sale of exciseable liquors." If anything occurs that the license cannot be granted at the March sessions or a transfer made, the magistrates now have no power of granting it at some other petty sessions. The number of large buildings that are being erected in London and the neighbourhood for public entertainments requires that; take, for instance, the Strand Music Hall; it is not quite finished in the month of October, perhaps; and the magistrates decline to license an unfinished building, but it would be perfectly finished by the end of November; then the building, which has been a very expensive erection, is compelled to be kept closed until the October following. To meet such a case as that, I think it would be desirable to give power to the magistrates to grant a temporary license until the October sessions. "Places licensed for music, or for music and dancing, to be subject to like visitation and inspection of police as houses licensed for sale of exciseable liquors, and all offences to be dealt with in the like manner, but the penalties should be more heavy." At present, the penalties for violating the music and dancing license are scarcely anything, unless when they come, in October, and the license is altogether withheld, which is too severe a great deal. "Licenses to be granted to holders of places of entertainment, and not for the use of the place without regard to the holder;" that is to say, that an individual shall not get a music and dancing license for a large room, and then let it to somebody else, whose character we know nothing of. "Any license for music, or music and dancing, to be transferred at petty sessions, the same as licenses for the sale of exciseable liquors." Compared with the county funds, it is nothing, but still it is a very considerable expense, which is incurred for printing licenses and employing officers, and there is no charge whatever made by the Act of Geo. 2 There is first the receiving of the notice; then there is seeing that the notices are posted; then the printing and correcting the press, and circulating all the letters to the magistrates, which implies, on an average, three or four to each magistrate; and the printing of the lists, all the expense comes out of the county rate; and those parties who make a large profit by the music and dancing licenses, they having in a great measure a monopoly, pay nothing whatever. As to the Clerk of the Peace, this (*handing in a paper*—vide *Appendix*) is a list of the services which he performs gratuitously; I think there should be a fee of 10*s.*, or something like that, on each license.

451. Do you know of any case where the proprietors of a theatrical saloon have been refused a license by the Lord Chamberlain, and where they have come for one for a music and dancing license?—I do not know of any case of that kind; there may have been, but they have taken care not to tell us that the Lord Chamberlain has refused them.

452. On what grounds do you refuse a license?—There are various grounds; but if the Committee will allow me, I will speak with regard to the music license first, because it will be more convenient to do so. We do not think it desirable, where there are three or four public-houses in the same street, that each house should have

have a music license. We consider the wants of the neighbourhood; in some parts we grant them a great deal more freely than in others; we should not grant a music license so freely in many of the respectable parts of London as we do down in Wapping and Poplar, where the sailors come.

453. You grant those licenses rather according to what you consider to be the wants of the neighbourhood?—Yes.

454. Do you think it an evil for them to have a place for music and dancing if it is thinly attended?—I think that music and dancing in public-houses is a very dangerous thing, and should be restricted to the mere wants of the neighbourhood as much as possible.

455. Then you license those places in the less respectable neighbourhoods, and you refuse licenses more frequently in respectable ones?—The applicants are not so numerous by any means. In Whitechapel there is a great number of sugar-bakers employed, a large number of Germans, who are exceedingly fond of music, and we do not therefore think it quite right to be so niggardly in our grants of licenses there as we should be in St. James's-street or Pall Mall.

456. I think you have stated that those parties have a monopoly?—Yes.

457. They have that monopoly through the system which the justices exercise?—It is quite true, and so have the publicans; it is just a similar monopoly to what the publicans have; but the publicans for their monopoly are forced to concede certain things for the public benefit, while the music and dancing license does not entail upon the receiver any official responsibility for services to be done.

458. Do you not think that that question might be left entirely to competition?—I think that would be very objectionable, unless you had some inspector whose duty it was to go round and see how it was conducted, to know the character of the party who was applying.

459. Do you not think that it ought to rest entirely on the character of the party, and on his respectability, rather than on the question whether there are a good many in the neighbourhood already?—It would seem so; but when you come to consider the frequency of the transfers of the house itself, I do not think so. There is, perhaps, no trade that shifts about so much as a publican's trade; the number of transfers from one to the other is so very great, that it would be impossible on all occasions to investigate the character of the new comer, and we might be doing him a very great injustice in refusing him a license that had been granted to his predecessor.

460. Do you find when a new music-hall is going to be opened, that there is an opposition by those who have got licenses already?—Yes, constantly. A number of the music-halls and theatres who have already got a license, oppose the granting of fresh licenses. For instance, Weston's Music Hall in Holborn was granted, and there is Canterbury Hall; and when the Oxford Music Hall Company applied for a license there was a very great opposition; all the music-halls, including the Raglan, which is in Theobald's-road, joined, and Serjeant Ballantine was brought down, and great expense was incurred in opposing the license.

461. On what grounds do they habitually put their opposition?—That there is not sufficient business for another house.

462. They openly consider it as a question of monopoly?—Yes, entirely.

463. But surely the system of licensing by the magistrates is rather designed to secure the morality and the decent conduct of the places?—It should be so; and so far as the magistrates know when they grant the license, they have done that; but the license being once granted, they have no power of going over the house and looking into those private rooms. My own opinion would be, that wherever there is music and dancing in those large places, the price of admission should be the profit of the individual who has that place, and not the spirits that are sold, and letting out, for an hour or so, those little rooms that surround the dancing-place.

464. Then private interests are brought to bear very strongly on the decision of the magistrates in granting licenses for music-halls?—Constantly.

465. Would that be in your mind a motive for taking the licensing of theatrical entertainments rather away from the justices?—No; my motive for putting all the theatres in the Lord Chamberlain's Office is, that I do not think that the joint authority at all works well; and I think that theatrical entertainments assume a character of rather more importance than mere music and dancing, and that the Lord Chamberlain's authority would be more attended to by the public and by the applicant himself than that of the magistrates.

466. You would secure more uniformity of system?—A great deal.

467. You would not recommend his power to be transferred to the justices?—No; I should be very sorry, and the Bench generally would, I think, be very sorry, to have the control of theatres and places of that kind.

468. You are neither in favour of the system of licensing being given up, nor in favour of the system of licensing being transferred to the magistrates?—No; I draw a distinct line between the two jurisdictions, and I would leave it then with both.

469. Now with regard to the police; do the police inspect those places by the order of the magistrates; do they co-operate with the magistrates in keeping those music-halls in order, would they report to you if there was any dancing in a place licensed for music only?—No, I think they do not; a few of the police do, but it is not the general custom for them to report; they do not think it within their province, and if they hear music in a public-house that has no license, they do not report it; if they hear music and dancing going on where there is only a music license, they do not report it. More stringent regulations with regard to the police visiting those places when those licenses are granted, I think are necessary.

470. Do you take any means of finding out those things?—Yes; I frequently go round, and when I do hear of it I always make a minute in my own memorandum-book; and when the people come before us in October I mention it.

471. But you do that voluntarily; there is no organization for it?—No, there is none; we have tried to do it in the last year or two by calling on the local magistrates to make a report; we have done that to some extent for the last two years.

472. Is private information often brought to you

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

you with regard to houses having music and dancing without a license?—Constantly.

473. The neighbours who have got a music and dancing license look it up, I suppose?—Yes, and they complain. Those who have been refused at the October Sessions immediately write very angry letters, and say "Why do you let it go on at such-and-such a house?" but we have no means of stopping that.

474. You think that is rather a function that should be performed by the police, I suppose?—Yes.

475. Have you any salary as chairman of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions?—None.

476. Mr. *Walpole.*] I understand you to say that you would draw a broad line of distinction between scenic representations and licenses for dancing or music?—Yes.

477. One class you would keep under the Lord Chamberlain's authority alone?—Yes.

478. And the other you would keep entirely in the hands of the magistrates?—Yes.

479. The interpretation of the expression "stage plays," in the Act of 6 & 7 Vict., which is supposed to be synonymous with scenic representations, is that it should include "tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or other entertainment of the stage;" would that include all that you intend to include under the words "scenic representations"?—Yes, I think so.

480. Then would you draw a distinction between dancing with a certain amount of acting combined with it, and scenic representation where dancing, as in a ballet, goes on?—With our music and dancing license I should confine the dancing strictly to the public who are admitted; there should be no stage behind from where performers can pass and re-appear.

481. Then your point would rather be, that you would lay the stress of the interpretation on the word "stage," and where there was acting or dancing going on upon a stage, there you would confine the licensing to the Lord Chamberlain?—Anything that would make it more distinct would be desirable.

482. Now with regard to the other class of licenses, namely, those that the magistrates are to grant, have the magistrates any power, between the time when they grant the license and the time when it expires, of looking after the ordinary conduct of the house?—Simply the ordinary power which a magistrate has of going into a house and seeing how it is conducted.

483. Of directing the police to do it?—Yes; and the magistrates go themselves occasionally.

484. Is not that rather a matter of police regulation than one for giving a license by the magistrates?—I think it is better that the magistrates who grant the spirit license should grant anything in connection with it. If one license is to be granted by the police and another by the magistrates, you divide the jurisdiction and the responsibility for the character of the house.

485. The only two things which you mentioned as being the circumstances that the magistrates should attend to before the license was granted would be, first of all, that those places which are licensed for dancing or music should be rated at a certain rate; and, secondly, that those places should not be open between 12 at night and 6 in the morning?—Yes.

486. Are not both of those strictly police regulations?—They do not consider it so.

487. But in the working of the law would not they necessarily become mere matters of police regulation?—They might, but it is not the law at present; with regard to those licenses it is not the law.

488. But what I should like to know is this: whether you think that the magistrates obtain any power for the more effectual working of the law by granting a license beforehand, subject to the conditions which they choose to impose before they grant it, than they might have if the license was granted as a police license, and the magistrates took care that the regulations were properly observed?—The magistrates can scarcely be asked to look after the police.

489. No; but the police may be required by law to look after those places?—Yes, and so they should be. I would give the police the utmost liberty I could to inspect and to see how those places are conducted, but I would leave the granting of the license in the hands of the magistrates.

490. Do you gain any advantage by keeping the mere fact of licensing in the hands of the magistrates?—Yes, you keep an authority and influence which is desirable not only in the music licensing but in the spirit licensing.

491. The Lord Chamberlain can withdraw his license at any time if there is anything wrong discovered, can he not?—Yes; but we cannot, which is to be regretted.

492. Does not that make it very important that the licensing of stage plays, to use the phrase in the Act of Victoria, should be left with the person who has the power of withdrawing the license if abused?—I think so.

493. That would probably be one of the reasons why you still wish to have that power in the hands of the Lord Chamberlain to the exclusion of anybody else?—Yes.

494. Mr. *Locke.*] Did I rightly understand you to say that you have never been into one of those music-halls at the time of the performance?—No; I did not say that. My observation was meant to apply to any of those private rooms that adjoin the music-halls; I have never been in them. I have been in most of the music-halls, I think, in order to see myself how they were conducted.

495. Have you been there while the performances were going on?—Yes, while the performances were going on.

496. You went to the Alhambra, I suppose?—I did.

497. Did you go into the private seats?—No.

498. You went into the body of the building?—Yes; I went to the body of the building, as one of the public.

499. What was the performance that evening?—There was singing and walking about; I did not observe anything else.

500. Nothing particular?—No, nothing; I was not there after 10 o'clock.

501. You have never been there at the right time, perhaps?—Perhaps so; it may be a place of very proper amusement up to 10 o'clock, for what I know.

502. You have never gone there after that time?—Never late at night.

503. I may ask whether, in point of fact, you have ever seen the slightest impropriety at the Alhambra?—I would not say that; because one cannot shut one's eyes to the fact that there are a great

great many females there whose object you perfectly recognise at once.

504. That is the case almost everywhere, is it not?—Yes.

505. You cannot go into Hyde Park without seeing them?—No; but I must say that I think those places, after a certain hour at night, may become places of very great evil. I think the streets of the metropolis are wonderfully improved from what they were when I was young; 50 years ago they were in a very different state to what they are now in.

506. As a young man, I suppose you can recollect the saloon at the theatres?—Yes.

507. That is entirely altered now, is it not?—I understand it is.

508. But, though now, at the music-halls, there are some females of that character, is there anything improper going on; is the people's conduct improper in any way?—I should think not, in the main body of the place.

509. But you say that there are secret rooms at the side, where you have never entered, and where you have been told that there is something improper going on?—Yes.

510. But are you not aware that the side room at the Alhambra is a supper room, capable of holding 60 or 70 people?—Yes; but there are a number of small rooms occupied by private parties.

511. What they call "cabinets de société" in France?—Yes.

512. Have you been to the Oxford?—Yes.

513. That is a very well-conducted place, is it not?—Yes; but still there are private apartments there, I believe.

514. Those are supper-rooms, I suppose?—Nominally, perhaps.

515. Then there is Weston's Music Hall, there is no objection to that, I believe?—Not beyond that.

516. Have they private rooms too?—I understand that they have private rooms.

517. I was not aware of that: you have never seen any of those rooms?—I have never seen any of those rooms, but I have had letters sent to me by individuals who blame us very much for granting those licenses; and they say that their daughters and sons have been ruined there.

518. Do those persons who have lost their daughters sign their names?—Yes.

519. Mr. *Walpole.*] Do those complaints come before you as a magistrate?—No, not officially.

520. Mr. *Locke.*] I suppose you receive a good many letters against granting licenses to public-houses?—Yes.

521. Some magistrates invariably refuse all licenses to public-houses, and always vote against every new license; is not that so?—There may be cases of that kind; but out of 400 magistrates I could not fix on any one who would do so.

522. How many music-halls and concert-halls and entertainment galleries should you say there are in London that have been licensed?—I could not tell you off-hand; I think there were 60 licenses granted last October for music and dancing, and 291 for music only.

523. Are you speaking of what are commonly called music-halls?—No; some of them are public-houses that have large rooms; and such places, for instance, as the Freemasons' Hall, the Albion, and Highbury Barn, and so on.

524. I believe that the earliest of the London music-halls was built in 1851?—I cannot say. Some were licensed long before that period; there were a certain number that were licensed the first year in 1851, but the whole number that was licensed for the first part of this century was very small.

525. The number of licenses granted in 1845 for music and dancing was 67, I believe?—It was in 1845 that we took the opinion of Sir Frederick Thesiger, but it was not until 1851 that we began to act upon it.

526. The number of licenses granted in 1845 was 67; and then, in brackets, I see in your memorandum, "licenses for music only were not granted until 1851"?—Exactly.

527. You are taking a period of 10 years?—Yes.

528. Then, in 1855, the number of licenses granted for music only was 255, and music and dancing 50?—Yes.

529. Then, in 1865, for music only, 291; music and dancing, 60?—Yes.

530. That is only 10 more in 1865 than in 1856?—Just so.

531. Now here you have set out the case and the opinion referred to of Sir Frederick Thesiger and the late Mr. Justice Crompton, given on the 16th of August 1857?—Yes.

532. Now I believe there has been no decision of any court with regard to whether you were acting lawfully or not in separating the licenses?—None.

533. In fact, is it that the opinion was considered so good that nobody has thought it worth while to take it up to the Court of Queen's Bench, or is it that, if they were to attempt to take it up, you would not give them any license at all?—No; certainly nobody has thought it worth while.

534. It would not be worth their while, because you say, "Well, if you do not choose to take the music license alone, you shall not have any." That was the practice at the Surrey Sessions long before this opinion was given, was it not?—Yes, and it is the case now. We acted in that way last October. Many of the new applications were for music and dancing, but when they found that the magistrates did not find the house large enough for public dancing, when they found that they could not get the music and dancing license, they were very well content to receive it for music only.

535. That is on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread, I suppose?—Perhaps it is, when you are hungry. I should extend the licensing for music very much, as far as my own opinion goes, to the public-houses.

536. Now, under the music and dancing license, it has been questioned, has it not, whether the music and dancing merely applies to the way in which you say you wish it restricted, namely, that all the dancing shall be done by the parties who go into the rooms?—Yes.

537. Was it not questioned whether or not that was the intention of the Act of Parliament, and a decision was given holding that persons might be performers and dance under that license?—Perhaps you will permit me to refer to the paper of suggestions which I propose to put in. There is such a decision: Wigan and Strange is the name of the case.

538. Not only all theatres and other places for scenic representation, but also any places at which any stage dancing, whether "ballet d'action or ballet divertissement" (*see* Wigan and Strange,

H. Pownall, Esq.
23 March 1866.

Law Reports, Common Pleas); was it held in that case that it was legal to have a performance in fact?—The Court of Common Pleas refused to reverse the opinion that the police magistrate had come to on that subject.

539. They held that it was a matter of fact?—Yes.

540. And consequently that the matter of fact was decided by the magistrates down below, and that there was no question of law for them, and they therefore left the thing pretty much as it was before?—Yes.

541. But that was a decision with regard to whether the ballet performed at the Alhambra was a performance of the stage?—Yes.

542. What I want to know is this, whether there was or not a decision to this effect; that the dancing was not to be confined to the persons who went into the place for amusement, but that other persons might dance for the amusement of the spectators?—I do not recollect such a case.

543. But, however, there has always been, at those music-halls and places licensed for music and dancing, dancing by performers?—Yes.

544. But the question here between the theatre and the music-hall was whether there was an infringement of the 23d Section of the Theatres Act, 6 & 7 Vict.; whether the ballet performed at the Alhambra was a performance of the stage within that section?—I do not recollect the name of the case which decided that the dancing was not to be confined to the persons who went into the place for amusement; but in the Alhambra case, under the words, "and be it enacted, that in this Act the word 'stage play' shall be taken to include every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or other entertainment of the stage;" the question was whether it was an entertainment of the stage that Mr. Strange performed, and there was likewise another case at Canterbury Hall, which Mr. Norton decided.

545. Now you say you would enact that the license of the magistrates should only include music and dancing, and the dancing should be done by the people who went into the room?—Yes.

546. Then, in fact, the license would be a license simply for that amusement which is enjoyed, I will not say it is the only entertainment, in Windmill-street?—I do not know; I have never been there.

547. Have you never been to the Argyll Rooms?—I went there when it was first opened.

548. Then in Windmill-street there are no performances of the stage; at least, there used not to be, but the visitors merely go through the dance?—Yes.

549. Would you have the license confined to that?—Yes.

550. That would be, in fact, licensing a ball?—Yes, just the same as the balls are at the principal hotels, the Freemasons', and so on.

551. But considering the immense number of licenses that you have given to music-halls where they have those performances of the stage, do you think it possible at the present time that you could interfere and put an end to those performances throughout London?—There would be no occasion to put an end to anything.

552. You say that they should have no scenic performances?—There are not above half-a-dozen in London that have scenic performances; there is Weston's Music Hall, the Oxford, Canterbury Hall, and one or two others. Those that have music and dancing licenses are principally respectable hotels and respectable public-houses, where they have only an occasional dance, and they want a license to protect them against informers.

553. Take Exeter Hall; if they were to perform a scene out of Shakspeare, would they not be liable to a penalty?—Certainly they would.

554. Whether they played it with a scene or not?—They have only a music license at Exeter Hall; they would not have a license for music and dancing if they could.

555. But suppose they had that license, would they not, if they acted one scene out of Shakspeare be liable under the 6 & 7 Vict.?—Certainly they would.

556. Can you see any objection to a person acting a scene out of Shakspeare?—Not if he has a proper license.

557. But whether he has a proper license or not, do you not think it is very much more desirable that persons should be enabled to go to a place (and even, if they choose, to eat and drink at the time), to witness a reasonable performance, than that they should be restricted to nothing else but a man singing, with his face blacked, and jumping about like a nigger; would not your course restrict it to that, instead of a more reasonable entertainment?—No; they may go to other places where a theatrical entertainment is tolerated.

558. But supposing they like to go to the other place?—They must not indulge that liking.

559. Why not?—Because it is not lawful.

560. But are there not good laws and bad laws, necessary laws and unnecessary laws?—I, at all events, am not at liberty to say so.

561. But when you are going to make a law, you may as well make a reasonable one as an unreasonable one, may you not?—That question might be answered certainly; somebody might say, "There is no reason for licensing at all; let every house be a music-hall, or every house a theatre."

562. Why should not every house be a theatre?—Because that may be turned to improper purposes, and the community be injured by the representation of bad entertainments.

563. If you carry that out, it would amount to this, that nobody should live in a house at all, would it not?—No, it is not necessary to push the thing so far; you may penetrate the poles of the globe without going into the centre. You may do some good and some harm by whatever law you make, but when you extend a principle beyond its legitimate bearing it may produce great public mischief.

564. But what harm is there in acting a scene from Shakspeare, at any time and anywhere?—There is no harm in it; I should be very happy to come to your drawing-room if you had some good reading of Shakspeare; but if I were to go to a reading of Shakspeare in a public-house, I should probably have been there not to hear Shakspeare, but to drink spirits; and in a drunken fit a man may be prepared for much worse, he may even kill somebody.

565. Do you think, then, that brandy-and-water with Shakspeare will make a man more drunk than brandy-and-water without?—I have not said so.

566. You do not hear of much killing at public-houses, do you?—Unfortunately, you do sometimes.

567. People meet at those music-halls where there

there is a ballet performed, and that must be an incomprehensible ballet where nobody can make out any story, or else it would be clearly prohibited by that section of the Act; but can you give any reason why a more reasonable performance should not be allowed in those places than is now allowed?—My object would be, to give a more reasonable performance, but in proper places; but I think public-houses are not proper places.

568. You call music-halls public-houses?—Are they not? It is a matter of trade. They do not build those large houses simply for amusing the public, but in order to sell more spirits.

569. Do you suppose that theatrical managers build theatres simply for the amusement of the public. We all of us have some regard for ourselves?—Yes, but I think that your question rather meant the other way.

570. How much do you pay to go into the Alhambra?—I think it is 1*s.*

571. Then do you consider those music-halls in the light of public-houses?—Yes.

572. But there is an admission fee charged to go into those music-halls, is there not?—Yes.

573. Is not it directly contrary to the law of the land that any publican should say when you come into his house to sit and drink you should pay for admission?—A man may go into the tap-room free, but not into that room which is open for the amusement of the public. A mechanic who wants his steak or chop dressed for dinner does not go into the large saloon for public entertainment.

574. You are speaking of public-houses, and not of music-halls?—I am speaking of both.

575. Mr. *Miller.*] What is the admission to Canterbury Hall?—I forget.

576. If you want a shilling's worth of spirits you have a ticket given you when you go in, and you pay nothing else for it?—No; it could not be so at Canterbury Hall, because I never bought any brandy, but paid at the door.

577. But is it not the fact that if you had wished to have spirits to the value of 1*s.* that you might have had it?—I think that is the way. I think that in some of those music-halls you get a ticket in exchange for a certain sum, and then you give that ticket, which secures you spirits to the value of the ticket.

578. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you see any particular reason, provided the people remain sober, why they should not sit down comfortably at a table and take refreshments, and at the same time witness a proper performance?—If persons want to be quiet, and do not get drunk, and merely go for amusement, no one can object; but that is merely the surface look of the thing. It is after 11 o'clock at night when spirits are served to greater profusion, and when those private rooms are used, that the mischief occurs.

579. Then if those places were strictly under the surveillance of the police, and they could prevent any of those improprieties after 11 o'clock at night, do you see any objection whatever to them?—I believe it would be impossible to prevent the evil.

580. But I mean, supposing it were possible and the police did it?—If that were possible I should object to nothing. If men and women conduct themselves properly, there is no objection to any amusement; but we know from experience, and you cannot have lived and have seen society for many years, without knowing that the more traps there are open, the more men fall into them.

581. But with all those traps open, people are much more moral than they used to be, are they not?—I do not know with regard to general morals.

582. Then if Sir Richard Mayne should give it as his opinion that he can prevent impropriety after 11 o'clock, it appears to me that you would see no objection to those music-halls?—Certainly not, if they can be kept properly, and immorality suppressed.

583. You have never seen this immorality, have you?—No; but one does not want to taste poison to know that it exists in a chemist's shop.

584. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] I think you have said that you were in favour of two separate jurisdictions, namely, that of the Lord Chamberlain and that of the magistrates?—Yes.

585. Have you ever known the powers of the Lord Chamberlain and the powers of the magistrates to clash in any way?—Yes.

586. Have you known that to be the case repeatedly?—I will not say repeatedly, but I think in half a dozen instances we have withheld our music and dancing license, because the party has used that license to go to the Lord Chamberlain to get a theatrical license.

587. Do you think that any undue influence has been ever exercised to get licenses from either the Lord Chamberlain or the magistrates?—The Lord Chamberlain's Office I know nothing at all about; I should hope there was none; but I cannot say that some of the magistrates are not influenced sometimes.

588. You think they are one way or the other?—Some of them may be perhaps, but it is very rarely, and it is always overpowered by the majority present on the Bench.

589. *Chairman.*] How many magistrates generally attend?—At the October licensing, some part of the day, there may be 60 or 70 magistrates present; they make a point of coming from their several divisions, and then, as the parishes are gone over, the magistrates connected with those divisions leave the Bench.

590. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] At all events it is simply a matter of favouritism when it happens; there is no such thing as a pecuniary consideration ever received, is there?—I do not believe there is.

591. In the event of the Lord Chamberlain being confined to licensing stage plays, and the magistrates to music and dancing, do you think that any controlling power is necessary with regard to the regulations which they would make in granting those licenses, or would you leave it to their discretion?—No; I think if there were any rule laid down, it must be laid down in ignorance of the circumstances which occur in every district of this vast metropolis. The same regulations which would apply in Limehouse or Poplar would be quite inadequate to St. James's or St. George's, Hanover-square.

592. Are you in favour of different forms of license, that is to say, would you be in favour of the magistrates granting separate licenses for music only and dancing only, or for stage plays, music and dancing?—I think there would be no objection to the magistrates having power to grant licenses for dancing only, as well as for music only, or for both; but I would not give them

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

them the power of licensing a theatre or a theatrical entertainment.

593. But suppose that power was given to the Lord Chamberlain, or the magistrates, to have different classes of licenses, and to license collectively or separately, would you be in favour of that?—They should, I think, be kept as distinct and as separate as possible, so that the jurisdictions might not clash.

594. Mr. *Du Cane.*] I understood you to say that you would not object to the licensing of semi-theatrical houses if they were put under the control of the Lord Chamberlain?—No; and if they were kept under the surveillance of the police.

595. Would you prohibit such places entirely from the sale of drink?—I would certainly prohibit spirituous liquors. I think they might have wine and beer and coffee, or anything of that kind.

596. Does that remark apply to all existing theatres?—No, because in the theatres they have no place to sit down where a man can get intoxicated; and even if the man were inclined to get intoxicated he could scarcely do it unless the theatres were very differently conducted to what they are now.

597. But he can go out between the acts and get as much as he likes to drink?—He can no doubt do that.

598. Would you allow him to continue to do that?—I would allow the individual to do it, but I would not allow a man either in a music-hall, or a dancing place, or a theatre, to send to the neighbouring public-house and fetch liquor in.

599. You would make those semi-theatrical houses a sort of minor theatre?—Places solely for entertainments.

600. Do you think that there is any want of theatrical performances in many of the neighbourhoods of London, that the existing theatres do not supply?—I can scarcely answer that question; but there is a great complaint made of the penny theatres in Shoreditch and Whitechapel. Constantly I have letters from parents complaining that their children have been led to thieve to get 6*d.* to go to those places; the number of children, I understand (I have not been in them), who frequent those theatres is very great.

601. Have you ever had any complaints brought before you as a magistrate with regard to the conduct of the people at the Alhambra or other large music-halls?—No; the complaints would go to the police courts.

602. I understand you to say that you have had various letters from fathers of families complaining of their children being drawn into bad courses through visiting music-halls?—Yes.

603. Have you ever inquired into the truth of any of those stories?—Yes.

604. Have you found them to be true?—Yes.

605. Have they been true in most cases?—They have been true in three or four cases. I have not inquired into more, but all that I have inquired into have been true.

606. You have not inquired into them as a magistrate?—No; but as an individual I have.

607. I understood you to say that no place should be licensed for dancing unless rated at a certain amount; have you formed any idea with regard to the lowest amount that should be fixed?—That would depend, I think, on the power that was given to license for dancing; some of the public-houses would have accommodation for small parties which they want occasionally, and if the local magistrate had the power of granting an occasional license as the country magistrates have the power now for licensing a theatre for a week or so, that would be useful; but the question would rather be to determine whether there is accommodation for the public for dancing; of course at the Freemasons' Hotel when there is a public ball, you have a good building, but if a small public-house applies, down at Bow or any place of that kind, the public should be secured that there is accommodation, and that the building is safe.

608. In fact you would leave it to the discretion of the magistrate?—I would.

609. I think you have stated that you are rather chary in granting a license for music and dancing in respectable and quiet neighbourhoods, but that you grant it more readily in Wapping, and so on?—Yes.

610. Do you think that in such neighbourhoods as Wapping it acts as a check on immorality, or is it because the law would be evaded, and worse consequences might ensue if you refused the license?—The law would be evaded. When sailors first land they go to public-houses; if they hear music they will begin dancing, and we know the state of society there is such that the sexes will mingle together in the dance in low public-houses.

611. One more question with regard to undue influence being brought to bear on the magistrates. Have you any brewers among your magistrates?—I think there are one or two, but I have not known more than one or two brewers made magistrates since I have been on the Bench, which is now nearly 35 years. I know that the Lord Lieutenant would almost turn me out of his room if I were to ask him to appoint a brewer.

612. He refuses to appoint brewers, does he?—He would not hear of it.

613. Mr. *Miller.*] I was very much struck with one suggestion of yours, which was, that you would not give a license to the same house for music and dancing and for theatrical representations, but that you would require the houses to be distinct?—Yes.

614. Now is that practicable?—Yes, I should think it is very practicable.

615. In one case the license would be granted by the Lord Chamberlain, and in the other case by the magistrates?—Yes.

616. You propose that those licenses should be distinct in order that there should be no conflict of jurisdiction between the two?—That is one reason; but another reason is, that I think theatres and those sort of places are more likely to become public buildings of great importance than ordinary public-houses and hotels, and that the influence of the Lord Chamberlain would go a great way to keep them in order.

617. At the present time it is said there are no less than 28 music-halls in this metropolis, where theatrical entertainments are given without a license?—They ought not to be allowed to do that.

618. Now if you were to give a license for music and dancing and refuse a license for theatrical representations, do you not think that you would hold out a great premium of attraction upon the lower class of entertainment, and would it not be better to meet the case by granting a license

license for theatrical representations?—I think not. I think that if all the public-houses that have now a music and dancing license were made into theatres, it would be productive of great evil.

619. How would you describe the minimum of theatrical representation?—I should say, coming in in any theatrical dress and having a large number of performers, and having scenic representations.

620. Would you call a dialogue between two actors on the stage, with a scene at the back, a theatrical representation?—Yes, I would prevent scenic representation.

621. But would the fact of the scene being there without a performance constitute a theatre? No, I think not. I may add that there is no law to prevent dialogue. You may have two men to hold a discussion in any public-house.

622. Can you tell me whether there has been any return of the amount of crime connected with those music-halls?—No, I am not aware of any return.

623. As a general rule, do you think that at the police stations there are many prisoners brought up who are taken at those music-halls?—The assistant judge (Mr. Bodkin) is here, and he can answer that question better than I could.

624. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] What is the whole number of these licenses?—Speaking from memory, I think there are about 5,800 spirit licenses.

625. I mean music and dancing licenses only?—351.

626. Mr. *Lush.*] How many music licenses alone have you now on your book?—291.

627. Have you many for music and dancing?—60.

628. You never grant any licenses for Middlesex for a theatre, do you?—No.

629. Nor for any performance?—No.

630. You have stated that the Act of George the Second conflicts very much with the present state of society, and our movements in all these matters?—Very much.

631. In what respect do you mean?—No one has now the right to open any place of public amusement for music and dancing before five o'clock in the afternoon. If they were to have a morning concert, for instance, their license is forfeited, and the individual is never capable of holding a license again, or is the building capable of being licensed.

632. Is there any other instance of conflict?—The penalty of 100 *l.* for every offence is very large, and the information could be laid by a common informer, which if put in practice would be exceedingly onerous on the owners of those houses.

633. You think that that should be done away with?—Certainly.

634. And that those houses should open when they please?—Yes; only that they should close at certain hours.

635. That they should be open at any hour during the day?—Yes.

636. Considering the increase in the number of the population, do you think it is necessary for them to have some amusement?—Certainly. I think that no one has done more to promote public amusement than myself, for I was the instigator of Exeter Hall; and the Sacred Harmonic Society in connection with it has certainly been the means of rousing the public spirit for music throughout the country.

637. The object of the drama as a rule is intellectual entertainment and refreshment?—Yes; intellectual entertainments.

638. Now what is the object of those people who go to the music saloons?—The object of the publican is to sell his spirits; the object of the individual must depend on his character.

639. Is the primary object to sell spirits?—No doubt; it is the trade that he carries on, and we must presume that every man wants his own trade to be prosperous.

640. Of course then he makes the entertainment of the people a subordinate thing?—There is no question about it; no one would keep a place merely for the amusement of others, if he got nothing by it.

641. Do you think that places of entertainment should have a spirit license?—I think they would be far better without it.

642. Assuming that it is necessary that people should have amusement in some way, is it necessary that they should have refreshments with their amusements?—No, I think not. What are our own habits? When we go to a theatre, we dine before we go, and we take our coffee when we return, and so with the labouring classes; they have had their dinner and they return to supper; they can have their amusement in the meantime.

643. You think from your experience that the entertainments for the people and refreshments for the people should be entirely distinct things?—I think it would be better, but I do not think it is quite practicable.

644. Then that being so, would it not be as well to allow people in these respects to conduct their theatrical and other entertainments as they like themselves, under the law of demand and supply?—I think not. Some persons would be very glad to have an opportunity of exhibiting a bull fight, and plenty of people would go to see it, and many other brutalising sports might be revived at a profit to those getting them up.

645. Assuming all such possibilities, and that those who are engaged in any trade or profession do not like to be fettered, is it not better, in the result, to leave them unfettered?—Yes; in a legitimate trade that is necessary for the community, the less people are fettered the better.

646. But you think that there should be some restriction on the acting dramas and on dancing?—Yes; the only restrictions I would suggest would be restrictions from their being acted at improper places.

647. But the country, as distinguished from the metropolis, is left without the protection of the Lord Chamberlain altogether with regard to the theatrical licenses, is it not?—Yes; without the restrictions of this 25 Geo. 2.

648. Do you not think, if any license is to be given, you ought to put it all under the magistrates' control?—No; I have stated that, in my opinion, the theatres and those kind of places should be under the charge of the Lord Chamberlain.

649. If a man, on taking a license for acting plays and the like, gave security for a sum of money, as is done in many other cases, would not that answer all purposes of precaution?—I dare say that, so far as the individual himself went, there might be nothing whatever bad; but it is necessary to guard the girls and boys who go there, and

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

and all that class of the community who attend. In a great measure those laws are framed to fence them round with security, so that they shall not be improperly drawn into temptation.

650. In certain cases, assuming people get a license for a music-hall from the magistrate, they can then go and get a spirit license from the Excise Office?—Yes.

651. Do you approve of that?—Certainly not; and we withhold our license next time when we find that it has been used for such a purpose as that.

652. Mr. *Selwin.*] You have stated, that after the magistrates have granted a license they have no further means of ascertaining how the music-halls are conducted?—No more than by personal inspection.

653. And that the complaints go to the police courts; they do not come before you?—That is so.

654. When they do make those complaints, they never refer them to the magistrates?—No; but when the licensing time comes round again they are reported to us.

655. Just as in relation to the licensing of public-houses?—Just as in the licensing of public-houses.

656. Do you not think that it would be very desirable that the police should act under the magistrates?—Certainly.

657. With instructions to report all cases of irregularity to the magistrates?—Certainly.

658. Under those circumstances, supposing that the police had those instructions, and they did report to the magistrates, do you still think it would be advisable to retain the theatres under the Lord Chamberlain, and that the magistrates could not, with the assistance of the police, keep a sufficient watch over the theatres as well as music halls?—That is my opinion.

659. I understood you to say that you thought it would be very desirable if the power of withdrawing the license was given to the magistrates, as it is to the Lord Chamberlain, in the interval between the October Sessions and the renewal of the license?—Certainly.

660. You said, I think, that many of those dancing-rooms were licensed for about 30 people?—Yes.

661. Is that always considered a sufficient number, as showing the wants of a neighbourhood?—I cannot say that there is any defined rule.

662. Would you multiply it up to any number of rooms holding 30 people each?—No, not if there were many others in the neighbourhood.

663. In separating the dancing by performers and dancing by the visitors, the dancing in the ballet would come under the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

664. It does not do so now, does it?—So it appears by the decisions.

665. It would be very easy to make a distinction between the two things, you think?—I should think so.

666. Mr. *Powell.*] Besides the larger places of entertainment, to which your attention has been chiefly directed, are there also others of what I may describe as an inferior character, and vulgarly known as "Penny Gaffs"?—Yes.

667. Is there any police superintendence over them?—The police go in, and I believe they report to the visiting magistrates, occasionally, at the licensing time.

668. I allude to places not licensed at all?—No, the police make no report of them.

669. You may see, in some of the minor streets of London, an announcement of some cheap entertainment, some singer of assumed celebrity, or some dancing by some comic performer, the place being licensed neither by the Lord Chamberlain nor the magistrates; would it be any part of the duty of the police to go into those places and see what was going on?—I am not sure; I think not.

670. Do you think that it is desirable they should, in fact, enter, in the course of their usual vocation, into any places to which the public are admitted?—I think that they should have free access, at any time, to any such place.

671. Do you think that they should have the power, either by their own action or by the intervention of a magistrate, to stop performances going on there?—I think that the power should be somewhere, to prevent performances at those places going on where they have no license. Those who have no license might be reported to the principal officer of police, who should have the power to stop them at once.

672. With regard to the places that are licensed, confining myself, for the sake of convenience, to your own jurisdiction, let me ask you, do you think that the police should, as a duty, go into all those places, and report to you?—I do not know what authority we should have; they often do report to the police magistrates because, in the metropolis, the police magistrates take all those charges. Take Whitechapel, for instance; say that there is one of those gaffs open without any license whatever, the police should have the power of entering it, and reporting it to the police magistrate of his district.

673. You think that the police should take that as part of their duty?—Yes.

674. And they having so reported to the police magistrate, exercising more or less the function of a censor, do you not think that the reports ought to be laid before you on the Middlesex Bench, when you reconsider the licenses?—If that relates to unlicensed places, there would be no use in it; but when those places that have no license are reported to the police magistrates, the magistrates ought to have the power of inflicting a fine.

675. But taking the places which have a license, do you think that you ought to have a report of those things by which to be guided, as to whether you should or should not renew the license?—They should report to the police magistrate, because the country magistrates have no jurisdiction within the metropolis; but they should also report to the local Bench of magistrates, in order that the fact may be known when the license comes to be renewed.

676. Would you rather that the police reported to the police court, and the police court again reported to you, or would you rather have a continual series of reports from the police direct?—I should like a series of reports from the police direct; the more information we get the better.

677. Mr. *Miller.*] Have you not a report of the convictions before the police magistrates before granting the licenses?—Generally.

678. Not as a matter of right, but simply as a matter of convenience?—Yes.

679. Mr. *Powell.*] Assuming that the police went in in this way, and instantly reported to you,

you, do you think there would be any weight in the objection which might be raised, that you would destroy or interfere with the responsibility of the person keeping the house?—No; not with his responsibility.

680. At present, if order is not kept, he is liable to have his license withdrawn?—Yes.

681. Do you think if the police were to go in, and there were no reports made, it might be said, "The police have not complained, and I am no longer responsible"?—Unfortunately, that is often the case; we hear of offences committed in public-houses, and yet there is no report when they come up to have their license renewed; perhaps the magistrates have information of the fact, and they challenge the individual, and he says, "I have had no police complaint," and then it appears before the public as if we were acting harshly by withholding that license, or putting him to the inconvenience of going to the sessions.

682. But you would consider a complete police superintendence a more powerful protection than that mere feeling of responsibility?—Certainly.

683. Now with regard to the size of the room; of course that has some reference to the number of persons supposed to be in it?—We cannot estimate the number of persons there may be, it would depend on a variety of circumstances. Frequently they come, and we ask "What is the size of your room," and they say, "46 feet by 12;" perhaps that appears sufficient at the time, but on further investigation it appears to be no more than a mere passage.

684. Do you at all investigate the character of the approaches, the staircase leading into an upper room, for example, or the doorways?—We do to some extent, but there is no vigilant superintendence with regard to the approaches or the accommodation; we have no officer that we can employ for the purpose, and the county would not like us to go to the expense of a survey of all those places.

685. You make no investigation, then, with regard to the safety of the room?—No, except a visit from the local magistrate, if it is a new license; and if it does not appear very objectionable, then no objection is offered; but if it is very bad, the objection is stated, and the license refused.

686. No doubt in many cases in the West End of London, houses are so built, that though safe for the purposes of ordinary life, no lady would hold a ball in one of the upper rooms; do you examine rooms to see if the floor is such as safely to bear a crowd of excited, and some of them perhaps drunken, dancers?—No.

687. You have no funds?—No, we have no funds.

688. I will read you an answer which was given by Mr. Ponsonby on Monday last in answer to Question 238; "A case arose in this way some years ago (I think it was in the year 1857 or 1858): the proprietor of the Alhambra applied to the Lord Chamberlain for a license for the Alhambra; the Lord Chamberlain took the usual course; he sent an inspector, a professional surveyor, to inspect the building; the surveyor reported that one of the galleries was unsafe to contain such a large number of persons as the Alhambra was capable of holding, and that there was only one entrance for the whole audience. The Lord Chamberlain refused the license, but at the same time they had applied to the justices, and the justices, I believe without any examination, granted the license to the building?"—That is correct.

689. Now I want to ask you another question; your forms of licenses appear to be in blank?—Yes, they are filled up when they become licenses.

690. Of course I understand that the forms are filled up, some with music only and some with music and dancing?—Yes.

691. Then there are those general words, "or other public entertainment of the like kind"?—Yes, those words are now left out.

692. But have you in any case in your licenses defined the words "public entertainment of the like kind"?—No; I was asked the question when the licenses were granted last October, and I was obliged to say that the Bar to my left was the party who must give the explanation, and that it was not the Bench who were to interpret that.

693. You think that dancing by performers and scenic representations should be entirely separated from any drinking?—I think so.

694. Do you think that, taking an ordinary theatre, where at half-past six o'clock in the afternoon you see a crowd standing round the doors, and where the performance is not over before 12 o'clock, it is possible that so many people for so long a time should pass the evening without some refreshment?—I think they can do so. I have done it myself in former years; but they can go out for half an hour between the acts, and there are generally orange-women and persons with baskets who are allowed to go into the pit.

695. You would allow refreshments, but not ardent spirits?—Yes.

696. And beer?—Yes.

697. It is the custom in some of the French theatres to keep the refreshment rooms wholly subordinate, and to have long intervals between the acts, during which the audience may go out and visit the neighbouring coffee-houses, the intervals being made long for that purpose; do you think, having regard to the habits of the English people, it would be desirable that they should leave the theatre, visit the neighbouring public-houses, and then go in again?—They should not be restricted; they might do as they liked.

698. But, supposing the audience were largely composed of persons who felt that during six hours they must have some refreshment, should you think it more desirable that they should be allowed to walk out and get it, rather than that there should be a refreshment room within the building?—Yes, I should think so.

699. Assuming that there was a proper license for the performances, and assuming that there was an entire, complete, and practical absence of the private rooms which you think are a source of so much mischief, how should you then express your objection to eating and drinking going on among the audience during the performance itself in the room where the performance was taking place?—My objection is to their having private rooms, and to having ardent spirits all the time the performance is going on.

700. I am supposing that there is a license and that the performances in themselves are strictly such as we might wish; I am assuming the private rooms entirely excluded without any pretence; how should you express or define any objection that you have to drinking going on among

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

among the audience during the performance?—I should have no objection except to ardent spirits.

701. But you would object to ardent spirits?—Yes.

702. Should you object to smoking?—Persons who like the fumes of tobacco might smoke; it does no moral harm.

703. Supposing that spirits are sold at the Alhambra, should you consider that as a reason for withdrawing the license from the Alhambra?—It would depend on whether it has been already granted or not; it would be an objection to granting the license in the first instance.

704. But would it be an objection to renewing the license?—I think it would if it became a public-house.

705. If it were proved the next time they applied for a license that spirits were consumed there under an Excise license, should you gravely consider that?—I think so.

706. And probably you would withdraw the license?—Yes, I think so; we have done it in one or two other cases, and I think we would not deviate from that rule.

707. If it were proved that great immoralities take place in the private rooms, should you consider that?—Yes.

708. And you would withdraw the license?—Yes, unless we had a pledge that all those rooms should be closed up, though according to the letter of the Act I believe we have no legal right to insist upon pledges; they often give us pledges that such and such things shall be done if we renew the license.

709. The same observation would apply to any improprieties between some of the performers and the visitors?—Yes, certainly.

710. Should you say that the Middlesex magistrates have any control whatever over places of public resort with regard to the safety of the public?—No.

711. Now with regard to open competition, I wish to ask you a question; I presume open competition involves seeking after popularity?—Certainly.

712. Do you not think that some men might select modes of gaining popularity which would not conduce to morality?—Unquestionably many would, and do.

713. Therefore you think probably that the greatest lover of open competition must admit that there must be some restraint on the selection of the modes by which popularity might be obtained?—I think so.

714. You stated, as I understood you, that the Bench have regard to the wants of the neighbourhood in granting licenses?—Yes.

715. Do you think it is possible to have regard to the wants of a neighbourhood without more or less admitting monopoly?—I am afraid not.

716. With regard to uniformity of system, and having a common authority for the purpose of licensing buildings for music or the drama, do you think that any evil would arise from having such complete uniformity; take it this way; what a cultivated audience might reject as vulgar, a vulgar audience might fail to appreciate, and reject as dull?—The same amusement would not suit all classes.

717. Then is there this difficulty, that you must either bring down the performances of the higher classes (so far as the license is concerned) to a low level, or else have them of such a character that the less educated people would not appreciate them?—The aim should be to elevate the lower mind to the level of the higher.

718. But suppose the lower mind refuses elevation?—I do not think, practically, that would be found to be the case. We know that for many years it was thought that the clergy did not sufficiently lower their ideas and language to meet the common people, but I have heard common people say, over and over again, we understood what so-and-so said, when another man came who preached very differently. I believe they attend more to a refined speech than to one that has a good deal of buffoonery about it.

719. Is it the fact that performances of classical music are sought after by the humbler classes of the community?—Very much; and if Exeter Hall was opened free when the Sacred Harmonic Society give some of their pieces, it would be overflowed by the working people; but it is an expensive operation, and cannot be done. It is a great misfortune, and there I believe France has the advantage over us; the Government supply amusements to the people, but here the people have to pay for it themselves, and therefore the labouring classes cannot afford it.

720. Do you think the French system practicable in England?—I think it would be practicable. I think occasionally it would do a great deal of good if certain refined things were given to the people gratuitously.

721. Having known London for many years, you have stated that there have been great improvements in the state of the streets at night; do you attribute that (among other causes, no doubt) to the increase of those places of public entertainment?—Yes, I do; though they have their evils, and very great evils, they have their benefits also.

722. In that sense?—Yes, in that sense; that they withdraw those people from the streets and concentrate them.

723. And by proportion they diminish the temptation to those who do not seek them?—Of course.

724. You said that you thought scenic accessories might be taken to constitute a drama; should you pay any regard to the attitude of the performers; a lover kneeling at the feet of his mistress, for example?—I do not think I should interfere with that; I should be very sorry to stop love in any way.

725. You would draw the line stiffly with the scenery?—I would not allow scenery; or any indecency in the attitudes; but I think there are many things that would make a theatrical entertainment without scenic representation; if individuals came in in costume, and if they put themselves in certain attitudes, if they performed in dumb show certain things, all that would partake of a theatrical character, in my opinion.

726. Probably your feelings would coincide with those of others, that the line is very difficult to draw by any words in an Act of Parliament?—There is no question about it.

727. We all know that in a great metropolis there must be much floating vice; do you consider, as a magistrate of long experience, that those music-halls add to that mass of floating vice?—No, I cannot say that, because the vice which takes place there is not floating in the public eye; it is not seen.

728. Then take it generally, that in the community

munity there must be a certain amount of vice?—No doubt.

729. Do you think that the music-halls as now conducted increase that vice?—I am hardly able to say, but I fear they do.

730. Or are they merely scenes of it?—I fear that they engender it very much.

731. The tendency would really depend very much on the principle appealed to by the conductors of those halls, whether it be the intellectual principle or whether it be the lower feelings of our nature?—No doubt of it.

732. Do you think that there is an equality of justice between the different music-halls and dancing rooms with regard to the granting or withdrawing of licenses?—I think the present system works very equally.

733. There is a dancing room called Caldwell's, in Dean-street, Soho?—Yes.

734. The license was withdrawn?—Yes, because when they got our license they got the Lord Chamberlain's license on the strength of it, and therefore for one year we suspended our license altogether.

735. What went on under the Lord Chamberlain's license?—Scenic representations, almost theatrical; and the sale of spirits and wine, and so on.

736. You think then it would be inaccurate to say that of two rooms equally well or equally ill-conducted, one had the licence granted and the other had the license refused at the same sessions?—It would depend on where they were situated; if they were situated close together, the bench would not grant the two licenses; if they were in a different part of the town, or several streets apart, I think the bench would grant them both a license if they were equally eligible.

737. But with the present information which the bench enjoy, do you think, as a fact, assuming the best intention, that two rooms equally well conducted have an equal chance of having their licenses renewed?—It depends on where they are situated; if they were in different parts of the town, and the opposition of the inhabitants was the same, and all the concomitants were the same in both cases, I think they would both be likely to be licensed, but they certainly would not be licensed in the same street. The difficulty that the magistrates have, and I have no doubt that much public odium is cast upon them from this fact, is this—individuals take a large piece of ground for building purposes, and erect two or three streets, and they think they are therefore entitled at once to get spirit licenses for each of those streets, and they lay out a large sum of money in building a very grand place, and if we do not license it for music and dancing, they think we are inflicting on them an injury.

738. Mr. *Locke.*] They having built it for that purpose?—They having built it for that purpose, without any communication with us, and they, perhaps, knowing that there is a similar thriving concern within two or three streets.

739. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you find any objection, apart from competition, made to renewing the licenses by the inhabitants, simply because they do not want so large a congregation of people too near their homes at midnight?—Half of our time is occupied by hearing complaints on that ground at the sessions. We have complaints from the clergy and churchwardens, and many score of inhabitants against licensing any houses at all in certain neighbourhoods.

740. I presume you have no wish to stop those entertainments altogether?—None whatever, if they can be properly regulated.

741. Is any charge made for a music or dancing license?—None whatever. It would be very desirable in any alteration of the law that we should have an opportunity of charging 10*s.* or 5*s.* for a music license, and as that would apply to small public houses, 10*s.* or 10*s.* 6*d.* for the larger license.

742. Do the applicants usually have professional assistance?—Generally.

743. That involves, of course, a certain expense?—It is very expensive.

744. Mr. *Walpole.*] I suppose the expense is charged to the county rate?—Yes; the expense of printing the license, and so on.

745. I observe by that paper when you say you think that a house should be rated at a particular amount, you mention 200*l.* a-year. Is that the sum which you deliberately fix upon?—I merely put that in; but I think that would be better left to the discretion of the bench.

746. Is there anything else which you wish to state to the Committee?—There is one point in addition. In those music and dancing licenses it is requisite on every transfer that the notices, which are five or six each, should be proved on oath. The result is that probably the same person serves 30 or 40 notices on different individuals, and for different publicans, and he has to be sworn to each of those separate notices. It would really answer every purpose and save a great deal of time as well as oath taking, if the same individual who had served notices was once sworn that to the question which he is to be asked, he will answer truly, applying that to the whole number of cases instead of only one of them. And there is one more point which I wish to call the attention of the Committee to: by this Act, after the whole of the licenses have been gone through, which now amount to very nearly 400, they must be signed by four magistrates, and then when the licensing is over every separate license must be called over in court, with the names of the four magistrates who signed them. The consequence is that it would occupy the whole day merely to read over those licenses which have been granted. It is generally done to an empty court, unless I secure the same magistrates to sign all the licenses that are granted, and it is very often exceedingly inconvenient for the magistrates to remain two or three days to sign all the licenses. There is no practical use whatever in the licenses being called out after they are once granted. They are granted in open court, before the public, upon notice being given to the police, and put upon the church door, to the clerk of the peace, to the overseers, and to the churchwardens. Every publicity is given. If that clause could be omitted in any future Bill it would save an immense amount of trouble.

747. The object of that notice is that it should be publicly done in open court?—Yes; but the license is granted in a public court, and then you have to read, perhaps, 400 of them, with the names of four of the justices attached to each. I have known as many as 20 magistrates signing. It is just like throwing down a pack of cards, and then having to sort them afterwards.

748. Mr. *Locke.*] I will call your attention to that petition *(handing a Paper to the Witness)*, which related to the Hanover-square Rooms. Do you recollect that petition being presented?—Yes;

H. Pownall, Esq.

23 March 1866.

Yes; I did, perhaps, what I was not justified in doing on that occasion.

749. Will you read the title to that petition?—"Copy of Petition lodged against the renewal of the licenses of the Hanover-square Rooms and the Egyptian Hall, but withdrawn on the understanding that it is to be presented again in October 1866, against every concert hall that has given a morning performance before five o'clock in the afternoon, in defiance of the Act of 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, unless the said Act shall by that time be amended or repealed."

750. Does that petition appear to you to be accurate?—The case was, that the Egyptian Hall had those entertainments before five o'clock, and the Hanover-square Rooms had also those entertainments, and I have no doubt in the world that the person who was going to lay the information must have received something considerable to prevent his going on with it before the Court.

751. But was it not this, that that petition was presented by persons connected with the music-halls. In consequence of proceedings having been taken against them they brought to the notice of the Middlesex magistrates the present state of the law, namely, that under their license no musical performance could take place before five o'clock, and then they withdrew it, but said they should renew it unless some fresh legislation took place?—This petition was never presented to the court. If it had been presented to the court then we could not have renewed the license to the Hanover-square Rooms or the Egyptian Hall. I stopped the counsel who was going to state to the court why the petition was withdrawn, because the very fact of his stating that would have informed the court of the violation of the law, which would have left us no alternative.

752. Had notice been given that such a petition would be presented?—Yes.

753. Then it appears in your proceedings at the quarter sessions that there was such a petition?—Yes. "No 15. Robert Cocks, Queen's Concert Rooms, No. 4, Hanover-square; opposed;" it therefore would have stood over to the last day, but the petition never came before the court.

754. But it had been lodged in some way, I presume?—It never came before my notice. I do not think I ever saw it. Whether it was lodged in the Clerk of the Peace's Office I cannot tell, but it was never produced in court. If the opposition had been persisted in, then the petition would have been read in court, both for and against; but in order that serious consequences might not arise, I have no doubt that the party who laid the information had a douceur to withdraw it; I dare say he might have been employed by the music halls.

755. However, does not that clearly raise the question as to whether or not your license was sufficient to enable the Hanover-square Rooms to have musical performances before five o'clock in the afternoon?—Certainly.

756. In consequence of that, as we have it in evidence from Mr. Ponsonby, the Lord Chamberlain has given a theatrical license to those persons?—Yes.

757. Where you had before granted a music license?—Yes.

758. He supplemented your music license with a theatrical license?—Yes.

759. And they do all that they like now?—Yes.

760. Whether that is legal or not depends on the Attorney and Solicitor Generals having given an opinion to that effect, or the decision of a court of law, which has never been given?—Just so. There are, of course, great doubts about the legality of it.

761. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] Is St. James's Hall licensed for performances after five o'clock?—Certainly.

762. And not before five o'clock?—I believe that it has now the same license from the Lord Chamberlain,

763. No; the Lord Chamberlain has refused it. I went there myself two or three times last year, and I heard very good concerts by the leading artistes of the day. I heard Jenny Lind and Carlotta Patti, and the prices of admission were a guinea and two guineas, the performance taking place between half-past two and half-past four. now for what is Mr. Donald licensed?—He has a license for music and dancing; and if it came before the court in an official way that he had had music and dancing before five o'clock in the afternoon, it is imperative on the magistrates (they have no option) not to renew the license to him; nor can he ever have one again for that house. I hope before you make that complaint before us as magistrates the law will be altered.

764. Do you think it desirable that there should be one law for the rich and one for the poor, in these matters?—The severity of the penalty has prevented information from being laid; there is no doubt of it.

765. Mr. *Selwin.*] In issuing licenses for music and dancing, you contemplate that the dancing merely includes the visitors?—Yes.

766. But a decision has been come to which says that there is no law to confine it to them, has there not?—That decision leaves it open.

767. But on the renewal of a license, would the knowledge of the holders having violated your license, in your idea be a sufficient ground for refusing it?—No, I think not; as the law is not definite now, we should not take the responsibility of refusing the license.

768. Mr. *Lusk.*] As a matter of fact, do you know if those 291 music halls, and the 60 music and dancing halls, are well attended?—I have no means of ascertaining that; I believe that the larger ones, such as Weston's Music Hall, Highbury Barn, and the Oxford are very frequently crowded.

769. Do you think as a rule that they are well attended?—Yes, no doubt.

770. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you feel satisfied in the present state of the law, which is confessedly imperfect, that any gross and manifest improprieties at the music and dancing halls do practically come to the knowledge of the Bench when application is made for the renewal of the license?—I do not believe that they do.

Sir THOMAS HENRY, called in; and Examined.

Sir *T. Henry.*

771. Mr. *Walpole.*] YOU are the Chief Magistrate of Bow-street Police Court?—Yes.

772. How long have you held that appointment?—I have been 26 years magistrate, and two years Chief Magistrate.

773. Have you been 26 years at Bow-street?—No,

—No, I have been 20 years at Bow-street; I was for six years previously at Whitechapel and Lambeth Police Courts, but for the last 20 years I have been at Bow-street.

774. With regard to dancing and music halls, and places of that description, you have no doubt had considerable experience with regard to the results, and effects produced by the present system of licensing, and the conduct of the public in those halls?—I believe so.

775. Since you have been a magistrate in the metropolis, these licenses have considerably increased in number, have they not?—Yes, they have considerably increased within the last 12 or 14 years.

776. When they were first introduced were many complaints brought before you in consequence of the conduct of the parties who attended such places?—No.

777. Have many cases of complaint come before you in later years?—Very few.

778. Then have you any reason to think that they are on the whole well or ill conducted?—I believe them to be well conducted.

779. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you speak of the music halls?—Yes.

780. And dancing halls also?—And dancing halls also.

781. Mr. *Walpole.*] Do you think that that is owing chiefly to the fact that the license might be withheld at the end of the term of the license, or to the fact that the police attend to the conduct of the parties there, or to both causes combined?—I attribute it chiefly to the regard which the proprietor has for his own interest; the supervision of the police is very slight.

782. You think that the power of refusing the license at the end of the year is the principal cause which keeps the conductors of those houses under proper restraint?—I believe that to be the chief cause.

783. Have you any reason to think that additional police regulations might be advantageous for the purpose of keeping them even more orderly than you represent them to be at present?—I think that more supervision is required, but that it should be supervision of a different nature; supervision, I mean, to see that the performances are of a proper kind.

784. Will you have the goodness to explain to the Committee the kind of supervision which you think is required with regard to the performances in those halls?—I think that the licensing authority ought to be vested in one person, and I think that that authority should have a sufficient staff to visit the different places to see that there was no infringement of the law and no impropriety of conduct.

785. Have you at all considered in what one person you would place that supervising authority?—I think that places of public amusement have so much increased that a new officer should be appointed for the purpose.

786. You think that a new office should be created, and that in the person who holds that office the power of granting the license and the power of ascertaining that the conditions of the license are properly observed, should be vested exclusively?—I think so.

787. By your answer would you wish the Committee to understand that you would give him a magisterial authority for seeing whether the conditions of the license were properly observed?—I agree with what Mr. Ponsonby said, that the licensing of theatres and music halls ought to be under the same authority, and I think that authority ought to judge what places were to be licensed, and to see that they were fit for the object which they were intended to carry out, and that he should have persons under him who would visit those places and who would have the power to report to him if any impropriety took place, and then he would have the absolute power to rescind at any period of the year the license which he had granted. Of course that officer should be under the control of the Secretary of State and amenable to Parliament for his conduct, because it would be a very large power to give to anyone. The only reason why I recommend that is, that it would ensure one uniform system, which is not the case now; at present there is a want of uniformity. But in making those observations I wish distinctly to observe that it is not with a view in the slightest degree to disparage anything connected with the mode of licensing under the Lord Chamberlain's department with regard to the theatres, or under the magistrates with respect to the music-halls or public-houses. I believe that their duties have been very well performed, but they have no staff.

788. Mr. *Powell.*] And no money?—Just so; they have no funds.

789. Mr. *Walpole.*] Taking first the theatres, strictly speaking, do you see any reason for taking away from the Lord Chamberlain, supposing that he had a proper staff under him, the power of licensing the theatres and the power of licensing plays?—The only reason I see is, that I think all places of public amusement ought to be under the control of one and the same authority, as they are in France. Great benefit is derived from that, because the licensing authority can then regulate what sorts of amusements should be afforded to the public according to the localities in which they are to be granted. They have various kinds of performance in Paris in different parts of the town, greatly to the advantage of the public. The theatre that is suited to the West End of the town would not be suited to Whitechapel; so, on the other hand, he could regulate the sort of amusement to be permitted in music halls.

790. Are the Committee to understand that, in your opinion, the officer to be created and appointed according to your suggestion is to have an arbitrary power of dealing with the holders of those licenses irrespective of submitting a case to any magistrate?—It is no more arbitrary than the power now exercised by the Lord Chamberlain as to theatres, and by the licensing magistrates with regard to the music and dancing halls.

791. The licensing magistrate cannot now withdraw a license in the middle of the year, can he?—No; but he can do so at the end of the year.

792. But you would enable him at any period of the year to do that if his regulations were supposed to be broken?—Yes, if there was a gross case; because a performance might be introduced that ought not to be allowed to continue for one day.

793. Would you delegate to that same officer the authority to license plays as well as to license theatres?—Yes; I think it would be a great advantage. It becomes a very important question, because places of public amusement are increasing so fast that it is scarcely within the management of the licensing authorities, as now constituted.

794. With regard to the licensing of plays,

Sir *T. Henry.*

23 March 1866.

are they so numerous that the same authority could not continue to do it now as did it before?—Even with regard to the licensing of plays, I believe there are many objectionable plays that are not prevented from appearing.

795. Then you would intend your new officer to exercise even stricter authority with regard to the licensing of plays than the Lord Chamberlain does at present?—I should not use the word "stricter," perhaps. I think he should have a larger staff; he has now no staff. A play may read very well, and there may not apparently be much objection to it, but when it is presented on the stage it may be objectionable, and the licensing authority should have a staff of inspectors who would visit the theatres from time to time to see that nothing objectionable took place.

796. I thought I understood you to say that there were many plays which you think, for the sake of public morals, might be advantageously stopped by the Lord Chamberlain?—Occasionally that has occurred.

797. Would you put any limit to the authority of this new officer in determining what plays should or should not be allowed to go on?—I think that he should be a person of considerable ability and position, under the control of the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

798. You contemplate the creation of an officer of very high position, and of a very different character from the officer who has now to perform all these duties, and that they should be combined in one person?—Yes; no doubt. They have such an officer in Paris, and the system works well

799. Would you enable him to exercise a very large authority with regard to extemporary observations that might be made by the clown in a pantomine, or any other person, though they were not written down?—He would of course exercise that authority with discretion. He would know very well that in this country any arbitrary interference would not be permitted.

800. Is he to determine those matters by evidence submitted before him, or upon the information which he obtains from different persons, irrespective of any evidence to be taken in open court?—Supposing he received information, he would have the power to send or to go and see himself, and he would have the power to remonstrate with the manager; it might not become necessary to stop the performance or to take away the license; an intimation from the officer would probably have the effect of altering that which was deemed objectionable.

801. But if it happened to be what he thought an immoral play, would you give him the power, irrespective of any evidence to be adduced before him in open court, of dealing with that play, or rather with those who performed it, so as to stop it at once?—Of course, I take it for granted that he would not do it without hearing what the manager had to say, and without having the question, as it were, argued whether or not it deserved that infliction.

802. In other words, you contemplate, if I understand you rightly, that this officer should act at all events occasionally, not to say often, through the intervention of some court which he would hold himself?—Yes.

803. Your suggestion amounts to this: that there should be a high public officer appointed to superintend and to regulate all places of public amusement within the metropolis, with a power of exercising magisterial authority in open court, if any abuse is practised within those places?—Yes, just so.

804. There is another point, with regard to the licensing of places of amusement of another character. Do you see any reason why the enforcing of proper order in the places which are to be open for public amusement should not be made almost entirely a matter of police regulation only, or, to put the same thing differently, do you see any reason why any license should be granted by the magistrates for the purpose of opening any of those places of public amusement, provided that you had enacted by law, proper police regulations which can be enforced in court if any misconduct takes place in those places?—May I ask who is to issue those regulations.

805. The Act of Parliament?—That would supply the regulation that I intended should be used by the new officer. But it would be very difficult to put into an Act of Parliament all the regulations that would be required.

806. With regard to the proper conduct of those places, surely there might be regulations such as you have in your Police Act, that if certain things were done in those places, the license should be either suspended or forfeited, and that the magistrates should have the power of determining that suspension or forfeit?—That could be done.

807. Suppose that could be done by a carefully prepared Act of Parliament, do you then see any particular advantage in the going to the magistrates to grant a license for opening those places?—No; I do not see that there is any necessity for getting a license. My object is to take care that there is the power of supervision.

808. It has been stated by the last witness that the magistrates in granting those licenses have regard to the character of the neighbourhood and to the wants of the neighbourhood, and that they look into those matters; but that they do not look into the question either of the substantiality of the building, or the convenience of the building for carrying on the business within the building when it is erected; if that is so, does the license really give all that security to the public which the public is entitled to require?—No, it does not; I think there ought to be that inspection before the license is granted.

809. You heard the evidence of Mr. Pownall, I suppose?—Yes.

810. You heard him say, perhaps, that one of the primary duties of the Lord Chamberlain is to see that the building is suited for the purpose, and that the means of ingress and egress are proper and sufficient, and that the risk of accidents consequent on the non-performance of such conditions is thereby diminished?—That is a most important matter, no doubt, but that is not the case with music-halls.

811. Then in whatever persons you vest the authority for licensing those music-halls, you would probably think it very advantageous that additional authority should be conferred upon those persons, whoever they may be, to see that the building was properly constructed?—The officer so appointed should have one or two surveyors to inspect every building before it was opened to the public.

812. Unless the magistrates have the power to appoint a surveyor, do you think that the present system is very defective in that respect?—That is what I meant by saying that they had not a sufficient staff.

813. According to your system, you would give the appointment of the surveyor to the new officer whom you intend to appoint?—Yes.

814. With regard to the conduct of people in the theatres themselves, as distinct from the music halls, have you noticed since you have been a magistrate any great difference in the conduct of the persons who frequent those theatres, comparing the time when you first began to exercise the office of magistrate with the present time?—No doubt their conduct has been improving every year among nearly every class, especially all the lower classes.

815. But are not the regulations of the theatres very much altered with regard to the presence of immoral persons there?—There is merely the alteration of not having saloons where women of the town assembled.

816. Is not that a very considerable alteration?—The women that used to go there now go to the Argyll Rooms, the Casino in Holborn, and other places of that kind.

817. Do you mean that the theatres are better conducted, but that the other rooms are not well conducted?—No doubt that is an advantage to the theatres; the change was introduced by Mr. Macready.

818. And Mr. and Mrs. Kean did something in the same direction, did they not?—Yes, no doubt that example set by Mr. Macready was followed up.

819. Mr. Ponsonby stated in his evidence that the Lord Chamberlain has required that the regulations in that respect should be adhered to?—I believe so.

820. Have you any further suggestions to offer to the Committee with regard to what you consider the best mode of putting those places of public amusement under proper control and supervision?—Supervision is what is required, because there is no supervision at present, except a check on the proprietor by his regard for his own interest.

821. If the officer whom you suggest were appointed, would you give to every person as a matter of right, subject to conditions imposed for the proper conduct of his place, the right to claim a license for one of those establishments?—I think there should not be too many; there should be a limit.

822. How could you draw that limit?—The officer who had all that business under his control would soon find out what the requirements of the public were.

823. But unless you have, so to speak, complete free trade, would not some excluded persons be apt to think that they were justly aggrieved?—I think that to open two large places in one street would be inconvenient.

824. Would you give the first comer the preference?—Yes; if one good place is established, I think that another is not wanted in the immediate vicinity of it.

825. Who is to be the judge of that?—At present the licensing magistrates judge of that; it is only the transfer of that power of judging to the new officer; it is done now by a fluctuating body of 50 or 60 magistrates (they are not always the same). If it were performed by one officer, with a good staff under him, he would know what was required.

826. You would leave him to his own discretion, would you?—He should be a high officer; a man of character and ability, whose acts would be respected, and who would be subject of course to the control of the Secretary of State.

827. He would be, in fact, the executor of his own law?—To a great extent he would.

828. Mr. *Locke.*] That is so at present with regard to the Lord Chamberlain, is it not?—It is so; there is no appeal from the Lord Chamberlain.

829. You have spoken about the law as it is in France; are you aware that that law has very recently been altered, and that they have now what they call *la liberté du théâtre*?—I am aware of that.

830. Probably you have witnessed performances at the "Variétés"?—Yes.

831. I believe that under the new law in France you can perform any species of play, or burletta, or opera, at any place?—I am not prepared to say that, I rather think not. I do not think that the *liberté du théâtre* goes so far as that.

832. Do you recollect the representation of something very like an inferior music hall in a piece, where they had a goose brought on to the stage for a man to eat, and where there was below a table set out, and they were eating their refreshments while the play was going on behind; that being a piece introduced at the "Variétés" to ridicule the new law?—Yes, but I do not draw my inference from that.

833. You do not know exactly what the new law is in France?—I do not.

834. The law, as it existed before, licensed particular theatres for particular descriptions of performances?—Yes, it did, and I thought that an advantage.

835. But, do you not think that the wants of the public with regard to the different descriptions of performances are sufficient to regulate that; for instance, we have now one species of performance at the Strand Theatre, another at the Olympic, another at the Adelphi, another description (which now and then is interfered with by Mr. Kean) at the Princess's, and at Covent Garden and Drury-lane a sort of *omnium gatherum* since they have become what they are. Do you think it necessary that there should be an officer to direct what description of performance should take place at each of the theatres?—It is rather a theatrical question, but my impression is that the system adopted in Paris works better. There is not much difference between the new and the old systems in Paris; practically it is the same. I think that the different classes of performances are better distributed in Paris than here; the people know exactly where to find the particular class of performance that they wish to see.

836. You have not said anything with regard to the class of performances which should be exhibited at the music-halls. Do you see any objection to the music-halls performing light pieces, such as burlettas, *vaudevilles*, or ballets?—I do not.

837. Do you think it would be an advantage that that privilege should be extended to the music-halls, and that they should not be restricted as they are now to such performances as they are permitted to give, and always be in a state of fear of going beyond a certain line which that section of the 6 & 7 Vict. defines in such a very doubtful and inaccurate way?—I think it would be an advantage to extend it, and to make the line better defined; to give them larger powers than they are now supposed to have.

838. Would you suggest that that should be done

Sir *T. Henry.*

23 March 1866.

done by license, as plays are at the theatre?—Yes; I think so. That is one object I have in view in saying that the licensing authority should have the power to regulate all that.

839. Mr. *Powell.*] By a license for each performance, do you mean?—No; he could set that forth in a general license.

840. Mr. *Walpole.*] I understand you to mean that you would extend the power of giving this kind of license to those music-halls as well as to the theatres proper?—Yes.

841. But in both cases you would require a license?—Yes, in both cases.

842. Mr. *Locke.*] Referring to the Bill which I brought in last Session, you will see Clause 9 says, "The term 'stage play' for the purposes of this Act includes everything; but at the same time it was suggested to the managers of theatres to say what they would like to strike out or leave in. Will you be good enough to look at that clause, in which, I think, we enumerated nearly every species of performance, and will you tell the Committee what performance you think would be properly adapted to the music-halls where refreshments of the description you are aware of are going on all the time, in the way which I suppose you have seen?—Two or three of the last-named performances, burletta, pantomime, and ballet, I think all those might be put in.

843. And operetta?—The word "operetta" is not here.

844. Opera?—That would be rather infringing on the higher classes of entertainment, I think.

845. But have you heard any of the singing at any of those music-halls lately?—I went on Monday night on purpose, because I thought the question would be asked. I went to the Alhambra.

846. Did you hear the performance of the *Orphée aux Enfers*?—I did not hear the whole of it. I heard some of the singing, it was principally the ballet that I saw. I was late in going in.

847. In addition to that they have a vast number of singers, have they not, who perform the whole of the music from the beginning to the end of that opera?—No doubt.

848. And very good singers?—Yes.

849. Do you think, seeing that they perform a whole opera now, and do it as if it were in a concert room, inasmuch as they have no dresses on, that there would be any inconvenience or impropriety in their being dressed in character, as they are at the theatres?—It is difficult to draw the line exactly how far the music-halls are to go without encroaching on what I might term the privileges of the theatres.

850. But light opera might be included, perhaps?—Yes; I think it would not be objectionable. The taste for performances of that kind is certainly increasing every day, and the Continental habit of going to places where people can have some amusement and some refreshment is, no doubt, increasing in this country very much.

851. Take Berlin: do you recollect the gardens there?—Yes.

852. Are not there theatres there?—Yes.

853. And Vienna again?—Yes.

854. Do you recollect Amsterdam. Are you aware that there is a theatre there where they enact *vaudevilles*, and where the audience part of the theatre is fitted up just in the same way as at the Alhambra or the Oxford, or any of those places, with tables and seats for taking refreshments and smoking?—It is very common abroad in many places.

855. Is it not your opinion that the very fact of this performance going on, supposing it always were regulated by a license, acts as a preventive to excessive drinking?—So long as you permit persons to drink, and to have tables before them while the performance is going on, I cannot say that drinking is prevented.

856. But do you not think that a person going into the parlour of a public-house where there was no performance to look at, the sole object being drinking, would probably drink a great deal more to elevate his spirits than a person who had something else to do?—Yes, I think that very probable. A music-hall has this advantage, that a man now takes his wife and part of his family with him generally to a music-hall, whereas he used to go alone to the public-house; that I consider a great advantage in the new system. You see that at the Alhambra, and you see it at Canterbury Hall. Certainly the great majority of the people at the Alhambra were respectable tradespeople and mechanics, with their families, looking at the dancing.

857. Mr. *Powell.*] What time were you there?—Between 10 and 11 o'clock.

858. The last witness lays stress on the hour?—I went to the Alhambra, the Pavilion, and the Argyll Rooms on Monday night purposely, that I might give you "the latest information" about those places.

859. Mr. *Locke.*] You went to the Alhambra between 10 and 11 o'clock. That is about the time that the last ballet is performed, is it not?—I was looking more at the audience than at the stage.

860. But you were there while the ballet was performed?—The ballet was quite as decent as it is at the Opera.

861. Which ballet was that?—I did not ask the name of it.

862. Was it a ballet of different dances?—There were different dances, but I did not pay great attention to it.

863. I believe there is no story in it?—I did not collect that there was much story in it.

864. I understand you to say that both the licensing of the theatres and the licensing of plays should, according to your view, be placed under some new officer?—I think that would be an advantage, because I believe that under the present system there is no staff and no funds to ensure any supervision.

865. And that officer should have the power of licensing those music-halls, and then they would be licensed *quà* theatres, only that he would restrict them to particular performances?—Just so; I think that a good officer in that place would have an opportunity of greatly elevating the stage and the music-hall.

866. I suppose you are aware of the 7th Section of the Inland Revenue Act of 5 & 6 Will. 4, c. 39; which was a clause introduced into a Bill about an entirely different matter; there was also a clause introduced into my Bill of last Session, Clause 8, that "a house, room, garden, or other place licensed under Section 2 of the Act of King George the 2d as applied by this Act shall not by reason only of being so licensed be deemed a theatre or place of public entertainment licensed by justices within the meaning of Section 7 of the

the Act of the Session of the 5th and 6th years of the Reign of King William the 4th (c. 39), to exempt certain retailers of spirits to a small amount from the additional duties on licenses and to discontinue the Excise survey on wine and the use of permits for the removal thereof." That clause was to provide that where a license is given by the Lord Chamberlain, as a matter of course the spirit license follows; are you aware of that?—Yes.

867. You would not propose, I presume, that those licenses granted by the Lord Chamberlain should carry the spirit license with them?—No, that is a matter of Excise; that comes from the Inland Revenue.

868. But the Excise have no option, have they?—No; nor do they want any; they merely want to have the revenue; the more spirits there are consumed the better for them.

869. Then how would you license those places; take the case of the theatres; the whole of those theatres and music-halls are places of public entertainment; from whom should you propose that they should have the spirit license?—From the Inland Revenue.

870. As a matter of course?—As a matter of course. I would say that no excisable articles should be consumed in any place of public amusement without an Excise license.

871. Would you say that the Lord Chamberlain's license to those places of public amusement should carry that Excise license?—No, not at all; it would authorise them to ask for it if they intended refreshments to be consumed.

872. But should there be anybody in particular who would grant or refuse that license?—As a matter of course the Excise would grant it if excisable articles were to be consumed.

873. You would grant permission to a person who has built a music-hall to enact plays of a particular kind in it which those licenses would designate?—Yes.

874. Do you think that that license having been granted for those plays, the person to whom the license has been granted would have nothing to do but to go to the Excise and show the license which he had got?—That ought to be a sufficient authority.

875. That answer would apply to the theatres and music-halls as well, I suppose?—To both.

876. With regard to the mode of taking those refreshments; do you propose that there should be any regulations made by the new authority?—I think he ought to have some power of supervision with regard to that matter.

877. Then, in fact, a place being licensed as a theatre, or any place of entertainment, would have, as a matter of course, a wine, spirit, and beer license, but the mode of conducting the refreshment department would be left to the direction of the new officer?—Yes.

878. Do you propose any further powers to be given to the police with regard to entering those places?—I do not think that that is required; at present the police, who are stationed in the theatres, are really the servants for the time being of the proprietor, because they are paid each night by the proprietor of the theatre or music-hall.

879. You think that the proprietor of the music-hall has the police there as a matter of his own interest?—He asks the Commissioner of Police to let him have a certain number of police constables; they are allotted to him, and he pays for them, but they have no supervision over the performances.

880. Nor have they, I suppose, any particular supervision over what goes on there?—Not much.

881. Do you think it is necessary that they should have that supervision?—I think that the proprietor takes very good care of that; he will not permit any drunken person to go in; and if there is any misconduct, he takes good care that the person so misconducting himself shall be turned out. At the Casino in Holborn that is carried so far, that if a woman of the town behaves with the slightest indelicacy she is desired to leave the place, and she is not permitted to enter again.

882. Have you considered what you would do with regard to this Music and Dancing License Act of Geo. 2?—I think that that Act is not suited to the present time at all.

883. You would repeal all those Acts and have one new Act?—Yes, certainly; I would repeal them all and have a new Act.

884. You would have a fresh Act for the better regulation of all places of public amusement?—Yes.

885. Mr. *Walpole.*] The police are paid for by the managers, are they not?—Yes.

886. But the police are still obliged to perform their duties as policemen in case they saw anything wrong?—Yes; they are acting as constables.

887. Mr. *Powell.*] Are they forced, in virtue of their office, to make a report to the magistrates at the police courts?—They report to the Police Commissioner; they never report to us.

888. Mr. *Walpole.*] Sir Richard Mayne was asked in 1853 this question: "Are all places of public resort subject to a license? (*a.*) They are subject to a license; and they are visited likewise by the police; the police have no legal authority to enter, but there are tickets given to them by the manager to enable them to go in free, and they report monthly what the conduct of the people is; and if any case of misconduct occurs, a report to the Lord Chamberlain is forwarded by me." Is that so?—Yes; I believe that is quite correct.

889. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You said that you were in favour of a new authority being appointed in which the whole of the power connected with these matters should be vested?—Yes; for all places of public amusement.

890. How would you propose to control him; would you leave everything entirely to his discretion?—At present there is no control over the Lord Chamberlain, and there is no control over the Middlesex justices, and therefore it would not be giving any more arbitrary authority by fixing the responsibility on one man than there is in the responsibility which is now very much scattered.

891. You propose, in fact, to allow him perfect *carte blanche* to do what he pleases?—I have said that he should be a very superior officer, under the control of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, because I consider this is a matter within the range of that department.

892. Do you think that the Secretary of State for the Home Department should be able to quash his decisions?—I should think there would be no objection to give a power of appeal; that would be very proper.

893. That he should be controlled by the Secretary of State?—Yes, that he should be controlled by the Secretary of State, and be amenable to Parliament.

Sir *T. Henry.*

23 March 1866.

894. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You have been for some years a police magistrate in London?—Yes.

895. And some years chief magistrate at Bow-street?—Yes.

896. From your experience in those capacities, do you think that the increase of those saloons and dancing places has been for the good or for the bad of the community in general; has it been a public good, as drawing men away from the gin palaces and public-houses, or the reverse?—I think on the whole that it has been for the public good.

897. Mr. *Du Cane.*] I think you stated at the beginning of your examination that you find the music and dancing-halls are generally very well conducted?—Yes; the best proof of that is, that they have very rarely furnished a case for examination in a police court.

898. I think you said that more police supervision was required?—No; I mean supervision of a different kind to see to the performance, not police supervision.

899. Have you ever had any complaints with regard to the character of the performance at these places?—No, but I foresee that the number of places will go on increasing, and there may be more competition, and we cannot always be so certain that they will be free from objection.

900. I understood you to say that you would rather extend than not the present style of performances at music-halls, but I did not exactly understand where you would draw the line; would you let music-halls give dramatic performances, or not?—I said it was very difficult to draw the line; I cannot give a better instance of that than by quoting the decision of the Court of Common Pleas on that very point last year. The Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas differed very much from the other three judges on the question of fact, whether or not the performance at the Alhambra came within the definition of a stage play; he said that as a matter of fact, he thought it did not; Mr. Justice Willes, Mr. Justice Byles, and Mr. Justice Keating were of a different opinion, and they thought it did.

901. That is a question of the construction to be put on the existing law?—Yes.

902. But supposing that to be altered, do you think it advisable that the music-halls should act stage plays?—I think a very light *vaudeville*, or something of that kind, should be permitted. I would not confine them altogether to music and ballet dancing.

903. You have said that you visited the Alhambra a very few days ago?—Yes.

904. Was that with a view to this inquiry?—Yes.

905. Did you hear Mr. Spencer Ponsonby's evidence on that point?—Yes, and I looked at the audience purposely to see whether I could or not agree in what he stated.

906. Your opinion and his do not coincide?—No, we do not coincide; there are three classes of people there; they have stalls, reserved seats, and the pit or promenade; the prices of entrance are, 4*s.*, 2*s.*, and 1*s.* There are different classes of persons in those different places, and certainly nearly the whole of them appeared to me to be very orderly, well-conducted, respectable people, both men and women. I took a superintendent of police with me who knows the district well, and has done so for several years; he could give you very accurate information about those music-halls if the Committee wish for it. He said "There is not a woman of the town among all that part," including the whole three places, the stalls, reserved seats, and promenade; women of the town do not go to the lower part of the house, but they do go up to the gallery.

907. Did you go up to the gallery?—Yes, and I walked round and saw about how many there were; the police superintendent pointed out to me almost all of them.

908. Were there a great many?—I should say there were about 50 or 60.

909. That is not so many as you would have seen in the saloon of a theatre in earlier days?—Perhaps about the same as there used to be in the saloons of Covent Garden and Drury Lane; but not so many as there are now in the Argyll Rooms.

910. Were they conducting themselves in an orderly manner?—I saw no impropriety.

911. You saw nothing of those private rooms that we have heard of, did you?—No. I was surprised to hear what Mr. Pownall said on that point, because I believe there are no private rooms. I saw a large supper room with several tables in it; but I was taken all over the house. I believe so, at least, and I certainly had no impression that there were any private rooms. That was new to me.

912. Your visit took place subsequently to Mr. Ponsonby's examination?—Yes, I went on purpose.

913. You have no reason to suppose that the probability of your paying them a visit was known, have you?—Not at all. I went to Vine-street Station before 10 o'clock, and I took the superintendent of police with me in order that he might point out the different people and give me information.

914. You had never heard of the existence of those private rooms before you heard this evidence to-day?—No, I never heard of it. I went all over Canterbury Hall with Mr. Norton, and I had no reason to suppose that there are any private rooms there.

915. Mr. *Lusk.*] As a magistrate, of course, you have a very great deal of experience of crime and its causes; are there many cases that come before you which originate with music-halls and theatres?—I have already stated that there have been very few cases.

916. I suppose that the inference you draw is, on the whole, that these music-halls do good?—I think the requirements of the public tend that way, and I think it would be impossible to suppress or exclude them. I think the object should be to direct them.

917. You assume from that that it is necessary we should have places of entertainment?—I think so.

918. Do you not think that the higher the class of entertainment is the better?—I think so.

919. You know, I suppose, that the theatres complain that those music-halls enter on their domain?—Yes; I am quite aware of that.

920. The object which we ought to have in view being to benefit the community, do you think there is any objection to acting Shakspeare in music-halls?—I think there ought to be a distinction. Theatres are built for the purpose of having stage plays, but music-halls are not.

921. The object which we ought to have in view is to keep up the taste of the people, is it not?

not?—I think there cannot be a fusion; they cannot be exactly on the same footing.

922. What do you mean by privileges of the theatres of which you spoke?—The patent theatres, of course, have certain privileges, and all theatres have the privilege that a dramatic performance cannot be held at any other place, except under the license of the Lord Chamberlain; that is, the privilege to which I referred.

923. Do you think it is desirable for the public good that the theatres should possess those privileges?—That is to say, whether there should be free trade in such matters. I am not prepared to go that length.

924. But you think it is advisable that there should be some distinct line drawn between theatres and music saloons?—I do.

925. And that there should be one officer to exercise a power of moral inspection over them all?—Yes; that is one of the great points.

926. Supposing the officer saw no objection to people acting a higher class of entertainment at music-halls?—I should not differ from him, if, after some experience, he came to that conclusion; I should assume that he was right.

927. If the place was well conducted and everything properly done, would it not, in your opinion, be desirable that there should be a higher class of entertainment?—In some respects it would.

928. Always keeping the good of the community in view?—Yes; but that is not the sole object.

929. I think you have said that the present managers conduct their places very well?—Very well indeed.

930. What reason do you assign for that?—Their regard for their own interests, and the fear of the withdrawal of their license.

931. At all events they do it of their own accord?—Just so.

932. You would not agree, then, to throwing open to all the world the entire range of dramatic and *quasi*-dramatic entertainment, subject only to the laws of supply and demand?—No; there must be a licensing power somewhere.

933. Assuming a licensing power, you would still think it right to prescribe that particular classes of the people should be compelled to go to certain privileged places if they desired to witness a particular class of entertainment, and you would not give liberty to enact any and every description of play at a place which bore the name of a music-hall?—No, I would not.

934. Supposing your officer had licensed a house, would it make any difference to the community what kind of performances there were there, presuming that all performances, everywhere, were unobjectionable in point of morality and literature?—It would make no difference to the community.

935. Then where do you propose to draw the line between what should constitute a "theatre" and what should not?—I admit it is difficult to draw the line, but practically it could be carried out.

936. You would not give people liberty to enact what they pleased to suit the tastes of their audiences, even under the censorship of this officer; but you would still give exclusive privileges to certain theatres?—I think that the licensing officer should have a power of defining that.

937. Do you think that he should not allow people to enact what they pleased, supposing they were respectable and decorous?—He would do it under certain rules, I presume.

938. Mr. *Selwin.*] Those rules might be very easily defined by the Act of Parliament, might they not?—Very easily.

939. It would be better that he should be guided by some Act of Parliament in using his discretion, I suppose?—Yes, that would be better.

940. When you speak of those places being well conducted, do you think that the mere fact of cases not appearing before the police court is conclusive evidence that no such cases exist?—I think that it is strong evidence.

941. You said that the police are the paid agents of the managers; there is no inducement, consequently, unless an open breach of the peace takes place, to report any breach of morality, is there?—They are under the control of the Commissioner of Police.

942. But have they orders to report such cases, because, no doubt, the inducement is the other way, namely, to conceal those cases?—No doubt. I think that is a bad arrangement; and I think it ought to be altered.

943. That the police ought to have no payment from the managers?—Yes, that they ought to have no payment from the managers.

944. Do you think they ought to attend under the directions of your officer whom we will call a censor? — The manager might be made to pay an annual sum, but he ought not to pay each police constable.

945. Mr. *Powell.*] You think that the selection of the policemen ought to rest not with the managers of the halls, but with the heads of police?—It does rest with the Commissioner of Police now, but the men whom he selects to go there are paid by the managers.

946. Directly?—Yes; that is objectionable.

947. Do you think that at the theatres there should be a license for each play by some officer or other?—I think that the play ought to be read, undoubtedly.

948. But I do not understand you to say that every light piece performed at the music-halls ought to be examined page by page?—Probably the pieces would not require it, but if it were found necessary they should be subjected to it.

949. But on the ground of public morality, why is not the same examination required in both classes of entertainment?—The same rule ought to apply to both on that ground.

950. You have expressed your opinion that the music-halls should be allowed to perform light pieces; have you in your mind music-halls as now conducted, with all their accessories, and people in the audience part of the house drinking beer and spirits, and smoking?—No. I think there would have to be an alteration of those music-halls; that they should be built more for the purpose; they are not so built at present.

951. It was clearly reported by the Committee on Public-houses some years ago, that what they described as theatrical entertainments should not be conducted in the same room (using the word in a large sense) as that in which the drinking was going on?—They should not be conducted in a large public-house.

952. But do you think that theatrical representations should be allowed to take place on a stage, while in the auditorium there is drinking of beer and spirits and smoking going on?—I think

Sir *T. Henry.*

23 March 1866.

think that the system of *cafés chantants* (as it is called in Paris), is very much in accordance with the growing taste of the lower classes, and I think we must, to some extent, yield to that taste.

953. You think it is a fact, that we must assume and deal with it as best we may?—I think that summer gardens are very useful places of the kind, because they induce a man to go and take a light supper with his family there, instead of his going to a public-house alone, perhaps.

954. But is there not a great difference between a concert in the Champs Elysées and the scene exhibited a little before midnight at a London music-hall?—They have winter entertainments too in Paris; there is the Alcazar d'hiver, for instance.

955. You drew a distinction between public-houses and music-halls, and said you thought it was better to get people into music-halls than to let them remain in ale-houses?—Yes.

956. But if drinking goes on upon a large scale at a music-hall, what is the difference in favour of the music-hall as against the ale-house?—Not much; but the drinking does not go on upon such a large scale, because I know there is scarcely ever a case of drunkenness from any of the music-halls.

957. In your experience you have not so many cases of drunkenness from the music-halls as from the ale-houses?—I may say none from the music-halls, but certainly very few.

958. Have you no reason to believe that some of the people may have gone to the ale-house after they have left the music-halls?—We have not the means of ascertaining, but they have not been brought direct from the music-halls.

959. Has that wonderful instinct which experience gives ever led you to suspect that it may have been so?—No, my opinion is the other way.

960. Why should not that new office of which you speak, be simply an enlargement of the Lord Chamberlain's Office?—I see no objection to that.

961. Retaining the traditions of the office?—If you gave the Lord Chamberlain a staff and some funds to ensure supervision, the work would be very well done, I dare say.

962. Are you not aware that the Lord Chamberlain remonstrates now with a manager in case of any improper performance?—Yes; but I think that he has not a sufficient staff to see what goes on, and to find out the objectionable cases.

963. Looking at the matter practically, do you think it would be possible to have so large a staff as would dispense with the services of the police?—I think in all places where there is a great crowd, you must necessarily have some police constables.

964. Therefore you would still, even with that large staff, have points of, I do not say conflict, but contact between the two jurisdictions?—No; the staff would supervise the performances, but the police would be merely to keep order in the audience.

965. You think that the duties of the new office should be confined wholly and solely to what takes place on the stage?—Yes.

Monday, 16*th April* 1866.

PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Lusk.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Locke.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

Sir RICHARD MAYNE, called; and Examined.

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

966. YOU are the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police?—I am.

967. Do you consider the present system of licensing music-halls by magistrates satisfactory?—I am not aware of any great objection or failure in the system, looking at it as a system not complete in itself. In the part within the Metropolitan Police district, which I understand best, there are two authorities, the Lord Chamberlain and also the licensing magistrates at Quarter Sessions.

968. But, from a police point of view, you see no objection to the present system?—No, I think not.

969. Would you say that, on the whole, music-halls and dancing places generally are well conducted?—Yes, I think so, looking at the nature of such places. There are a great number in some parts of the town, especially in the eastern parts, where the audiences are a very low class of people, and many of them are very young, but they are well-behaved. There are police, I believe, employed in every house; the usual course is for the manager to apply for the police to attend to prevent any disorder or indecorum, and I think the system works satisfactorily so far.

970. Do the police simply look to the ordinary conduct of those establishments, or would they report them if they were opened without a license?—Yes, certainly; if they were opened without a license from the magistrates, they would report them. There are two sorts of licenses, the license of the magistrate for music and dancing, and the license under the 6 & 7 Vict. for theatrical entertainments in places beyond the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain.

971. I am speaking more of the music and dancing places: would the police report improprieties in the performance, or would they look more to the conduct of the people?—Supposing there is a license, they would look merely to the conduct of the people. I am not aware that they have ever reported any improprieties in the performance itself; if it was very gross, they would no doubt do so.

972. The police would almost think it beyond their sphere if the plot of any play or any performance were of a grossly immoral character?—If it were grossly immoral they would report it, perhaps; but unless it was considered grossly immoral, or calculated perhaps to corrupt the mind, I do not think they would report it; they have no power; their general duties are the employment of a police power to preserve order; to report any indecency in the men or women, or any clamour.

973. The inspection of the police is rather an inspection of the audiences than of the pieces that are performed?—Certainly.

974. No directions are given them with regard to the pieces performed, and they would go out of their way if they were to report upon them?—Yes, altogether. There are no such regulations, nor should I consider it would be a police duty; in fact, I do not think, except in extreme cases, they would be very competent judges of what is objectionable or otherwise.

975. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you refer to the proceedings on the stage or the proceedings among the audiences?—I meant on the stage, but I spoke also just now with regard to indecencies or improprieties in the conduct of the audience. I am not aware that I have ever had a report with regard to the improprieties or immoral tendencies of a piece itself.

976. *Chairman.*] You know of no case where the police have reported that the pieces have been grossly improper or immoral?—I do not remember one.

977. If they were singing on the stage, and the songs were grossly immoral, the police would not consider it their duty to interfere?—I do not recollect any report of the kind, and, unless it was very grossly immoral, I do not think they would consider it their duty to notice it. Sometimes the police have been called on to interfere between the audience and the performers where there has been very uproarious hooting or derisive applause, and the police have always refused to interfere; if there is any distinct charge given of misdemeanor or conspiracy against any particular actor, then the police would take the charge from the proprietor or the authorised person, but they would not interfere on their own authority. I mention that, as showing the line they would take in noticing anything that might be considered immoral in the performance, or disorderly in the behaviour of the audience.

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

978. Then if there were a change in the law with regard to the licensing, and different places were licensed for different performances, would you think the police would be a competent body to decide whether the proprietors were going beyond their licenses or not?—I do not think that the police would of themselves be competent. There might be a law that it would be the duty of the police to bring cases before the magistrates, but there must be an ultimate resort, otherwise it would not accord with our English system; it would be a very objectionable duty to give to the police to make them final judges with regard to such questions.

979. But would you say you could give to them, in the first instance, the duty of inspecting and reporting on a case?—I think there might be an Act defining the duties for those cases in which they should bring the question before the magistrates; for instance, take the case of an unlicensed theatre; there are very large powers and strong powers given to the police by an order from myself to enter the theatre, and carry off the people, and charge them before a magistrate; there are heavy penalties; there they must be to some degree judges in the first instance, whether the performances are theatrical performances or not. It is reported to me, for instance, that there are performances going on at such a house which is not licensed; I desire the police to observe and report to me, and if it seems to me a theatrical performance within the terms of the Act, I send warrants, authorising the police to apprehend the people, and bring the charge before the magistrate, who has to decide whether the case is within the law.

980. Have you had such cases?—Yes, several.

981. Mr. *Locke.*] Under what Act is that?—The 2 & 3 Vict., c. 47, the Act for the improvement of the police, and it is enlarged in the 6 & 7 Vict.; there is a definition there giving a much larger application of the term theatrical performance.

982. It would be very interesting to the Committee if you could describe one or two of the cases which you have had of that kind?—There was one the other day in which it was represented to me that performances of a dramatic nature were going on at a public-house. I could give you the particulars of that case hereafter. I signed the usual order for the police to enter, which they did, and convictions were made before the magistrates. Part of the consideration with me always is whether the class of persons who attend are such as themselves ought not to be allowed to assemble for any purpose; as, for instance, where there are a number of young thieves and a number of women of the town meeting together at a public-house; if the case is within the law, that would be an additional reason for my exercising the power to stop that which was illegal in itself, and which had also a demoralising effect in that way.

983. The police can inspect public-houses with a view to see whether theatrical performances are going on in houses which have no licenses from the magistrates?—Yes, that is part of their duty; for this purpose the 2 & 3 Vict., c. 47, applies.

984. That is in the district beyond the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction?—Yes, that extends to the whole of the metropolitan police district, which is about 16 miles round Charing Cross.

985. In the case you mentioned were the parties convicted?—Yes, I think so; they have been convicted in many cases.

986. Do you mean the owners of the public houses, or the people attending them?—The people attending, generally, and also the manager; the manager is subjected to a penalty; the clause is very similar to that with regard to gaming-houses; there is a power given to me, on report made. I issue the warrant to enter, and then it is for the magistrates to decide.

987. Have you ever had a case within the area of the Lord Chamberlain's district?—Yes, many cases.

988. I mean cases of apprehending people for assembling for the purpose of theatrical performances in houses without a license from the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes; I have often had representations of this kind. Persons who are licensed for theatrical performances are naturally anxious to report unlicensed performances. They represent the case to the Lord Chamberlain, and the practice of the Lord Chamberlain is to refer the application to me, and ask, "Is that a case in which you can enforce the law?" Very often I have to say no, and sometimes yes; and then steps are taken. Of course the possessors of the Lord Chamberlain's license are inclined to stop all other performances for their own interests.

989. In those cases would you look at the intention for which the parties collected together?—That would be part of the case. I think there should be a certain amount of discretion exercised. I have always thought that police laws must include a great number of cases which do not really come within the spirit of the law. I think that a certain amount of discretion ought to be exercised in the application of the law, otherwise it would be very hard, and go beyond the objects of the Act. Those cases have sometimes become the subject of litigation, and several of them I have refused to interfere in, not being satisfied that they were theatrical performances.

990. Who sets the police in motion generally?—Anybody who reports the fact, but it is usually done by the police of the district themselves. Their duty is to watch and observe very closely what is the conduct of any of the public houses, if it affects the good order of the place; they report that performances are taking place at such a house, and that it is not licensed. I inquire into the circumstances, and if it seems to me to come within the law, then I issue an order for the police to enter. There is another class of cases, however, under the Statute of 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, which is, with regard to music and dancing, which comes closely upon the other class of theatrical performances where they have dancing exhibited by ballets, and, in fact, carry on a sort of operatic and pantomimic performance; it often becomes a question whether they are within the law, either that of Geo. 2, or the law with regard to the theatrical performances without a license.

991. But the general conduct of the public house, or the audiences, has considerable weight with you in determining whether the police should interfere?—Yes, in many cases of music and dancing especially; because in some public-houses they have a pianoforte, and singing, which is very near being a private entertainment, but still various persons go in, and, if there is not money actually paid as a fee, there is drink which pays the publican. It would be bad in every case to prevent that, even if the law was applicable, and in many cases I refuse to interfere. It

is sometimes in the nature of a club; respectable tradesmen go there and have a song, and where there is no disorder or harm done I refuse to interfere. With regard to licenses for music and dancing, the police have no power to bring the parties before the magistrates; they must proceed by action; their power is very limited except by reporting to the magistrates, unless it comes within what is called an offence against the tenour of the license; but the penalties under the Act of Geo. 2 are to be enforced by action at law, and I have never thought it the duty of the police to bring actions that were beyond the proper limit of their procedure.

992. With regard to the Act of 25 Geo. 2, the police can do nothing except reporting to the magistrates?—They report first to me, and then, when the time comes for licensing, to the magistrates.

993. But you have no power to stop that, have you?—None whatever.

994. That is in the case of music and dancing?—Yes; what they call an entertainment.

995. But not theatrical performances?—Not theatrical performances; the only direct power of the police is in the case I have mentioned.

996. Then in the case of theatrical performances the police have power to take action themselves, if the houses have theatrical performances without a license?—Yes.

997. But if it is only music and dancing, the police have no power to do anything but report?—The police have no power to do anything but by an indirect power of this nature. I may refuse to let the police attend to preserve order. Within a few days I have had a case of that kind, where the landlord had no license for music.

998. Do you think that that state of things points to a defect in the law?—It makes that Act of Geo. 2 very ineffective indeed.

999. Then the police have no power to interfere with houses on account of their not having licenses if only music and dancing goes on?—No; they have no direct power of interference.

1000. Are there many cases where you report to the magistrates?—On account of music or dancing there are several. I should not say a good many, because I caution them, and then they are afraid of losing the renewal of their license.

1001. Do you mean the renewal of their license for spirits?—Yes; the licensed victualler's license.

1002. But supposing there was music and dancing going on in a house where there is no spirit license at all; who would stop that?—In practice I think nobody does. I remember no case in which an action has been brought of that sort. I apprehend, but I am not sure, that money is extorted from those people. Informers threaten to bring actions and they are probably paid for not taking proceedings; but the police never take proceedings to enforce penalties; that could only be done by action.

1003. There is no power to enforce that law except through informers, who are interested themselves?—That is so, practically.

1004. You would think it advisable, would you not, that power should be given to the police to enforce the taking out of a license in such cases in the same way as in the case of theatrical performances?—Yes, I think so; an inefficient law is always a very bad thing.

1005. The defect of the law is only corrected now by the power of the magistrates who have the refusal of the spirit license?—Yes, the licensed victuallers' license, which is in fact the power of selling wines and spirits.

1006. Do you know of many cases where there are music-halls without the licensed victuallers' license?—Yes, I think there are several. The great check upon the beer-houses is, that they are forced to close at an earlier time, earlier than would be sufficient for an ordinary theatrical or music performance; but, practically, there is no check on the beerhouses as distinguished from the spirit houses: the beer-houses are merely under an excise license.

1007. And the excise grants those licenses without any inquiry at all, simply for the purposes of revenue?—Just so; in fact I do not think they have the power to refuse; at least, they tell me so.

1008. So that in the case of a beer-house where they had a musical entertainment without a license there would be no one to control them; there would be no pressure that you could bring to bear on them to make them take out a license?—No, I have no such power.

1009. Mr. *Powell.*] You opened your evidence by saying that you spoke from a police point of view; you do not give your opinion as a private citizen, but simply with regard to such offences as come within your cognisance?—I speak with regard to the action of police law.

1010. When you spoke about demoralisation, and so on, you meant that kind which would come within your sphere, such as robbery and violence; you did not speak, as a private citizen, of anything that would be dangerous to morals strictly considered?—No; I spoke with regard to cases in which I should feel justified in directing police action; my own private feelings I think I ought hardly to allow to operate in such cases.

1011. But supposing it were the case (which is not, as I gather, your opinion) that those halls were greatly frequented by prostitutes plying their vocation, would you consider that fairly within your sphere as a police official?—If they were openly soliciting people; if they were there for the purpose of solicitation, I should.

1012. Although they were conducting themselves quietly?—It would depend on their conduct, and how they showed their purpose.

1013. There are, in various parts of the town, places of amusement which are often described as penny-gaffs, and by similar denominations, and where, no doubt, performances take place contrary to the law, as not being licensed?—Yes.

1014. Is it the duty of the police, supposing they conceive there are such performances going on in such houses, to enter such houses and discover the fact without receiving special instructions?—At almost all those places, if not all, there are police in attendance.

1015. I am speaking of unlicensed places?—Most of those penny-gaffs and halfpenny-gaffs are licensed for music; I have been at several of them myself; there is a very low class of persons there, but one does not see anything objectionable. I have very often desired observations to be made upon them, and there was nothing to justify police interference. Many persons consider them very objectionable, inasmuch as they induce boys and girls to steal the entrance-money; if that be so, of course that is beyond the

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

the knowledge of the police; but if I have been told that there was such a place demoralising the neighbourhood I have sent the police to observe, and I have very seldom found that there was anything that the police could interfere with.

1016. Your information would, in such a case, be derived from the public and not from the police?—I send the police when such a report is made to me; no doubt there are thieves there and young girls who are prostitutes, but their conduct is unobjectionable in the place itself.

1017. If there was music and dancing going on with only a music license, the police would not take cognisance of it?—No; at many of those places, especially in the sailors' part of the town, they dance, and I am not aware of any evil arising from that; the women are not very correctly dressed, but I think it would be over-squeamish, looking at the class of persons who frequent those places, to find fault with them.

1018. Do you know whether those humbler places of amusement admit women of the town without a charge?—I believe it is said so, but I am not aware. I should think, where there was such a very small payment, it is not so; but women of the town may find it to their advantage to go there.

1019. Evidence has been laid before the Committee, which is contradicted with regard to the existence in some of those music-halls, of what were described to us as private rooms, where considerable improprieties occur; have those been mentioned to you?—I believe there are houses of that kind, but not forming immediately a part of the theatrical or dancing-rooms.

1020. But easy of access from the dancing-rooms; from the public rooms I mean?—I believe so.

1021. And in direct communication?—I believe so; in the nature of brothels or reception houses.

1022. Do you mean accessible from the hall itself, without going into the street?—I think not, but I am not sure; those that I know of are near, part of the same house as it were.

1023. There would be a tolerably close relationship between the two establishments?—Yes; but I think, generally speaking, that is not so much the case where there is music and dancing as where there is drinking; in the low class of beer-houses, and so on.

1024. Mr. *Locke.*] I find, by the 46th section of the 2 & 3 Vict., that power is given to the police to enter unlicensed theatres, and take away the persons found there?—Yes.

1025. Now that applies only, as I understand you, to theatres unlicensed?—Yes; in the 6 & 7 Vict. there is a definition of the words "theatrical entertainment," and I think that the powers are repeated for the police to enter.

1026. The police would enter simply into those places where there is no license; but supposing there were a license for music and dancing, the police do not take upon themselves to decide whether or not the performance that is going on there is a performance within that section of the 6 & 7 Vict., namely, the Dramatic Licensing Act?—Yes, I am sorry to say it has been a great trouble to me to have to decide such matters.

1027. Have you, in fact, decided such matters?—Yes.

1028. Can you give us instances?—Yes. I cannot now remember the names, but I can supply you with instances; if it is reported that an unlawful theatrical performance is going on, I desire the police to go and see, and report to me; sometimes it is plainly not a theatrical performance; it is merely a person coming in with a speech, but no dialogue, and then I have refused to interfere; in other cases I thought there plainly was a theatrical performance, and then I have acted upon it.

1029. Is that where there has been a music and dancing license possessed by the person?—Yes.

1030. Now with regard to the Alhambra and Oxford Music Halls, and those places, you have never interfered, then?—I think I remember once or twice sending a notice to the proprietor of the Alhambra; it was stated to me that there was a dramatic performance going on, and I then said if it was continued it would be the duty of the police to enforce the Act.

1031. But you know that there have been several decisions on the point; with regard to the ballet, for instance, in the Court of Common Pleas, the other day, they did not come to a decision that it was a dramatic performance, and it has been continued since?—No action has been taken by the police since that decision, and of course I should conceive myself strictly bound by the spirit of that decision. I have always been very abstemious in acting where there was any doubt.

1032. But still you have acted where there was a music and dancing license?—Yes.

1033. I presume you would go yourself; you would not leave it to a policeman to decide whether it was a dramatic performance or not?—No; but the superintendent of police goes; I have asked the Assistant Commissioner once or twice, and he states exactly what he did see, that a person came on dressed, and said so and so, and then if there is a dialogue, I consider that a pretty safe rule.

1034. But suppose it were a ballet; the question, I believe, has been, has it not, whether it was a ballet d'action, or whether it was merely dancing about without any meaning in it?—In those cases I have always refused to interfere.

1035. Has a policeman ever taken upon himself to decide whether the ballet told a story, or whether it did not?—No; it is reported to me what takes place, and it is always the superintendent, the head of the division, who goes, who is of course a superior man.

1036. Then you think that a policeman is a better judge of this matter than Mr. Donne, because you recollect that Mr. Donne stated that he had never been able to make any sense out of any ballet that he had ever seen?—I have seen ballets d'action in which there would be no difficulty in making out the story; I have seen many ballets d'action, both in France and in Italy, but especially in Italy, where I should have no difficulty in following the plot.

1037. And in England too, I dare say; "Esmeralda," for example?—Yes; in many of our ballets you have no difficulty in making out who is the lover and who is the jealous rival, and who is the mother, &c.

1038. But when you have dances in character, as a Spanish dance, and then an English dance, and French dance, and so on, you would not consider that within the definition of a performance of the stage?—Certainly not; in many of the cases referred to me by the Lord Chamberlain, where the application has been made by licensed

licensed owners of theatres, I have refused to interfere, merely saying that I thought there was nothing to justify police interference.

1039. Do you think it desirable that it should be left to the police to say whether a ballet told a story or not; do you think it makes any difference?—No, I do not think there is any real difference. I may be a little lax, but I am rather for allowing performances than restraining them; I see places at the east end, where they have two performances in the evening, beginning at six o'clock, coming out at eight, and immediately a fresh audience comes in, showing a great demand for these amusements, and I think the people behave very properly.

1040. You think, that so long as they behave properly, there is no objection?—On the contrary, I think they are better there than they would be in most of the other places where they would probably be otherwise.

1041. From any of those places, such as music-halls which have a music and dancing license, have any complaints been made of the conduct of the people within the place?—No; I think not. Under the Act for closing public-houses there is power given to me to allow houses to be kept open after one o'clock. Now questions have arisen where the object certainly was to have dancing, to which women of questionable character might go. I have never thought it right to refuse the license if the proprietor answered me in writing that he had such regulations that there should be nothing offensive to decency. I have given a large number of such occasional licenses.

1042. In short, a license to keep open between one and four o'clock in the morning?—Yes.

1043. Have there been many of those licenses granted?—A great many, from Willis's Rooms downward; the Hanover-square Rooms or St. James's Hall cannot be kept open without a special license.

1044. Your view is this, that you do not look to the precise position in society which the people occupy, but, if they conduct themselves with propriety, you think that persons in one rank of life have just as much right to dance as persons in other ranks of life?—Yes, but more than that, if their conduct is proper there, whatever it may be elsewhere, I should not consider myself justified in refusing to let them meet and dance.

1045. It has been asked whether the police would interfere with a performance on the stage, and you say they would interfere where it was a performance of the stage which infringed the 6 & 7 Vict.; but suppose it were a ballet and there were anything indecent done on the stage they would interfere I suppose?—They would interfere then, certainly, if the nature of the piece was such as to make it a very demoralising performance, but there might be a good deal of vague indecency which could not be defined.

1046. But suppose a man came on naked would the police interfere?—I do not think that the police would have any direct authority to interfere.

1047. But would they?—I think that in so strong a case as you put, they would.

1048. That is to say, if a man on the stage did something that made him amenable to the law he would not be exempt from the interference of the police, simply because he did it on the stage?—No; the law is very vague and perhaps ineffective with regard to indecent exposure of the person.

1049. Do you mean where it is done in public?—Yes, even in the public streets, unless it be done in such a manner as to be indictable, or unless it be with intent to insult or assault a female, the police have no direct power to interfere.

1050. But any indecent exposure in a public place is indictable, is it not?—I am not sure that the law is so strong as that; take the case of people making water in the streets.

1051. But where it is done wilfully I suppose it is indictable?—I do not know that even then the police would have the power to interfere. There was the well-known case when Sir Charles Sedley exposed himself naked in a balcony, and it was held indictable, and that has been held ever since; if a man does anything grossly in violation of common decency, it is indictable, but suppose a man makes water in the streets where it is in truth indecent, that is not necessarily indictable.

1052. But he does not commit an indecent act with that intention?—No; his *object* is not indictable.

1053. But supposing there was an indecent exposure on the stage, the police would interfere there, would they not?—There would be a great difficulty; it would be a stretch of the law; if it was a very strong case they would interfere, and public opinion would justify them; but I doubt the law.

1054. But the police have never been under a necessity of the kind; you have never heard of any indecency on the stage in any of those places?—Never; the cases where the police have interfered were cases with regard to danger. There was a case at the Alhambra, and a case at Cremorne, where there was obviously great personal danger. The Secretary of State authorised me to write to the proprietor telling him that such a performance was calculated to cause great public alarm and danger, and that if he continued it he did it at his own risk, and we were then prepared to try the question by action or indictment if he persisted; but the proprietor yielded in those cases. One was a rope-dancer; after a man had been very nearly killed; that was at the Alhambra. We gave notice that such circumstances had arisen, and were likely to arise again, and that the police would interfere if the performance were persisted in. But if we had been actually forced to proceed by law, I am afraid our powers would have been found rather ineffective.

1055. But supposing there is a public-house where there is only music and dancing, the police merely make a report to the magistrates, and the punishment is that the license will be taken away; that is the course of proceeding, is it not?—Yes.

1056. Your interference is only in the case of acting stage plays in defiance of this section of the Act?—Yes; and there is another clause in the Act applying to cases where people are assembled for the purpose of disorder.

1057. That is with regard to disorderly houses, under the 25 Geo. 2?—Yes; but it is under the 2 & 3 Vict. also, for the improvement of the Metropolitan Police; the first Act was the 10 Geo. 4, cap. 34, and then 10 years after that, this Act of 2 & 3 Vict. cap. 47, was passed; it is an Act for further improving the police in and near the metropolis.

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

1058. Does that repeal any part of the previous Act?—I think it does not repeal any except with regard to the appointment of local constables in Westminster, the 44th section says, "and whereas it is expedient that the provisions made by law, for preventing disorderly conduct in the houses of licensed victuallers be extended to other houses of public resort, be it enacted that every person who shall have or keep any house, shop, room, or place of public resort within the Metropolitan Police district wherein provisions, liquors, or refreshments of any kind shall be sold or consumed (whether the same shall be kept or retailed therein, or procured elsewhere), and who shall wilfully or knowingly permit drunkenness, or other disorderly conduct in such house, shop, room or place, or knowingly suffer any unlawful games or any gaming whatsoever therein, or knowingly permit or suffer prostitutes or persons of notoriously bad character to meet together and remain therein, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty of not more than 5 *l.*," and so on. That gives the police considerable powers with regard to the assembling of women of the town, and disorderly characters, whether it be for dancing or anything else; that is a clause of considerable importance in police action, and there is a similar clause in the refreshment houses Act, which is called Mr. Gladstone's Act.

1059. In that case the police would not interfere unless the result of the dancing and music was to make the people disorderly, they must commit a disorderly act first?—Yes.

1060. Their merely dancing in an ordinary way would not entitle the police to interfere?—Most of the interference is in this way: the police report the facts, and then if they appear sufficient either I myself or one of the Assistant Commissioners look into the case, and there is a printed form for direction, and it is registered, so that there is no possibility of using it for extorting money from the publican; the Commissioner is responsible for the application to the magistrate, and the magistrate is responsible for such a statement to him as will justify a summons, and then for the decision.

1061. What would the summons be for?—For disorderly conduct.

1062. What is the penalty?—£. 5.

1063. That would be irrespective of the power of withdrawing the license for the public-house?—Yes: "Provided always, that if the offender be a licensed victualler, or licensed to sell beer by retail to be drunk on the premises, this enactment shall not be construed to exempt him from the penalties or penal consequences to which he may be liable for committing an offence against the tenour of the license to him granted."

1064. This is cumulative, and additional to the offence against the tenour of the license?—Yes.

1065. *Chairman.*] You would not issue a summons to make a man take out a license, supposing he were unlicensed?—No, the magistrate could not grant such a summons.

1066. Mr. *Locke.*] The magistrate could only take away his license the next day, or take away the spirit license at the March licensing?—Yes, just so.

1067. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You have said something about disorderly conduct; would you mind defining more exactly what would be disorderly conduct in the eye of the police; would a nautch or gipsy dance, or any other dance where there were indecent overtures and gestures be considered to come under that head?—Yes; I think so. In a public-house not licensed for music and dancing, it always rests with the magistrates to decide whether the conduct is disorderly conduct; ours is only a proceeding on a *primâ facie* case.

1068. If there was any doubt about it, either the Assistant Commissioner or yourself would go personally to inspect the dance in question?—Yes.

1069. Something has been said about "private rooms;" and I think you stated that there are some music-halls where there are private rooms; can you particularise them?—I really cannot; and I am not quite sure that with regard to music-halls I am justified in making that statement. I rather stated that I thought they were near beer-shops; but I can collect information and let the Committee know. My general impression is, that with regard to music and dancing places it is not so.

1070. Have you ever known of "private rooms" at theatres?—I think not any since I have had to do with the police; we all know that formerly the display of women of the town at theatres was very different from what it is now; there is no saloon as there once was, or a place for promenading.

1071. Do you think that there are a greater number in the ordinary way of women of the town at theatres than at music-halls?—In proportion I should say there were a greater number at music-halls. I hardly like to name them, but there are one or two music-halls I know where women assemble who are known to be women of the town, but they are very decorously behaved while there.

1072. But still there are women of the town at theatres?—Yes, and also at those places where there is dancing. Take many of those dancing saloons in Whitechapel, the district which is known as the sailors' quarter of the town; the women there are, perhaps without exception, women of the town, but their behaviour is perfectly decorous. I have been struck, too, in those houses where foreign sailors and foreign women are found, by noticing that their conduct is much better than that of our own women, and much more decorous externally both with regard to dress and manner.

1073. Mr. *Locke.*] They are more accustomed to be allowed to amuse themselves, perhaps, than in this straitlaced country?—I do not know the cause, but it is rather striking as a fact.

1074. Mr. *Miller.*] Where the conduct of the women of the town is perfectly unobjectionable, but where you know a number of them congregate, would you think that a good reason for withdrawing the license from a place of entertainment?—No, I should not.

1075. But I should like to have your opinion, as I attach much importance to it; do you think that the mischief is less insidious where their conduct is good, but where their number is large?—You mean less demoralising? No doubt. But looking at it as a police functionary, I have only to look to see whether it is mischievous to decorum. What the ultimate consequences may be I do not consider within my province, and any opinion I could form would only be vague and speculative.

1076. Suppose any fresh Act of Parliament were to result from our inquiry, would you recommend that it should be an element in that Act that the granting of a license should be restricted

stricted when the place was attended by a large number of the women of the town, though their conduct might be unexceptionable?—Looking at the present state of society, I think that would be mischievous, and I would rather let even women of that class dance and amuse themselves, although I knew men went there for the purpose of meeting them.

1077. I think that the Alhambra is spoken of as a place very well conducted?—Yes.

1078. Have you any doubt that a number of women of the town assemble there?—I fancy that a very large proportion go there, so, too, at such places as the Argyll Rooms, and the Casino, in Holborn (in fact, there are several of them), but the women are perfectly decorous. I should say that you cannot prevent it in the present state of society, and it is not for me, as a police functionary, to look beyond that; you cannot prevent men and women assembling in these places, and the women may be found soliciting the men for what must be called immoral purposes; but I think that if you attempt to prevent this being done openly, you will have it done in a secret manner. Even with regard to the open parading of these women in the streets, though it is offensive, and, in my opinion, ought to be restricted, yet it saves us from pimps, such an odious class that, with all the evils of our own system, I think the other must be called the greater evil.

1079. Would you recommend that all those minor places should be classed as theatres under any new Act?—By theatres I understand you to mean where there are actors, and a scenic representation of some sort; but men and women here are actors and audience too.

1080. Would you make any distinction in the license to be granted to all those minor places, and those to theatres like Drury Lane for instance?—The license to a theatre would imply merely that the performance should be of such a character as not to be immoral or mischievous; in the other case you have only to look at the conduct of the people. My opinion is, that on the whole I should not prevent people meeting for music or dancing, although we knew that a great number of the women there, even the great majority, were women of the town. At the East End there are performances of a different class. On the whole, I would rather see the people dancing at such places than drinking in public-houses.

1081. But would you grant them licenses for dramatic performances, if they wished it to such places?—There is no objection that I can see.

1082. On the contrary, if they had the power of performing dramatic pieces, would it not be likely to be less immoral than what is now exhibited in a ballet?—Yes, I think so, in fact these places would then belong to the class of saloons; take Greenwich, where they have a magistrate's license, there is no objection that I know of.

1083. May it not be said to be the case that, of all performances, the ballet is the most demoralising?—That is a matter of opinion.

1084. Supposing that to be so, if you gave those places an opportunity of performing anything else better, that would be rather to the advantage of the public than otherwise, would it not?—Yes, my general opinion is, that I would rather grant a liberal license in the first instance, to be checked and corrected upon misconduct being proved, but not to interfere beforehand, to prevent what may be unobjectionable.

1085. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you recollect the performances which used to take place at the Eagle Tavern, City-road?—Yes.

1086. There they used to act plays?—Yes.

1087. That was not under the Lord Chamberlain's license?—No.

1088. That was under the music and dancing license?—Yes.

1089. The White Conduit House?—Yes.

1090. There performances used to take place under the music and dancing license?—Yes.

1091. Did you ever see any objection to those?—No, I do not remember any instance of anything wrong. There was also an instance up at Hornsey Wood; several of those places, I believe, are conducted with perfect propriety; in fact, I have been very often invited to go and see; I have not had time to go much, but I do not believe there is any objection to them.

1092. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] I believe that it is the practice of large houses, such as the Haymarket and Drury Lane Theatres, to have policemen always in the house?—Yes, one or two.

1093. That is to say inside the house?—Yes.

1094. All regulations outside the house are made by your men, of course, as a matter of duty?—Yes.

1095. But the manager generally retains one or two policemen inside?—Yes.

1096. And the policeman, I suppose, receives a gratuity in addition to his pay?—No, I think there is nothing additional to his pay; generally during the season, police are added for the purpose; the constable who attends does not get anything more except sometimes for plain clothes.

1097. I thought it was understood that they get a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* a night?—That is only very occasionally, when it is in addition to other duties, but where two or three men are wanted for the whole season those men are added to the division for the purpose, and the managers simply pay the whole charge, which would otherwise be paid out of the public funds.

1098. Now the duty of the police is to aid in maintaining order?—Yes.

1099. But I believe that the law is very defective and that the policeman has very little power, for instance, in securing places, or if there is a great noise in the box, have your men the power to interfere?—I think they have not the power to interfere. I said a little time ago that if there was uproarious hooting in consequence of a conspiracy against an actor, and if the manager gave a man in charge, the policeman would take the charge, but the policeman would not take on himself the responsibility of deciding whether it was legitimate disapprobation which the audience may show or whether it was a conspiracy. I think it desirable that at all theatres some person on behalf of the manager should have more power; for instance, with regard to seats, if a person gets into a seat and refuses to move there is very great difficulty in getting him out, and if the police remove him at the desire of the manager, the manager is probably liable to the consequences of an action for assault.

1100. If anything disorderly occurs in a theatre licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, or if anything immoral goes on in the audience, are the Committee to understand that it is in part of the policeman's duty to report it to you?—It would be his duty to report to me if there is open disorder.

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

1101. Then, with regard to music-halls, do they have policemen inside, too?—In every case, I think; their desire is always to have them, and that is a check which I sometimes have upon them; if they are not well conducted I say I will not allow the police to attend, and you must take the consequence.

1102. Now, if anything immoral was to go on at one of these places, would it be known to you which was a well-conducted house and which was a disorderly house?—Yes, I think so.

1103. Would it be reported to you if one music-hall was better conducted than another?—Yes, if there was an obvious difference, and a decided distinction affecting the public propriety and the decorum of the place, but the power of acting upon that is another matter; the police have little or no power.

1104. Has it been reported to you that there are people admitted free into those halls who are common prostitutes?—I do not know that it has; in fact, the payment is usually so small that I do not think that there is any great object in not paying.

1105. Has it ever been reported to you that there is one large hall in the metropolis, the name of which I shall not mention, nor am I sure that I know it, where there is a bar behind the scenes to which parties are admitted on an extra payment, and where they can drink and keep company with the ladies of the ballet; has that been reported to you?—No; it has not, I feel confident.

1106. Is it your opinion that those houses which are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain are more respectably conducted than those houses which are licensed by the Middlesex magistrates; has that ever come before you as a question?—No, it has not.

1107. You are not prepared to give that opinion?—No. I have not heard of any failure of proper discrimination on the part of the magistrates. The police district extends into four counties—Surrey, Kent, Essex, and the whole of Middlesex; and I do not remember any case in which the magistrates have granted licenses where it was supposed that they ought not to have done so.

1108. Referring to my previous question about the private bar, it would have been the duty of your men to know it, and they would, in all probability, have reported to you if such a thing existed in any of the music-halls in the metropolis?—I think so; it may be, however, that they have not done so.

1109. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Let me ask you whether you, as Chief Commissioner of Police, have any control over the accommodation afforded in the theatres to the public?—None whatever.

1110. Not with regard to fires or easy exit, or entrance?—No; the Lord Chamberlain has asked me occasionally to report whether there was a proper arrangement with regard to egress in case of fire; but it was more in aid of the Lord Chamberlain.

1111. It is no part of your duty?—None whatever, and now especially when the Fire Brigade is established; with regard to fires I should say, apply to the head of the Board of Works.

1112. Does that answer refer to all places of public entertainment as well as theatres?—I do not remember that I have ever had to inquire except with regard to theatres, at the request of the Lord Chamberlain.

1113. Then if any of those houses licensed for entertainments, not being theatres, were badly constructed, with a very narrow entrance, it would be no part of the duty of your inspector to report to you that fact?—It would not. In two or three cases the police surveyor has told me that he had heard that such-and-such a place was not properly constructed for the safety of the number going there, and then I have referred it to the proprietor.

1114. But that was a voluntary report?—Yes; altogether beyond the surveyor's regular duties.

1115. But you said, I believe, that if there was any evident disorderly conduct in any of those music-halls, you would hear of it by the reports of your officers?—Yes, I think so; certainly if it was flagrant or notorious.

1116. Have you ever had such reports?—Yes; I think so.

1117. With regard to what particular class of house have you had those reports?—I should say rather with regard to the larger places. The lower houses, I think, are more dependent on public opinion, and the attendance of the police to check disorder, which would be discontinued if there was disorder allowed. I think they are very careful always to attend to any suggestion.

1118. What was the nature of those reports which you have received?—I think they were to the effect that persons were admitted drunk, or that the women were indecently dressed.

1119. That was not with regard to the large establishments at this end of London, I suppose?—No, I should say not; I should say it was more with regard to the lower places at different parts of the town, such as part of Southwark, the East End, and the north east.

1120. What was the character of the reports that you have had, if any, with regard to the larger establishments?—I think generally that allegations have been made that there was disorder and indecorum, and upon inquiry I have found that it is only that a large number of women who were known to be prostitutes, and some people who had been drinking have been seen, but no open or overt acts of indecorum or indecency were observed.

1121. Did you think it necessary in those cases to take any action in the matter, by communicating with the managers?—I think I did, so far as I remember, and the managers were always very willing to adopt any suggestions which I offered.

1122. Now, with regard to any admission of women of the town to any establishment free, what do you say to that?—My belief is that, with rare exceptions, they pay, but I may not be a very good authority upon that point.

1123. You have said that you yourself have visited some of those houses?—Yes.

1124. Do you think there is any difference between the class of persons who frequent the houses at the east end of London, and those who frequent the larger establishments at this end?—Very remarkably; they are a totally different class of people; in some parts of the East End, the Whitechapel district and Wapping, there are the very lowest class of men and boys, the working classes of the neighbourhood, but I am bound to say that they were perfectly well behaved; they all seemed very much amused; the performances were not of a very high order, but there was nothing demoralising.

1125. At this end of the town it is different?—The

—The classes of people are different, and the order of the performance is somewhat different, but I do not think that there is anything objectionable as a general rule in those low localities.

1126. I am anxious to know what is your view with regard to the powers of the police upon the subject of indecency; have the police any power to interfere with regard to indecency, unless the indecency is sworn to be intended to offend some particular person or persons; take the exposure of the person in any manner?—I do not think that they have any power to interfere, unless it be of that gross character which the Honourable Member for Southwark referred to, or where it is done (that is, under the Vagrant Act) with intent to insult or assault any female.

1127. I understood you to say that in the course of your visits to foreign cities, you observed a great difference between the behaviour of the *femmes publiques* there, and that of prostitutes in England?—Although the display of these women in public in this country is offensive, and might be restricted, yet I think even that has its advantages, as contrasted with the state of things in foreign towns, where, although the women do not appear in public, the consequence is that there is a very odious class of people, who are called pimps, to conduct men to the places where there are women.

1128. Do you think that the greater effectiveness of the regulations applying to this subject in Paris arises from the powers of the police being greater than they are here?—Yes, I think so; and, in some respects, the power which the police have there would be very beneficial to a certain extent anywhere; for instance, they have the power of prohibiting those women from appearing in certain places.

1129. Mr. *Lusk*.] You say that on the whole these music-halls are, in your opinion, well conducted?—I really think so. I really do not think, looking at the amusements of various classes, that there is any great objection to anything that exists there especially.

1130. There are few complaints that come under your notice?—Very few.

1131. The police attend in most of those places, I understand?—With very rare exceptions, in all of them.

1132. Are the police paid by those houses, or by the public?—They are paid in this way: an application is made by the manager for the attendance of one or two constables; if, on inquiry, I think it is right that the police should attend, the manager is told that he has to pay so much, which is, in truth, the whole pay of the men, including something for clothing, and even for superannuation allowance; he pays that to the Receiver of the Police, but the constable himself receives nothing but his ordinary pay. If the question points to whether the constable is in any degree under the influence of the proprietor, he certainly is not.

1133. It is difficult for a man to serve two masters, of course?—Yes; and that is why he is in no respect under the control or influence of the manager.

1134. The payment goes into the general fund?—Yes, the payment goes into the general fund, and the constable receives his pay just the same as any other man, being simply assigned for duty in the theatre instead of in the streets; but sometimes a manager will state that a man has performed his duty satisfactorily, and that he wishes to make him a present of 1*l*. or 2*l*., &c.; but no man is allowed to receive any gratuity without permission under my hand; I inquire if his conduct has been entirely what it should be, and, if so, I allow him to receive the gratuity.

Sir *R. Mayne*.
16 April 1866.

1135. Do you think it desirable that all kinds of houses for public entertainments should be licensed?—Yes, I think so; otherwise everybody might open a shop for the sale of intoxicating drinks.

1136. But do you think that houses of entertainment should be under a license of some kind from a public authority?—I should think so.

1137. You would have them, if I might use the word, physically under the control of the police, to see that they had not dog fights or cock fights?—Yes, certainly; there are specific laws for those cases; for instance, there is a law against cock fights.

1138. You think that the houses should be licensed, and that they should be physically under the control of the police, or subject to the surveillance of the police?—Yes, I think so; if you do not make them so, the law is a dead letter.

1139. You would not have the police the judges of the literary character of the pieces produced?—Certainly not; I should be very sorry to undertake that myself.

1140. There are two things to be considered, the thing you represent, and the way in which you represent it?—Yes, the censorship is a very delicate office.

1141. Now what is done in the music-halls?—Very often it is not anything more than a concert, singing in parts, pieces out of an opera, or other music, and sometimes it is very good music.

1142. Dancing and music?—Yes, dancing and music; you have dancing by classes who are not respectable out of that room, but in that room their conduct is proper.

1143. But suppose a party of people go in to sing, and the people themselves begin to sing, what class do you bring that under?—Of course there must be a line drawn somewhere; if a few guests among themselves sing, I should not think that required a license; in some public-houses, too, there is a piano, and there is a part of the house which is a sort of club-room, and respectable tradesmen go there, and some man who has a talent that way plays and sings, and I suppose they subscribe something for him; I never considered that that came within the necessity for a license, and I have refused to put the police in action against such cases.

1144. Taking things as they exist, and considering the object of the people who establish the music halls, do you think that their object is chiefly to make money by selling drink or by those performances?—I fancy their great object is to sell drink. What I mean is that that pays them the best; the payments for admission are very trifling.

1145. It is desirable, I suppose, that people should be entertained?—I think so.

1146. Perhaps you do not think that drinking is desirable?—Not in excess.

1147. You think that the primary object is to sell drink?—I am sure that many of them make their profit in that way. There was a question with regard to a Treasury license granted to a theatre to sell drink; it was a doubtful thing whether that was advisable, but it has been decided that such licenses are to be granted, and they are granted.

Sir *R. Mayne.*

16 April 1866.

1148. With regard to the penny gaffs, do you think that the police are the best men to inquire into the morality of the performances at those places?—They do not do so unless it is something very gross.

1149. They go into those places and look round them?—Yes; if there was anything very offensive to common decency, or very immoral or subversive, they would no doubt notice it.

1150. Do you think that they are the best parties to make inquiry with regard to the tendency of the pieces performed?—They are the best parties to report the facts, but they are not the best persons to decide what should be done, or whether the facts bring the case within the law. I should be sorry to let the police have the power to decide.

1151. Their functions would be entirely executive?—Yes; the magistrates must say whether the police have brought the case within the law.

1152. This is not a school for scandal, but do you in fact hear anything about "private rooms" at any of those establishments?—Yes, I have heard of that, but generally speaking I think they are in the neighbourhood rather than in the house or building itself; a disreputable class of houses may, as we know, be found in the neighbourhood of theatres.

1153. But I mean in the houses themselves?—Yes, I have heard of that.

1154. Belonging to the same proprietor, I mean?—I really cannot say that I have heard of their being under the same proprietor, there may be communications or understandings, but I do not remember now any places of that kind; it has been often alleged that there are such places, but I do not remember any case in which the proprietor of a saloon or gaff was shown to be the proprietor of the private rooms.

1155. Allegations and facts are different things?—I should say that they were allegations and not facts generally, or rather I should say that there may be some exceptions.

1156. Keeping in view that you think those entertainments desirable, do you think it is necessary that there should be drinking and refreshments at those places of entertainment?—It is not necessary, but it is very much the habit of our people; I should be very glad to see the two things dissevered. I do not see why men should drink intoxicating liquors when they wish to be amused, but it is very much the habit of our people, high or low. I do not think it is necessary, but with regard to the license granted to theatres, Parliament and the public authorities seem to have decided the other way.

1157. Do you think that the drinking is a consequence of the entertainment, or that the entertainment is a consequence of the drinking?—I think they act and re-act. That people when they dance will drink, and that also when they drink they dance.

1158. Do you think there should be a difference in the license between a large theatre and a small music saloon; I mean with regard to the authority who should grant it?—I think that they should be under one authority; it would be very difficult to draw the line.

1159. At present the magistrates license in one case and the Lord Chamberlain in another?—The magistrates' jurisdiction is co-extensive with the Lord Chamberlain's, except in the case of music or dancing.

1160. Do you think that there should be any difference in that respect between the large theatres and those small entertainments?—It would be better if there were one authority, I think.

1161. You do not think it right to have a wholesale and retail license?—No; it would be difficult to draw the line. I think it would be better to have it all subject to one power.

1162. Do you think that the license should be so extended that all those places might give entertainments of the same character if they were within the bounds of morality and good taste?—Yes, I should be disposed to grant them liberally; some people think that the "requirements of the neighbourhood" should be considered, but that is a very vague matter.

1163. A solicitor takes out his license and practices at will among the high or the low, and you think it should be the same with those entertainments?—Yes, I think there should be one license and one authority.

1164. Do you think that would tend to bring the entertainments up to the people, or bring the people up to the entertainments?—If you grant those licenses liberally, subject to police supervision, for such matters as the police can prevent, perhaps the tendency would be rather to elevate the people, though I cannot see any distinct ground to expect that.

1165. You think that the tendency would be for the public good, rather than otherwise?—I think so.

1166. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Though they have intoxicating liquors at the Alhambra, the people do not get intoxicated as a rule, do they?—No.

1167. If they did get intoxicated, and made a disturbance, that would be reported, I suppose?—Yes, the Alhambra is a licensed place, they have got the licensed victuallers' license.

1168. In your opinion is there any harm in a person having his glass before him, and enjoying it, while he is enjoying something else in the way of dancing on a stage?—No, except that if you make the theatre an actual drinking place, it is very likely to create disorder. I would rather have the drinking separate.

1169. But the fact is, that drinking does go on, and disorder is not the consequence?—It is a matter more of taste than of morals.

1170. You would not, yourself like that, being a person of high taste, but why should a person who has no other opportunity of having his smoking and drinking, not have it if he likes it in that way?—I am not aware of any reason.

1171. You see no more harm in a ballet d'action than in a common ballet?—No. The French dancing compared with a ballet d'action, is, perhaps, the more objectionable of the two. You may, without any sort of story, have just as much of what is called the indecorum of the ballet.

1172. Provided that the story is in itself harmless, there is no more harm in a ballet d'action than a common ballet?—No.

1173. Pursuing that further, would it not be an advantage to have a decent play, or even Shakespeare performed?—Yes, I think so.

1174. It would be better to see Shakespeare than to see a nigger grinning with the bones?—Yes.

1175. Then there could be no earthly objection to give a license to perform anything, at such places as the Alhambra, provided they were always

always subject to a censorship?—Yes, certainly, I think that is so.

1176. Can you undertake to say whether the people who frequent those places having paid their money, have ever complained of annoyance from women of the town, or anything of that kind?—No, if they were annoyed they would not go again, I suppose.

1177. The respectable parts of those places are filled, are they not?—I have not heard of any complaints, but some think one thing objectionable and some another.

1178. Public opinion is not in any way outraged, however?—No, the worst case is where some gymnast tumbles and breaks his back; that kind of performance is objectionable, and should be prevented.

1179. Mr. *Selwin.*] The theatres are under a license from the Lord Chamberlain, and they are subject to certain restrictions, are they not?—Yes.

1180. Those dancing and music saloons are not under any restrictions of the sort, except from the magistrates' license?—The license for music and dancing.

1181. The police are there, but they have no power to do more than report?—That is all, unless the case is such as to come within the law.

1182. Unless there is a breach of the peace?—Yes; disorderly conduct. If a man were to walk about the room half drunk, or if he were insulting a woman, that would be disorderly conduct under the 2d and 3d Vict. c. 47.

1183. Should you think it advisable that the theatres should continue to be, as they are, licensed by the Lord Chamberlain?—I think there should be some power; it is not for me to say what that power should be.

1184. Do you think it would be advisable that theatres and music-halls should be on a different footing?—I think the present state of things, where the law is doubtful, is very bad. It is very bad that there should be any doubts of the legitimate character of any entertainments frequented by large classes of people.

1185. The reports from the police seem to be your only means of getting at a knowledge of how those places are conducted; but in certain instances you withdraw the police as a sort of punishment; that is, withdrawing their supervision where it should rather be doubled?—I am aware what the difficulty is; but I know that is a punishment, because people will not go so freely if the police are withdrawn, and that has generally had the effect of inducing people to alter what I thought objectionable.

1186. You have alluded to keeping houses open after certain hours, on the manager giving an assurance that nothing shall take place contrary to public order; are there any means taken to ascertain that those conditions are fulfilled?—Yes; we have regular printed forms. The grounds for the application for the license are set forth, and the license is granted by me on the report of the superintendent that the terms of the license are observed. Those licenses are granted subject to the approbation of the Secretary of State; practically they are granted by me, subject to his disapproval if I refuse, when I should grant them, or grant when I should refuse.

1187. Suppose a person came on naked at any of those performances, or there was any violation of decency, then the police would not have any real power of interfering, but they would report?—Certainly.

1188. Would any steps be taken with regard to the license of that place?—It would be reported to the magistrate at the first opportunity, certainly.

1189. Mr. *Powell.*] In most of those music-halls and places of amusement the police are present?—Yes.

1190. Are they instructed to take notice of what takes place?—I do not think that any special instructions are given, but they know that they are sent there for the purpose of preserving order, and enforcing the law in any case where the law is violated, and if there was anything that was grossly indecorous, or if it were indecent, they would report the fact to the superintendent of police, and, in that way, it would reach me.

1191. With regard to the structure of the houses, supposing it were found to be the fact that there were arrangements made for private rooms, or rooms of some other character for facilitating immoralities, would it be the duty of the police to make themselves acquainted with those circumstances, and make a report to you?—No, I think not, unless it was very gross. The police have no direct authority with regard to brothels; the public are quite mistaken upon that subject; the police have no authority whatever with regard to brothels, and those private rooms may be considered of that class.

1192. Then it comes to this, that, except there be something of a most gross character, something of almost an exceptional character, the police would not afford information of it?—With regard to indecencies or indecorum, or as to drunkenness, or women being dressed indecently, they would report.

1193. It would be their duty to report without being asked to do it?—Yes. At every place where the police are employed, a superior officer visits the house likewise, to see that the police are doing their duty properly.

1194. Can you inform the Committee what is the statute under which provisions are taken against disorderly houses?—It is the same statute; the 25th of Geo. 2.

1195. Those sections are now living sections on which action is taken?—Yes.

1196. *Chairman.*] I understand it to be your opinion, that all places of public entertainment should be licensed?—I think so.

1197. Do you think it would be good policy to throw open places of entertainment entirely?—I think not.

1198. And you think that it would be advisable to put all the licensing under one authority?—Yes, I think so. I am speaking with regard to the district which I understand the best. I cannot speak for other districts. My district is about 90 miles, exclusive of the City of London. What happens there I do not know, good or bad.

1199. But if you had one authority it would not necessarily carry with it that there should be one form of license for all entertainments?—No, certainly not. The licenses might be adapted to the nature of the performances, and there might be a different scale of payments.

1200. The licenses might be adapted according to the nature of the performance, and according to the nature of the building?—Yes.

Sir *R. Mayne.*
16 April 1866.

1201. With regard to the point of indecency, a very extreme case was put, but take the case of an indecent song; if at a place of entertainment, if there were a very indecent song sung, would the police have any power to check it?—None.

1202. Do you think that there should be an improvement in the law in that respect?—Perhaps so, it should be carefully worded; any police power must be exercised with a large discretion, but the less that is left to their discretion the better.

1203. The police would have no ordinary power to stop an indecent song on the stage?—None; I think that that could only be corrected afterwards by penalties before a magistrate. I have always thought it very right to keep a very distinct line between what I call judicial and executive functions. What I have to deal with are executive functions, and they should be controlled by the magistrates or the judicial police.

1204. You know the entertainment called the Judge and Jury, would you call that a theatrical performance?—I think it is; and it is very amusing: the jury assemble, evidence is given, and they deliver their verdict. I think it is a theatrical performance.

1205. Mr. *Locke.*] Something in the nature of "La Gazza Ladra," for example?—Yes.

1206. *Chairman.*] The police would have no power to interfere with an entertainment of that kind?—No, the only power is with the magistrate's license, in that case.

1207. The magistrates might withdraw the license for beer and spirits, if they felt justified?—Yes.

1208. But if there was an authority for the inspection of public entertainments, that would be an entertainment coming within the scope of such a law, as much as many of the entertainments in music-halls?—Yes, I think so; it is a dramatic performance.

1209. And any kind of indecency that goes on there the police would not stop?—It is more indecorous than indecent; there is a great deal often in the evidence that is not of the most proper kind.

1210. Take the case of Poses Plastiques, the police would not interfere, however indecent the exhibition of the women was?—No, they never have done so, it must be a very extreme case if they did, and the interference could only be by report, unless it was an indecent exhibition of the grossest kind. I can conceive such cases, but I cannot believe that they would take place.

1211. But it does not rest with the police, there is no police power to check public entertainments of this kind?—Absolutely none; the magistrates have no officer, and the Lord Chamberlain has no officer; in fact, the Lord Chamberlain is a good deal dependent on me for information with regard to what takes place at the saloons.

1212. There is no power in the magistrate to withdraw the license in the course of the year?—None.

1213. Now, with regard to those "private rooms," I think I understood you to say, in reply to some honourable Member, that there were "private rooms" attached to some of those music-halls?—I did not say music-halls, but I have heard it stated with regard to some of those places licensed for music or dancing, or both, that they have such rooms. I should be sorry to insinuate that any particular place was misconducted; I am really not able to say that they are true, but such allegations have been made in some cases. The report was made and the superintendent said, "I have no doubt the rooms are used for such purposes." In fact, men and women assembling as they do, you cannot very well decide whether such reports are true or not.

1214. Perhaps you have a little delicacy in mentioning names?—I could inquire, and if it was worth the while of the Committee hearing me again, I will do so; my impression is, that if it be true it is very rare, but in some cases it is believed to be so.

1215. It would be very hard that the music-halls should rest under any unjust imputation?—I am quite prepared to say that there is no foundation for it as a general imputation.

1216. Mr. *Clay.*] Do you think it at all possible, if the practice which has been hinted at of directly offering facilities for prostitution was carried on at any of the music-halls, that it could be carried on without being perfectly notorious and well known to the police?—I think it could not at the music halls.

1217. So that if we should hear that the police have no evidence that such practices exist, we may take it for granted that they do not exist?—Yes; if it is the wish of the Committee to have more specific evidence I am not prepared to say which way it would be, but it is my firm opinion that it is not the general rule, and, indeed, if it is the case at all, it is a very rare exception.

The Honourable GEORGE CHAPPLE NORTON, called in; and Examined.

The Hon. *G. C. Norton.*

1218. Mr. *Locke.*] YOU are magistrate at the Lambeth Police Court?—Yes.

1219. I believe that your attention has been drawn to music-halls?—Yes, certainly, that was last year.

1220. That was in the case of the Canterbury Hall?—Yes.

1221 Will you state, for the information of the Committee, precisely what that case was?—It was a case on the new discovery of Pepper's; that was adopted there, I suppose, to escape being licensed for the regular drama. I thought the best way was to go and see it. I was very much amused, and I must say delighted; it seemed to me to be very new and very superior in many respects to ordinary representations.

1222. The effect of that was, that no person appeared on the stage; but there was a reflection?—It was a double reflection; there was a lower stage, and the action which took place there was made to appear on the upper stage.

1223. There was dialogue, was there not?—Yes, and story.

1224. Your decision was that it was a performance of the stage, although the audience could not see the performers?—Yes, and that decision was upheld by the Court of Common Pleas.

1225. Now, you say that you visited the Canterbury Hall; what was your opinion with regard to the performances at the Canterbury Hall; were they of a proper character?—Quite so.

so. I thought it was an imitation somewhat similar to what I have seen in the tea-gardens of Germany, only it was an improvement upon them; because in addition to the music and dancing, they gave this simple story.

1226. Now, I believe, that at the Canterbury Hall they have tables set throughout the room, where the people take refreshments during the time of the performance?—Yes.

1227. And smoke?—Yes, they smoke.

1228. Is that similar to what goes on in the German music-halls?—Qu'te.

1229. Do you think that any inconvenience arises from that?—Not at all to the class of people who frequent those places.

1230. What was the class of people at the Canterbury Hall?—It seemed to me that they were artizans, and I am happy to say very much with their wives and children sitting round those little tables and also enjoying the performances.

1231. Now in your opinion, is it a good or a bad thing that these people should have that opportunity?—I think it is not a matter of unmixed good, but I think that the good predominates very much; I think that if those places were properly guarded, and if the performances were not allowed to extend beyond 11 o'clock at night, under proper surveillance, they would be productive of great good. I rather suspended my decision with the hope that the Lord Chamberlain would have extended the license to that sort of piece that was then being acted, but he stated that he was compelled to draw a line of distinction between the theatres and those music-halls, and that that line was mainly drawn by preventing refreshments going on in the area of the play-house; I was very sorry that the light of "Hodge Podge" should have been quenched, for it was a very brilliant affair.

1232. Was there any impropriety in the piece itself?—None whatever.

1233. Did you observe any improper characters there?—No; I may say that the Canterbury Hall is within my district, and I cannot recollect a case from it being brought before me of disorder or drunkenness on any occasion whatever.

1234. Have you likewise another music-hall in Lambeth or Southwark?—Not in Lambeth.

1235. There is one in the London-road, is there not?—Yes, that is not in my district.

1236. Is there any other music-hall in your district besides Canterbury Hall?—I am not aware.

1237. Are there any private rooms at Canterbury Hall?—I do not believe there are.

1238. You never heard of that?—No, never; there is another thing, which, in my opinion, would be important, that is, that the money paid on entrance should be entirely for admission, and not to be taken out in drink.

1239. Is that the case at Canterbury Hall?—No, but it is the case at some other places I am told.

1240. They are not obliged to take it out in drink?—They do not do that at Canterbury Hall, but I am told at some other places they do.

1241. They pay for admission?—Yes.

1242. But they do as they like about taking the drink?—Yes, but I presume that most of them do take it.

1243. Are you aware that it is the same thing at the Cafés-Chantants, at Paris?—No, I have not been to them.

1244. At what hour does the Canterbury Hall close?—I do not know exactly, but I think it is after 11. The Hon. *G. C. Norton.* 16 April 1866.

1245. Do you think 11 o'clock the proper hour?—Yes, I think so.

1246. You say that there have been no complaints brought before you of any improper conduct in the Canterbury Hall?—No, nor from Astley's.

1247. Do you know what the charge for admission is to the Canterbury Hall?—I think the stalls are 1 *s.*, and that the admission to the other places is 6 *d.*

1248. A man by paying 6 *d.* gets refreshment to that amount, and he can stay there all the evening?—No, that is merely for admission; there is no refreshment for that money.

1249. If he wants anything to drink he buys it?—Yes.

1250. Do you think that is a proper arrangement?—I think so; I think they charge rather high for refreshments in those places.

1251. I believe that your attention has been drawn to the 6th and 7th Vict., the Dramatic Licensing Act?—Yes.

1252. Do you think it would be an advantage if all these places were put under the Lord Chamberlain, and that they should have the privilege of performing any species of play that was acceptable to the people, provided it had the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain with regard to the propriety of its being put on the stage?—I do, indeed; I think it is most important that it should be under one authority; I think that one department would be the only one that would be properly fitted to exercise the censorship over the acting as well as over the place.

1253. You think that there should be a direction from the Lord Chamberlain, or some other authority, not to draw a distinction between the theatres where they have a spirit license, and keep refreshments at the back of the pit or in a different room, and those places which keep it at the tables, with people sitting at them, in the body of the place?—I think it is very necessary that a distinct character should be kept up between the theatres and the regular drama and those inferior places; I think that the rule which the Lord Chamberlain drew was a very necessary one, for preventing people taking refreshments in the theatre in the way that they do in the area of music-halls. I think that the refreshments in theatres should be restricted to light drinks, and that no exciseable liquors should be consumed in the pit or boxes of any theatre; I would exempt the gallery, because the gods have always been accustomed to it, and I do not think that it would be productive of the same nuisance to the more respectable people who go to the pit and boxes. I would allow the theatres to have places out of the area of the pit and boxes for refreshments, all the same.

1254. The same as they have now?—Yes.

1255. You know that the Lord Chamberlain's license carries a wine and spirit license?—Yes.

1256. You think it beneficial that men sitting at a table taking refreshments should have an opportunity of seeing a performance of the stage, to what particular performance would you restrict that?—I think that the Lord Chamberlain would be the best judge as to what the building was adapted for.

1257. Would you see any objection to a *Vaudeville*?—No.

1258. You would see no objection to a play?—No,

The Hon. *G.C. Norton.*
16 April 1866.

No, not if the building was suited for it, and if the taste of the people led to it.

1259. Whether they sat at a table or not?—I think so, as long as you do not come to the regular drama.

1260. You mean what is called the legitimate drama?—Yes.

1261. I do not know whether that is an undefinable thing, but has it ever been clearly defined?—I suppose it is impossible to define that exactly.

1262. Do you think, seeing that it has never been defined for so many hundreds of years, that any Act of Parliament could do it now?—That would be mainly determinable, I think, by the nature of the building, whether it had accommodation for scenery or not.

1263. If the stage was large enough for the representation of "King John," there would be no objection at all to that tragedy being performed at the Canterbury Hall, would there?—I think it would be very hard upon the theatres; I think they would be deserted.

1264. People would so much prefer sitting comfortably smoking a cigar and witnessing the performance of King John, that they would go there instead of to the theatre; is that what you think?—The great bulk of the people no doubt would.

1265. Supposing they did prefer that, do you see any particular reason why they should not enjoy their own bent instead of sticking in the same place throughout the whole of the night, and if they wanted refreshments walk into the back of the pit or into the saloon, if they happened to be in the boxes or in the gallery, going to the beer engine at the back of it?—In my opinion, there is no objection to it, but some masters object to their servants going to Music-halls, they think that when they have once had that enjoyment, they will go too often, and neglect their duty at home.

1266. We cannot lay down laws to regulate relations of that kind between masters and servants, and you would hardly wish to have difficulties of this kind added to those that often come before you on those subjects?—No.

1267. A master can turn his servant away, if he thinks that he goes too often to the music-halls?—I really think that almost despotic power should be given to the Lord Chamberlain, and that he should be responsible to the Home Secretary who is responsible to Parliament.

1268. In what sense despotic power?—That he should have the power to stop a play being acted.

1269. That is to say if it was improper?—Yes, if it was improper; and also that he should have the power of suspending a license and revoking it.

1270. For what reasons?—For good reasons, political, moral, and so on.

1271. If the place was ill-conducted and improper characters came there, and if there was disorderly conduct?—Yes, if there was any indecent play, or a play decently written but indecently acted.

1272. But do you think it would be an advantage that the Lord Chamberlain should have the power of licensing a play, and that it should be sent to him beforehand?—Certainly.

1273. Then is there any distinction which you would draw, with regard to a performance between a music-hall and an ordinary theatre?—No, there is not.

1274. Do you think that they should have an opportunity of performing precisely the same things as the theatres?—Yes; it is desirable that the peoples' taste should be raised, and that, instead of listening to trash, they should have good sound pieces performed.

1275. You think that it would tend to raise the taste of the people generally if music-halls were allowed to perform stage plays?—Yes; I do, indeed, and perhaps it would lead them to go to the pure dramatic places.

1276. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You spoke of having one central officer in the Lord Chamberlain; would you deprive the magistrates entirely the power of giving licenses for music and dancing?—I would. I think that I would enlarge the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, and make it co-equal with the metropolitan district.

1277. How would you propose that it should be outside the metropolitan district?—There of course the magistrates would have the power. I would enlarge the Lord Chamberlain's power to the metropolitan district. I would take in Greenwich, for instance.

1278. Mr. *Miller.*] By the metropolitan district, I suppose you mean the district of the Metropolitan Board of Works?—I mean the district of the Metropolitan Police for 16 miles round Charing Cross.

1279. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] That would be a very great enlargement of the district?—It would; the Lord Chamberlain would require a staff.

1280. You would allow the Lord Chamberlain to make his own regulations entirely with regard to what the separate places should be wherein the drama took place, and places wherein music and dancing took place?—Yes.

1281. Whether refreshments should oe sold within the building, or without the building, you would leave it to him to decide entirely?—That would depend on whether it came within the proper drama or not. I think that the proper drama should be guaranteed from those tables for refreshments.

1282. But the Lord Chamberlain would decide whether it was a drama proper or not?—Yes.

1283. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] How many of those music-halls are there in your district?—I am not aware of more than one.

1284. I suppose you heard the question which I put to Sir Richard Mayne, with regard to indecency and immorality; I think you have stated that no such case of indecency or immorality has been reported to you?—None whatever, or even of disorder.

1285. Mr. *Clay.*] If you were asked to define the difference between the legitimate and the illegitimate drama, what would be your definition?—I really could not define it.

1286. Why should we impose upon the Lord Chamberlain a task which you yourself would not undertake?—I think it would be mainly determined by the nature of the building; if the building had all the accommodation required for the pure drama, I think the Lord Chamberlain ought to license it.

1287. The Honourable Member for Southwark put the case to you of a theatre having the capacity for giving good effect to King John, which is rather a spectacular play, and you said you considered that such a place should be a theatre for the legitimate drama?—According to my opinion, it should, because I think it would elevate

elevate the taste of the people who go to those music-halls.

1288. Are you not aware that quite as much space, and considerably more elaborate machinery is required for the performance of ballet or pantomime, than for King John?—I can quite understand that more room may be required. In the piece that I witnessed at the Canterbury Hall, there was only one scene altogether, and I thought it quite suited to that place.

1289. Then even tried by that test, the Lord Chamberlain would be a little puzzled to draw this definition, which has never been drawn?—Even if he made it into a theatre, I think the Lord Chamberlain would find himself compelled to draw that line, and make them give up supplying refreshments in the body of the place.

1290. Then supposing that the state of the law were this, that every place of public entertainment, where anything like a dramatic performance was carried on, were taken in by words so extensive that they should include beyond doubt *poses plastiques*, and all imitations of the drama; and suppose that the law was that all those places should be under one law and regulation, and that that law and regulation should have no object whatever, except to secure decency, both in the performances and the audience, what should you think of a law having in view the carrying out of that object?—I should think that that law was a great improvement on the present undefined state of the law, and the present evasions of the law; I think that the licensing system might be made in a great measure self-supporting. I think that the Lord Chamberlain would require a very strong staff of inspectors, and making those places pay for their licenses would ensure their falling into more respectable hands, and make their responsibility greater.

1291. Mr. *Miller.*] As you propose to place in the hands of the Lord Chamberlain such vast powers to determine what constitutes the drama, would you not at the same time give to the Lord Chamberlain a council or committee to assist him in the discharge of his duties?—Certainly, I think he should have inspectors; of course he would require architects, and a certain number of inspectors, and those inspectors might visit the different theatres.

1292. Do you think that there would then be uniformity in the decisions of the Lord Chamberlain and his committee?—Yes.

1293. Would you recommend that there should be any appeal from the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes, I think there should be an appeal to the Home Office, which would increase the responsibility.

1294. Would it not be better to have an appeal to some open public court?—No, it is not a machinery that could be managed so well.

1295. Your object in making an appeal to the Home Secretary, would be that it might ultimately be controlled by Parliament?—Yes.

1296. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] I apprehend that the difference between the halls where ballets are played and the places where stage plays are acted is, that drinking and smoking are allowed in front of the stage in one case, and not in the other?—Yes.

1297. Now, as a magistrate of experience, do you think that permission to smoke and drink in those halls produces any immorality?—I think not; I think that the great evil which we have to contend with is drunkenness, and drunkenness generally arises in tap-rooms of public-houses, where fathers of families meet together, as the upper classes do in club-rooms, and there they drink in a private manner. Now, by taking them out into public places their families go with them. In some districts, I have been very much shocked to see that the women get drunk in a larger proportion than the men; that has been very much caused by men going to those tap-rooms away from their families, and leaving their wives at home. I think that taking their wives with them to places of amusement has very much led them to neglect the tap-rooms.

1298. Mr. *Powell.*] With regard to the drunkenness of women, now I know that in Liverpool, where the men are absent from their homes during the whole of the day, and, owing to the nature of the industry, there is no occupation for women, great drunkenness among women occur during the day time; does that drunkenness in women which you have referred to occur during the day or during the hours of the evening?—It occurs during the hours of the evening, and generally with elderly women, I think.

1299. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] You think that the effect of those halls on the people generally is rather to improve their conduct and their habits than otherwise?—Certainly.

1299*. And that, under proper restrictions, it would be more useful socially, that they should be continued than that they should be discouraged?—Yes.

1300. Mr. *Lusk.*] You have said that you were very much pleased with the performance at the Canterbury Hall?—Yes.

1301. Were drinking and refreshments used there?—Yes, during the whole of the time.

1302. Do you think that drinking and refreshments were necessary?—I think they are to John Bull.

1003. You think that the people would break down before the entertainment was done if it was carried on without refreshments?—I think they would cease to be amused.

1304. You think that the object of those entertainments is for the benefit of the people on the whole?—I do think so.

1305. What is the distinction that you would draw between the large theatres and the smaller places?—Merely this, that there should not be at the theatres those tables and public drinking, because the people who go to the large theatres go there for mental enjoyment, wheras the primary object of the people who go to the music-halls is refreshment after a hard day's work.

1306. Did you say that you would not like the smaller theatres to enact plays?—No, I said the contrary.

1307. Would you like to see them enact the legitimate drama?—Yes, but then you must get rid of the refreshment tables and the smoking.

1308. But why should you protect the legitimate drama?—I am afraid that the legitimate drama would stand very little chance if drinking and smoking were introduced.

1309. But keeping the good of the people in view, on what ground would you protect it?—I should be sorry that Shakspeare should disappear.

1310. Would that make him disappear, or make him more popular than ever?—If they wanted to hear Shakspeare they would not be thinking so much of the refreshment tables.

1311. But why do you think that the legitimate drama should be protected; for whose benefit

The Hon. *G.C.Norton.*

16 April 1866.

benefit is it?—I think it is for the benefit of the higher classes and of the public generally.

1312. Cannot the higher classes take care of themselves?—I think that the lower classes might be led on by those minor pieces to go and see the legitimate drama.

1313. Is not it much better to have the legitimate drama than those negro songs?—Yes, a great deal.

1314. Then if the lower classes were led on to that, it would be an advantage, would it not?—Yes.

1315. Mr. *Powell.*] A great difficulty has been confessed by the previous witnesses with regard to the definition of the legitimate drama, and I understand that you feel some difficulty on that point; they are not able to define the difference between the legitimate drama and, we will say, plays of another character?—Yes, that is so.

1316. You are not in a condition to assist us by suggesting a more definite phrase?—No.

1317. You made use of the terms regular theatres and inferior places; can you define the two?—What I meant was the music-halls; they have one character of entertainment, and the great theatres have another.

1318. But, in fact, at the present time there is a continual tendency on the part of the music-halls to approach the regular theatres?—Yes.

1319. And that is one cause of our difficulty?—Yes.

1320. But you still feel unable to draw the line between a regular theatre and an inferior place?—Quite.

1321. Taking the music-halls either as places for music alone, or for music with some very minor theatrical performance, would you allow refreshments in the auditorium?—Certainly I would.

1322. In regular theatres, where Shakesperian plays, as a rule, are enacted, would you allow refreshments in the auditorium?—I would not allow exciseable refreshments in the area of the house, in the pit and boxes; in the gallery they have always been accustomed to drink their beer.

1323. I do not mean women going round between the acts with some light refreshments, but having tables, and so on; would you allow that?—I think not at the regular theatres; it would be a great annoyance to the main body of the audience.

1324. But you would allow them in music-halls?—Yes.

1325. What reason can you give why a person who desires to act Shakespere, and to produce the more intellectual drama, should not be allowed to have those tables in the auditorium, while a man who relies on music alone, or music with some minor scenic accessories, might have them?—Because a man who goes to a regular theatre goes there for mental enjoyment, but the primary object of the man who goes to the music-halls is refreshments.

1326. It comes to this, that it is the class of people appealed to which makes the difference?—Yes.

1327. But in the music-halls where you recommend that there should be permission to consume liquors during the performance in the auditorium, would you confine it to beer?—I meant beer and spirits.

1328. Do you draw a difference between beer and spirits?—I do with regard to the galleries of theatres, because they have always been accustomed to beer.

1329. Take the music-halls, would you allow gin and brandy to be sold in the audience part of the house?—Yes.

1330. But you would not allow them to be sold at regular theatres?—Not in the audience part.

1331. But assuming that a person wishes to represent Shakespere, and that he is of opinion that it would tend to his benefit and advantage as a speculator to sell exciseable liquors in the auditorium during the performance, do you see any reason why he should be denied that liberty?—I think that the general class of people who would attend to see a play of Shakespere would be very much annoyed by those little tables, and smoking, and so on.

1332. You think that a theatrical manager having such an ambition in favour of the higher drama would, as a matter of policy, not allow the sale of exciseable liquors among the audience during the performance?—That would be a matter to be determined by the result; but I should think that would be so.

1333. *Chairman.*] I understand you to be distinctly of opinion that it would be well to continue licensing entertainments?—Yes.

1334. Would you throw them open altogether and have no regulations at all to control music-halls and places where theatrical entertainments take place?—Certainly not.

1335. For what reasons would you wish to continue the system of licensing?—Because it ensures control.

1336. Do you mean control of the performance or of the audience?—Most of all the audience, but also the performance, because the license might be refused.

1337. You consider it desirable to exercise a control over the pieces to be performed?—Yes.

1338. Would you propose that that control should be exercised more than it is now?—Yes; there is very little control now.

1339. Have you ever had cases of complaints brought before you for indecencies in the performance?—Never.

1340. Do you think that is a proof that there are none?—They are not carried very far or we should hear of them.

1341. Would you interfere with the judge and jury performance magisterially?—No, I consider it a dramatic performance.

1342. And not of an improving character?—It may be carried too far.

1343. But is there a point at which you would stop it?—Yes, if it brought any of the Judges into contempt.

1344. But what I mean is if they performed very indecent mock trials, would that, in your opinion, be a case for stopping them?—I have only been at one of those judge and jury trials in my life, but I do think that they carry their questions rather too far sometimes.

1345. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You said in your evidence just now that you were in favour of extending the Lord Chamberlain's influence over the whole of the metropolitan district?—Yes.

1346. Of course you are aware that that would be 15 miles around town, and that by so doing you would deprive the Middlesex Magistrates entirely of the power of granting licenses for music

music and dancing?—Yes, and the Surrey Magistrates too.

1347. Did I understand you rightly on that subject?—Quite so.

1348. *Chairman.*] Have you anything which you would wish to add to your evidence?—I think if the department of the Lord Chamberlain was strengthened, and the Metropolitan police district was put under his single and undivided authority, wholesome uniformity of administration would be secured, and his Lordship's department might serve as a model for the other parts of the kingdom.

The Hon. *G. C. Norton.*
16 April 1866.

FREDERICK STRANGE, Esq., called in; and Examined.

1349. Mr. *Locke.*] You are the Managing Director of the Alhambra Music-Hall, are you not?—I am.

1350. Is it in the hands of a Limited Liability Company?—It is.

1351. Since when?—Since the 11th of December last.

1352. Will you state to the Committee the amount of capital embarked there?—100,000 *l.* is the capital, but it is not quite all called up.

1353. That is the nominal capital of the Company; how much is paid up?—I should say about 60,000 *l.*

1354. What was the cost of the building; first of all it was built for scientific purposes, was it not?—It was built first of all for the Panopticon; it is said that it cost 120,000 *l.*, but I cannot tell.

1355. There was horsemanship performed there at one time?—Yes, Howes and Cushings had it for a long time for horsemanship.

1356. Then you took it first of all after that?—No, Mr. E. T. Smith took it.

1357. For what purpose?—For a music-hall, the same as it is now.

1358. In what year was that?—About six years ago.

1359. How long have you been manager?—Since December 1864.

1360. What sum of money has been laid out on the building since?—I, myself, have spent about 25,000*l.* in the Alhambra in decorations, independently of leases.

1361. Was that on the fabric?—In decoration and furniture.

1362. The building was in a very bad state?—Yes.

1363. You have had to repair it?—Yes, that is what the money was spent for, repairing the building, decorations, furniture, and so on.

1364. But there is furniture as well as the outlay on the permanent building?—Yes, and I have a very long lease.

1365. This 25,000*l.* has been spent by you, irrespective of the lease?—Yes, 25,000*l.* has been laid out to make it fit to be opened, as it is now open to the public.

1366. You have had the Alhambra since 1864, you say?—Yes.

1367. What was the nature of the performances at the Alhambra when you first became connected with it, what performances had Mr. E. T. Smith?—He was doing ballets nearly the same as I am doing now; but after Mr. Smith left it, Mr. Wilde of Norwich did away with ballets, and substituted a singing and gymnastic performance.

1368. How long had Mr. Wilde the Alhambra?—About four years I think.

1369. You succeeded Mr. Wilde?—I succeeded Mr. Wilde.

1370. You carry on the Alhambra under certain licenses, you have four, I believe?—I have a wine and spirit license, a tobacco license, and a music and dancing license.

F. Strange, Esq.

1371. And now in addition to that, you have a limited license from the Lord Chamberlain, have you not?—I have a license for morning performances from the Lord Chamberlain.

1372. That is to obviate risks from the provisions of the 25 Geo. 2, which prevents any performance under the music and dancing license before 5 o'clock in the afternoon?—Yes.

1373. Was that license granted to you in consequence of the same license having been granted to the Hanover Square and Willis's Rooms?—Yes, I think so.

1374. That arose, I believe, from a petition which was presented to the bench of magistrates, in October last?—Yes.

1375. To prevent actions under that provision of the Act, which makes it imperative on the magistrate to take away the license, and prevent a person even keeping the house again?—Yes.

1376. Have you ever taken advantage of that license with regard to performances before five o'clock in the afternoon?—I have had morning performances since I obtained that license.

1377. Of what description?—Precisely the same as in the evening.

1378. Ballets?—Yes, everything the same, a few little things being cut out because the time is shorter.

1379. Has the attendance been full in the morning?—No; but the attendance was very good, especially on Saturday last.

1380. Were refreshments sold during the morning performance?—Yes, just the same as in the evening.

1381. Mr. *Powell.*] Refreshments were sold in the auditorium?—Yes in the auditorium.

1382. Mr. *Locke.*] There are always refreshments in the audience part?—Yes.

1383. Is the proportion which is spent on drink in the morning the same as the proportion which is spent on drink in the evening?—I think very nearly the same; but I have not gone into that question.

1384. Have there ever been any complaints with regard to improper conduct in the Alhambra?—Never.

1385. Mr. Pownall stated in his evidence that he had heard that there were private rooms at the Alhambra; he did not say that he had ever seen them; are there any?—I most distinctly deny that; there are no private rooms in the Alhambra, there are private boxes.

1386. How many private boxes are there?—There are two at present, and I am making two more; they are about 12 feet above the pit, under the first balcony; there are lights burning in them, and I do not think there can be anything improper in them; they are the most public places in London.

1387. There is likewise, quite distinct from the

F. Strange, Esq.
16 April 1866.

the auditorium, a very large refreshment room, is there not?—Yes.

1388. On what floor is the supper room?—There is a large supper room on the grond floor, but there is nothing on the first and second floor.

1389. The supper room is open to everybody?—It is thrown open; there is nothing to divide it from the grand hall; there is a passage 8 or 10 feet wide, and anybody can walk in, there is not even a door closed.

1390. It is like a coffee-room, with tables where persons can dine?—Yes.

1391. It is entirely distinct from that part of the building where the performances take place, is it not?—Quite.

1392. What sort of refreshments do people take at the tables in front of the stage?—Gin, brandy, and a very large quantity of Bass's pale ale, and soda and brandy is consumed very much at the Alhambra.

1393. What is the charge for entrance?—1 *s.*, 2 *s.*, and 4 *s.*, and 1 *l.* 1 *s.*, and 6 *d.*, we charge 6 *d.* for the second balcony, it has a separate entrance from the street. The promenade part of the pit and the first balcony is 1 *s.*, the reserved seats are 4 *s.*, and private boxes a guinea, and stalls 2 *s.*

1394. Whereabouts are the stalls?—Those stalls are two-thirds of the front part of the pit, they are within a circle of railings.

1395. Mr. *Miller.*] Do you mean to say that the box is a guinea seat?—No, the whole box is a guinea.

1396. Mr. *Powell.*] How many does a box hold?—Four persons.

1397. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] You say that the box is a guinea, and you say in your paper that there is only one?—There will be four in a few days, but at present there is only one public box; there is one used by the house, which is called a private box, but it is never let; there is only one private box, which is let at a guinea.

1398. Mr. *Powell.*] You keep the other box for your own private friends, as a matter of hospitality?—Yes; I have a house in Leicester-square; I never let that box, except sometimes to the press or a neighbour that wants to go into it particularly.

1399. Mr. *Locke.*] I suppose that box is open to the building, just like the others?—Yes.

1400. Have the police free access to the building?—Yes.

1401. How many policemen attend there?—They vary; I have employed 12; I have only got three now.

1402. But, in addition to that, have the police got free access to the building, if they choose to come in?—If they please, they are not stopped; I may add that I have six of my own private policemen in livery.

1403. They are rather masters of the ceremonies, I suppose?—They have nothing to do but to walk round and look to the order of the establishment.

1404. They do not act as waiters?—No, nothing of the kind, not even to show people into their seats; they are in fact policemen.

1405. How many persons do you employ in the establishment, first of all how many waiters have you?—About 24.

1406. Is that the number throughout the whole building?—Yes.

1407. Those persons who keep order are only policemen?—Yes.

1408. How many policemen have you?—I have three policemen and the one inspector or sergeant, which makes four. I have six private policemen also.

1409. How many persons are employed on the stage?—I should think there are about 300, as near as possible.

1410. Your ballet is very extensive, I believe?—Yes; it is very extensive.

1411. How many are there in it?—In the last ballet with the young ladies suspended, I think the number is 98.

1412. Has your employment of those young ladies in the ballet tended to increase their salaries?—Yes; most decidedly.

1413. Not merely at the Alhambra, but throughout the metropolis?—I think so.

1414. How much have their salaries increased?—Fully 4 *s.* or 5 *s.* a week, I should say.

1415. What are the pursuits of those young women, what do they do besides dancing on the stage?—I can hardly tell you; but I know that a great many of them use the needle. They are tailoresses, dress-makers, and so on, or rather more in the tailoring line.

1416. Now this dancing at night is an addition to their earnings?—Yes.

1417. In the tailoring, and so on, the pay is not very high, I believe?—Very low indeed they tell me.

1418. Does this dancing enable them to get an honest livelihood?—I think so.

1419. Is there any impropriety in their conduct?—I have never seen any whatever.

1420. Would that be permitted?—Certainly not inside our establishment.

1421. What they do outside you cannot tell, but they conduct themselves very well in your establishment?—Yes, very well indeed.

1422. You have a great many singers, have you not?—Yes.

1423. What description of performance do you give in music?—Songs, glees, duets, and operatic selections.

1424. Now, with regard to opera, in what way do you put opera on the stage, you have no dresses, have you?—No; all the singers are plainly dressed. I can only put it on as a selection; there is no acting.

1425. How many have you in the chorus?—Forty, besides the band; 70 including the band and chorus.

1426. You have had the "Orphée aux Enfers"?—Yes, I am performing that now.

1427. Do they sing all the music?—No; it would be too long for a music-hall.

1428. How long does it occupy?—I think about 30 minutes, from 20 to 27 minutes perhaps.

1429. Your performances are varied, are they not?—Yes.

1430. What other performances take place at the present time?—We begin the performance with a grand chorus; after that a duet; after that a ballet, which we call the comic ballet; then a little more singing and tumbling, and then the second ballet, "the National ballet;" to follow that we have this selection and a little tumbling; and perhaps another glee, and we finish with what we call a transformation scene.

1431. That is a species of ballet?—It is a kind of transformation scene.

1432. They dance in it?—They dance in it.

1433. Then there are leaves which open, and there are young ladies behind them, and they

are all lifted up; it is similar to what you have at pretty nearly all the theatres?—Yes, very much the same.

1434. Now, do you think that you could give a higher species of performance in any respect than you do at present, if it were not for your being restricted by the 6 & 7 Vict.?—Yes, there could be a better class of entertainment then; for instance, what they call dress opera, a little sparkling opera, such as you see in Paris, could be done, which you cannot do now. Although we want the thing thrown open, I do not think that it would answer any music-hall proprietors' purpose to give any of Shakespere's plays at this moment in music-halls.

1435. What description of performance do you think it would answer the music-hall proprietors' purpose to give in preference to what you now give?—Anything in the way of a pantomime and those little operas dressed, and so on.

1436. Do you recollect the Eagle Tavern before the alteration was made by the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

1437. Do you recollect the species of performances given there?—Yes.

1438. They had tables and chairs in the audience part, and persons taking refreshments?—Yes.

1439. What pieces were performed there?—They used to do many things on the stage that cannot be done now.

1440. Plays and ballets?—Yes; simply because there was no one to interfere with them.

1441. But this same kind of entertainment is now carried on at the music-halls, is it not?—Yes; but the public taste is very much altered; you must now do things very much better.

1442. But still of that character?—It would be that kind of thing, only far superior.

1443. Do you recollect the Yorkshire Stingo?—I never saw that.

1444. There is one at Highbury, is there not?—There is one now at Highbury Barn.

1445. That is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain as a theatre, is it not?—Yes.

1446. But previously they used to have performances of plays, and so on, under the music and dancing license, did they not?—I never saw myself any performance there of that kind.

1447. Can you tell the Committee exactly what style of performance you think would be advantageous in a music-hall?—I think that we ought to be at liberty to do any style of performance; but the principal thing at the present moment would be selections, properly dressed, that is, little operas dressed, and anything in the way of farce or pantomime.

1448. Do you think that that would answer?—I think that would answer.

1449. Do you think that would tend to elevate the taste of the public?—I do.

1450. And that it would be preferable to a portion of the entertainment which now you are obliged to give?—I do think so.

1451. Have you made any calculations with regard to the proportion of money that you take at the bar, as compared with what you take for entrance money?—Yes.

1452. Will you state to the Committee what that proportion is?—The price for admission is 1 *s.* a head; take it all the year through the average for drink, eating, cigars, and everything, would be about 6 *d.* a head. On great holidays it is far less than 6 *d.*, such as Whitsuntide, Boxing days, and Easter Mondays, it is below 6 *d.*

1453. In that calculation which you have made out, you include every species of eating, drinking, and smoking?—Yes, I take every species of eating, drinking, and smoking. On Saturday night last, which was rather a good night for refreshments, we took 180 *l.* at the doors, and 101 *l.* for refreshments.

1454. How many visitors have you every night, on an average?—I think I may say that the average is a little over 3,000; it is about 20,000 a week.

1455. A good deal has been said about the composition of the visitors; there are some women of the town who attend the Alhambra, as there are in all public places in London, in theatres and elsewhere, I suppose?—Yes, no doubt.

1456. What per centage of your audiences should you say were women of the town?—I am very happy to have an opportunity of answering the question, because I think that it is very much overrated. I have taken the trouble to have those that we know to be women of the town counted on several occasions, and I find that they average 3 to 100, or a little over, certainly not 4 per cent. If I have 3,500 people in the place, there are very few over 100 whom we know to be women of the town.

1457. What description of persons are the other visitors composed of?—The working classes, the lower class of people are in the balcony quite alone; ours is a mixed audience; the 2 *s.* stalls seems to be the principal price, therefore they are a very respectable class of people.

1458. Are there persons who come there with their wives?—Yes, with their wives and families.

1459. Have you ever known any excesses committed by them?—No, not by the wives and families.

1460. But now and then they do occur, I suppose?—Sometimes, and the people are immediately put out.

1461. In fact you have a sufficient number of police present, and police attached to the establishment, to keep order?—Yes.

1462. And order is kept?—Yes, it is.

1463. I think you have stated that the present law, with regard to theatres, that is to say, forbidding you to give those performances which would be most conducive to your benefit, causes you to lose a large sum of money?—Yes.

1464. What do you estimate that loss at?—I think I may say, first of all, that in the performance of opera for instance, I could, with the persons properly dressed in character, do with half the people, and that would save me 50 *l.* or 60 *l.* a week.

1465. And you could do it with more effect?—Yes.

1466. You would then have to employ only half the number?—Yes, because the opera would be put on the stage in the form of a play, now it is only a chorus.

1467. But you would still want the chorus, would you not?—Not so large a chorus.

1468. Is that because you are forced to cover the stage?—Yes; if we cannot do little pieces with the acting, we must do something to do justice to the opera, and other little things must be done. The public would not be satisfied with two or three people coming on the stage. If I

F. Strange, Esq.

16 April 1866.

could dress opera, very likely we should do the other part quite differently.

1469. Mr. *Miller.*] If you employed half the number to do the opera, would you not have to employ a superior class of people and have to pay a higher rate of wages?—I think not.

1470. Mr. *Locke.*] You employ very efficient singers now, do you not?—Yes, we pay a very high price for singers now; I have paid 20 *l.* a week to a singer.

1471. How long do those selections occupy?—About 30 minutes.

1472. Mr. *Powell.*] For how long a time was that 20 *l.* a week paid?—Perhaps it was a six months' engagement, or perhaps a twelvemonth; it was a long engagement.

1473. Mr. *Locke.*] It is notorious that you have had proceedings taken against you on several occasions?—Yes, on three different occasions.

1474. That was with regard to your having "a performance of the stage?"—Yes.

1475. However, the decision of the Court of Common Pleas has quashed that conviction against you?—It has.

1476. And I believe the managers of theatres are now quiet?—They have not interfered at all since the last decision at Westminster.

1477. Nor have the proprietors of music-halls taken any further steps with regard to performances before five o'clock in the afternoon?—Not that I have heard of.

1478. Do you think it is very necessary that there should be some legislation on the subject clearly defining what the rights of the different people concerned are?—I think so.

1479. Do you think, as manager, that you should have the privilege of performing stage plays if you please?—Yes.

1480. Do you think that if that privilege were granted in as large a degree to the music-halls as it is to the theatres, that there would be any detriment to the theatres?—I do not think so.

1481. For what reason is it that you do not think so?—I do not think that the parties who go to the theatres to see Shakspeare's plays would come to the Alhambra to see them; they would go to see them done in their proper form.

1482. Then you would not have Shakspeare's plays performed at the Alhambra?—No, certainly not; if it was thrown open to-morrow I should not attempt one of Shakspeare's plays.

1483. If it were thrown open to-morrow, can you distinctly say what you would wish to have performed?—There are several little things that can be done, dozens of little short things to amuse the public, but they would not come to the Alhambra to listen to Shakspeare, because, in fact, it would not be heard.

1484. The audience would not be able to hear it?—The audience would not be able to hear it. The same gentleman who goes to the theatre comes in at 10 o'clock to smoke his cigar at the Alhambra.

1485. They come to see the late performance?—Yes.

1486. It amuses a man while he is smoking his cigar?—Yes.

1487. Can you see any reason why he should not have that enjoyment if he likes?—I can see no reason why it should not be thrown open to theatres if they like to put tables round the pit; but I do not think it would answer their purpose.

1488. Can you see any reason why a man should not have any enjoyment he please, if he does not interfere with the people?—No.

1489. Mr. *Clay.*] Can you assist us to a definition of what is the legitimate drama?—It is very difficult to define.

1490. But you have been manager long enough to know what the audience like, and what they do not like?—Yes, I think so. I am doing a ballet d'action, which they like very much. I think that is entertaining if it comes to the point.

1491. I believe that some of your music is of the very highest class?—Some of it is.

1492. You give selections nightly from very well known authors, such as Gounod, Donizetti, Rossini, Meyerbeer, and Offenbach?—Yes.

1493. All your music is not of the same high character, because occasionally you have men with very long tailed coats who sing some offensive nonsense, like "hoop-de-dooden-doo"?—There is very little of that at the Alhambra.

1494. There would be more at the Alhambra, I suppose, if the audience liked it?—Some do like it, no doubt; but they have very little of it.

1495. If you were told that you must throw up your musical selections or your niggers, which would you throw over?—The nigger performance.

1496. Now supposing that you were left entirely alone, and dictated to by no law as to whether you performed the very highest class of drama, or went down to the very lowest, do you think that you would raise or lower the tone of the present performances?—I would raise it decidedly.

1497. With regard to the opera of Offenbach, the *Orphée aux Enfers*, and probably also, *La Belle Hélène*, you would probably give them entire, as they are given in Offenbach's own theatres, if you could?—Yes.

1498. Is it your belief that they would have a very great success?—Yes.

1499. Are you aware that they have had the greatest success in Paris?—*La Belle Hélène* is now under rehearsal at the Alhambra, and will appear there before it appears anywhere else.

1500. You feel quite clear that an alteration of the law which would leave you more the master of your performances would result in raising and not in lowering the performances?—I am quite sure it would.

1501. Can you tell me how many refreshment rooms you have got in your music-hall?—The supper room, and a room under a part of the building.

1502. Taking the room under some part of the building, on the basement, is that open to everybody?—Only those that I allow to go in with special permission.

1503. In fact, that is any one going to that room avails himself of a special permission, as the attendants at the theatre avail themselves of the special permission of the manager, to go behind the scenes?—Yes.

1504. That being so, you are, no doubt, well acquainted with the conduct of that room, and I suppose it would be impossible that any gross immorality could be carried on without your being aware of it?—It is quite impossible that anything immoral could take place; it is nearly the size of this room, sometimes there are 40 people there, never less, and sometimes 200. The police go to the room; there is always a policeman there. I allow no one to go on the stage, or any other

other part of the building, except to this large public room.

1505. That is a room with a bar in it?—It is fitted up precisely the same as any large refreshment room would be. When I first went to the Alhambra, I used to find that so many of the people were at the public-houses when I wanted them; some of the singers would go away for a time; and I said, I will not have public-house cans coming in here; I will open that public-room, and charge you public-house prices.

1506. *Chairman.*] Is that called the canteen?—Yes.

1507. Mr. *Clay.*] Can any one go in there by extra payment?—No.

1508. It must be by special permission?—Yes, from me or the manager.

1509. *Chairman.*] Are they admitted by tickets?—No ticket and no money will admit you in any way.

1510. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] How long have you been proprietor of the Alhambra Music Hall?—Only 17 months.

1511. Had you ever been proprietor of any of those music-halls before?—Not for a long time, but I have been connected with all kinds of public entertainments.

1512. There was another place of entertainment in Leicester Square, which was burnt down, was there not?—Yes.

1513. I presume that you have been in the room the whole of the day?—Yes.

1514. You no doubt heard the questions which I put to Sir Richard Mayne; now, during your experience as manager, and your knowledge of music-halls in general, have you ever known such a thing as an inner bar in a music-hall, where there was an additional payment made that young men might go in and smoke, and drink with the ladies of the ballet, in your own hall, or anywhere else?—Not in my hall; I never heard of it, and I do not believe it is so.

1515. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] You have stated that you have had some morning performances since this last decision of the Court of Queen's Bench?—Yes.

1516. About how many have you had?—We have had four.

1517. What is the proportion of your audience at the morning performances as compared with that in the evening?—A little more than one-third.

1518. Have you been there yourself?—Yes.

1519. Have you made any remarks with regard to the audience?—The character of the audience at the morning performances is rather superior to the audience in the evening; for instance, with the small number there at the morning performances the four-shilling seats are filled, and perhaps they are not so full in the evening.

1520. The performances are nearly the same?—As near as we can get it.

1521. And the consumption of drink?—That is about the same.

1522. With regard to the particular class of women who frequent the Alhambra, were they present in the morning performances?—No, I did not notice any of them.

1523. Are there any free admissions?—No, not one.

1524. Not to any class of persons?—Not to any class of persons whatever.

1525. I allude to that to clear up a statement which has been made here?—It has been reported that a lot of women enter free. I assure you that every woman that comes to the Alhambra has to pay her money to whatever part of the house she goes.

1526. Are your private police authorised officers, or servants of yours only?—They are servants of mine only.

1527. They are not recognised by Sir Richard Mayne?—No, they are pensioned men from the Blues and Horse Guards.

1528. I think you have stated that you have been to the Eagle Tavern and to Highbury Barn. I suppose you remember the arrangement of the Eagle Tavern, is the arrangement anything at all approaching to that at the Alhambra, does smoking and drinking go on in the auditorium?—I have not been there for many years.

1529. You have told the Committee the proportion of women of a certain class who go to your house, can you give the Committee any idea what proportion of the working classes with their wives and families go there?—I have not gone into that particularly, but I should think that half the space is occupied by husbands with their wives and families.

1530. You say that deliberately?—I say that deliberately, that is my opinion.

1531. Have you had many cases of disorder?—I think, only one case was ever taken before a police court, that was on the Oxford and Cambridge night, we always expect a row on that night, I mean the boating night.

1532. Now with regard to the class of entertainment; you have said that you were of opinion that the nigger class of entertainment, and comic tumbling, was not so popular as high-toned music?—I think so; the best proof of it is that I have done away with that nigger singing.

1533. But you had it at first?—Yes.

1534. But in consequence of its being less popular than other music you got rid of it?—Yes.

1535. Is that the case with other music-halls in London?—Perhaps they have more of it than I have, because the selections, with large choruses, are very expensive, and the ballets are very expensive, and they have not got the space; also the charge for admission is lower.

1536. Do you mean to represent to the Committee that the audience has increased since you have changed the character of the performance?—It has increased very much.

1537. Do you think that is in consequence of that change of performance?—It is in consequence of that or something else, I do not know what.

1538. Do you think that the increased audiences arises from the introduction of ballet or scenic performance, or from the introduction of a high-toned class of music?—I think it is because I have introduced a higher class of amusement altogether.

1539. But do you consider that the class of entertainment which you have introduced as musical entertainment or as ballet, has increased your audience?—I think that the musical performance must have increased it very much, because it is the only thing which I have altered; I started with ballet.

1540. Supposing

F. Strang, Esq.

16 April 1866.

1540. Supposing that you were called upon to do away with the music or with the ballets, which would you dispense with?—I could not do away with the ballets.

1541. Now, about this canteen, is the canteen open during the entire evening?—Yes, it opens with the hall.

1542. And gentlemen, who have your permission, go there?—Yes.

1543. *Chairman.*] Do you ever give permission to the ladies to go there?—No.

1544. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] You say that there are a great many people who go there?—Yes.

1545. Do all your company go there?—All who care to go; it is open for them.

1546. The ladies of the ballet can go there then?—Yes, if they please.

1547. As a matter of fact, do they go there?—Yes, some may perhaps go there between the ballets; you may see 15 there, not more.

1548. The first ballet is given early in the evening; there is a considerable space of time between them, is there not?—Yes, nearly an hour or so.

1549. Do the same ladies perform in all the three ballets?—Yes.

1550. Is there any place for those ladies dressed for the ballet to remain in during the space between the performances?—They have got dressing rooms.

1551. There is no green room?—No.

1552. Is this room in the shape of a green room?—It was not intended for that.

1553. But the ladies of the ballet come there?—Some few of them do.

Friday, 20th April 1866.

PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Lusk.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Walpole.
Mr. Locke.	

JOHN LOCKE, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. FREDERICK STRANGE, recalled; and further Examined.

Mr. *F. Strange.*

20 April 1866.

1554. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] IN answer to a question put to you by an Honourable Member, you told the Committee that the canteen, from time to time, had 200 people in it in the evening; from that varying to 40?—Yes.

1555. Can you tell the Committee what class of people those 200 consist of, generally speaking, I mean can you define the character of the people?—It all depends upon who goes there; I speak of the company at the Alhambra, which consists of 360 people; there are never more than 30 or 40 of what we call visitors there at one time; I should think that the greatest number ever known to be there would not exceed 50.

1556. On any night?—On any night.

1557. Are their names placed on a book, or are they admitted nightly?—No, their names are not placed on a book; I have a man stationed at the door, and no fresh visitor can go down unless he passes him, and if that man goes another night the man at the door would let him in, but not with friends.

1558. Unless you recall that pass, the man at the door lets him go in when he likes?—Yes; sometimes I do say, "Do not pass such a man in again."

1559. You say that the number does not ever exceed 50?—Certainly not, for any night.

1560. Have you lately increased the number that you have admitted, or have you in your own mind limited it?—There is no limit; it is just as it happens; some nights there are none at all.

1561. Has your manager the power to admit any visitors?—Yes.

1562. Has he the same powers as you have?—Yes, but not as to leaving their names at the door; he might pass a gentleman down once, and then there is an end of it.

1563. You have stated that there are three ballets performed during the evening?—Yes, there are three ballets during the evening.

1564. What is the hour at which the first ballet takes place?—About half-past eight.

1565. And the second?—About a quarter to ten.

1566. And the last?—About a quarter past eleven.

1567. Do the same ladies dance in all the three ballets?—Yes.

1568. Do they change their costume between the ballets?—Yes.

1569. Do they come to the canteen in costume?—Sometimes they do; I may say always, in fact.

1570. They are not prevented doing so?—They are not always prevented.

1571. You have said that 15 was about the number of ladies who come into the canteen at any one time?—That may be the number on the average; but I have never seen as many as that; in fact, they have no time.

1572. What is the length of "wait" between the ballets?—Three quarters of an hour after the first ballet, and as near as possible the same with the second.

1573. Can you assure the Committee that you are quite certain that not more than 15 ladies is the average number who frequent that room at one time?—Not at one time; I do not say that there are not more than 15 in the course of the evening; perhaps they may all go, but there are not more than 15 at once.

1574. Are they forced to pass through that room to get to the stage?—No.

1575. When did you commence allowing your friends to come into this canteen; did you do it the first night that you opened the room?—No, I think not.

1576. How long after the Alhambra was opened did you begin the plan?—I cannot say; it is a thing that has grown by degrees; that room was never intended for the public at all.

1577. You have stated that this canteen was adopted by you for the comfort of the company at the Alhambra?—Yes.

1578. Do you think that it is an advantage to let as many as 30 or 40 visitors into that room?—It is no advantage to me.

1579. Is it an advantage to your company?—Not the slightest in any way.

1580. Do you not think that it would be a more regular course for the manager to exclude those visitors?—I have never seen anything improper going on, and I do not think there is.

Mr. *F. Strange.*

20 April 1866.

1581. Can they obtain better refreshments there than they can in the audience part of the house, or what is the object with which they go to the canteen; they do not get better drink?—I cannot say what their object is. If they come and ask for a pass, I say, "What do you expect to see?" they say, "I should like to go down;" then I say, "Well, I will pass you down; I have no objection."

1582. Can you give the Committee any opinion of your own with regard to the probable object which those 30 or 40 gentlemen may have in going down into that room of an evening?—No doubt their object is to go down to see the girls.

1583. Do you think that that is an advantageous system to encourage?—I do not think there is any harm in it.

1584. Can they see any of the performance in that room?—No.

1585. Nor hear the singing?—Not a note.

1586. How is the canteen situated with regard to the stage?—It is away from the stage.

1587. Not under it?—No.

1588. There is an entrance into it from the auditorium, I suppose?—Yes.

1589. A pass-door?—Yes, a stage-door.

1590. Has that always been there?—The door was always there.

1591. Is the canteen open during the morning performance?—Yes, I am bound to open it, because it is for the staff of the establishment.

1592. Is the pass-door open during the morning performance?—Yes.

1593. Do you admit gentlemen during the morning performance?—If they asked me, I should admit them.

1594. Have they ever asked you to be admitted during the morning performance?—No, I think not; I do not remember.

1595. How many police have you employed at the hall, as a rule, every night?—I used to employ a great many; I only employ three, or four, or five now.

1596. What do you pay them?—Really, I forget; I have a bill sent in every week from Scotland-yard. I do not pay the police personally; I send the money to the Yard; I think it is about 3*s.* a night for each man.

1597. Do they have any gratuity from you independent of that?—No, I have never given them anything whatever.

1598. Have any of your people done so?—No; I generally give them a glass of beer at night when the hall is closed. The men are so often changed that it would not be worth while giving them anything.

1599. You have given us a return with regard to the number of women of the town who attend your hall, and you say that there are about 100 a night?—Yes, about that.

1600. I asked you at the last sitting of the Committee on Monday last, about the number of artizans and their families who attend; have you considered the question since?—No.

1601. You cannot give me any more information on that point?—No. I only know that, as to the stalls and the enclosure of the hall, none of those women go there; those are all respectable people.

1602. Is there any re-admission to the hall during the course of the evening?—No.

1603. There is no re-admission to anybody?—Not one.

1604. Those are your orders?—Yes. If you wanted to go outside for a moment, and spoke to the man at the door, he would re-admit you.

1605. But you have given orders for no re-admission?—Yes; it is quite an exceptional case.

1606. Do you ever satisfy yourself that those orders are fulfilled?—I think they are. I should hear of it if they were not fulfilled.

1607. Of course you adhere to the answer which you gave on a former occasion, that there are no free admissions whatever to the hall?—None whatever.

1608. Do you think that there could be free admissions without your knowledge?—No. I do not mean to say I never give away admissions.

1609. A statement was made that women of the town were allowed to go into the hall without paying?—That I distinctly deny.

1610. Could it happen that those women could go to any part of the hall free, without your knowledge?—No.

1611. What check have you on your door-keeper?—We see the tickets every morning. If he passed women in without any ticket, I could have no check.

1612. But I suppose that that could not go on to any extent without your knowledge?—It could not be carried on to any extent.

1613. Mr. *Lusk.*] You are the proprietor, or representative of the proprietors, of the Alhambra?—I am managing director of the Alhambra Palace Company at this moment.

1614. How many people do you employ?—About 360 at this time.

1615. How much wages do you pay per week?—The pay sheet was 490 *l.* last Saturday.

1616. Do you call your occupation a profession or a business?—I hardly know.

1617. I mean those whom you employ?—The professionals generally call themselves "artists."

1618. Have you and your professionals any grievances with regard to the present law?—Only the thing that we have been fighting for the last year or two.

1619. What is the real grievance of which you complain?—I have been summoned three times; and I have gained my cause each time; but I have had to pay my expenses, which have been about 1,000 *l.* or 2,000 *l.*; and I stand to be shot at even now.

1620. But what, in two or three words, is your real grievance?—It is said that we can only do singing at the music halls; but I am doing ballets and dancing; the music halls are supposed not to be allowed to do such things on the stage.

1621. If that restriction were removed, would it be better for your professionals?—It would be better for everybody; very much better for the public.

1622. But I speak to you now as the representative of a class; would it be better for your profession if that grievance was removed?—I do not know that it would be any better for the people employed on the establishment, but it would open up a kind of new entertainment; it would do away with the niggers and tumblers, and all that sort of performance a great deal.

1623. But with regard to those 300 people whom you employ, the grievance, whatever it is, must fall upon them in the last instance?—Yes.

1624. Would it be better for those people who live

live by that occupation if that grievance was removed?—It would be better for all the music people and the ladies of the ballet, but some other members of the establishment might suffer.

1625. In what respects would it be better if that grievance was removed?—Simply that all the music halls would open up a new entertainment. Since the ballet has been out at the Alhambra, I think I may say that 20 per cent. has been added to the girls' wages.

1626. It would improve their wages?—Yes.

1627. It is generally supposed that if people improve their wages they improve their circumstances in other respects, is it not?—When a commodity is scarce, it always fetches a high price.

1628. Do you think it would improve the article you dispose of, if you had more liberty?—Certainly.

1629. You could put on a better article at as cheap a price?—Yes, and at a cheaper price perhaps.

1630. You could give the public a better entertainment at a cheaper price, if you had full liberty?—Certainly.

1631. What is your reason for thinking so?—I am quite sure it could be done; I am speaking more particularly of little comic operettas and things of that kind that could be done.

1632. You have spoken of the taste of the public being changed, what was it you referred to; how is their taste changing?—I think that their taste is changing in this way; we have now 35 music halls in London, and they are always crowded.

1633. You think that people prefer to go to music halls?—They like to do that, and have a lounge and smoke a cigar.

1634. In preference to going to a theatre?—Yes, I think so.

1635. The theatres have been all here for the last 20 years, and there has been no change in them, while the population has been increasing?—We want a new Act of Parliament. The present Act of Parliament is the most absurd Act which was ever made in the world; everybody at the Alhambra at this moment is liable to be locked up for being there for some unlawful purpose.

1636. Can you account to me how it is that for the last 25 years there have been 25 theatres in London with no change, while the population has almost doubled, and yet you have this large number of music saloons?—I cannot account for that; I cannot understand it. I suppose they were all satisfied with what they got, so long as the houses were filled.

1637. But how is it that there was no increased demand for theatres corresponding with the increase of population?—We have one new theatre building in Holborn.

1638. One in 25 years is nothing, I suppose?—It is not much.

1639. If you had more liberty, you say you could produce a better article?—Yes, a far better article.

1640. Do you mean better literature?—I do not wish to produce a much better article than I am now producing, but I do not know at any moment that I am not to be summoned.

1641. Do you think that you could improve the taste of the people, if you had more liberty?—I have done that already.

1642. But take it generally?—Judging from my own establishment, you can see what I have brought that to by making an alteration.

1643. Would it, in your opinion, develope the talent of literary men who produce pieces for the public entertainment?—There is no doubt about it.

1644. You think that would be most desirable?—I think so.

1645. You think that the restriction lies heavy on literature and the profession altogether?—Yes.

1646. It is something like a stone in a flower bed?—Quite so.

1647. Sir *Arthur Buller*]. You are afraid of this phrase, "stage plays," hanging over your head?—I am.

1648. I understand you to say if you had the fullest liberty you would never dream of interfering with Shakesperian performances, for instance?—Certainly not.

1649. It would be impossible, in fact, in that large room, with all the noise and the clink of glasses going on, to hear a long dialogue?—Impossible; the proper things at the Alhambra would be things to be seen and not heard.

1650. Even burlesques full of punning could hardly be done at the Alhambra to much purpose?—They must be very short.

1651. You would clearly not interfere with the theatres with regard to the great plays?—Certainly not.

1652. And in all probability not in regard to those burlesques which are full of punning?—Very short things perhaps, but not long things certainly, not more than 20 minutes.

1653. Could you say, of your own knowledge, whether the attendance at the theatres in pit and gallery has fallen off lately?—I cannot answer that question; I have heard so.

1654. About that canteen which you have at the Alhambra, I understand that you made that expressly for the use of the persons employed in your theatre?—Yes.

1655. For the use of the women as well as the men?—Yes.

1656. That is the only place they can go to?—That is the only place they can go to, except their dressing rooms.

1657. It is laborious work which they have to do, dancing three times a night?—Yes, but they like it.

1658. It is a natural thing for them to have refreshments, and, in plain language, they must have it?—Yes.

1659. They formerly had it brought in from outside?—Yes, or they went out for it.

1660. It was to avoid those inconvenient absences, and those inconvenient presences on the other hand, that you invented this canteen?—Yes.

1661. You were asked whether any payment was ever made at the door by strangers going into that canteen?—No, never.

1662. Could a stranger by offering any sum of money get in there?—I do not think that if a person offered a 10*l.* note he would get in there.

1663. You were asked if any free passes were given to women; of course it is very possible that people might come in without your knowing it; they might evade your orders?—There may be such a thing, but there is not much of it.

1664. But it would be rather a dangerous thing for the man who is stationed to collect the

Mr. *F. Strange.*

20 April 1866.

tickets if you were to find it out?—He would be dismissed immediately.

1665. I observe that in this printed statement concerning the Alhambra you say that the Alhambra has 14 constables of its own, is that a mistake of a figure?—At one time I had more than 14, but I have reduced them very much.

1666. You now employ no more than you want?—Just so; I had 12 constables for a long time, but it is not requisite to have so many.

1667. Do you find that you have a sufficient number to keep order?—Quite so.

1668. With regard to the gentlemen whom you allow to pass through to the canteen, I suppose you do it in the same way that people used to go behind the scenes at the opera?—Precisely; the only difference is that they go to this canteen instead of going behind the stage.

1669. Those ballet girls do not stop long in the canteen, I suppose?—They have not time, and they cannot stop.

1670. Mr. *Selwin.*] You say that this is in the same way as people used to go behind the scenes at the opera houses and theatres?—Yes.

1671. Are you aware whether they do so or not at this moment?—Yes; there is not a theatre or opera in London where gentlemen are not allowed on the stage.

1672. You think that it is a common practice?—I am sure it is; it is well understood; Mr. Gye would pass his friends in.

1673. But would the public generally, on application, be passed in?—No, perhaps Mr. Gye would not make it as public as I do; I admit that.

1674. It is generally supposed that that license of passing behind the scenes which did exist, was to some extent given up in consequence of public opinion?—I have not heard lately about that.

1675. You say that the only object that you can imagine which makes those gentlemen come there, is the society of those young ladies?—I cannot see what else they come for; they stand there sometimes when it is so hot that I would not stand there for 10 *l.*; it is fit to bake them.

1676. That view is confirmed by their not coming in the morning?—Yes; there are very few in the morning.

1677. You are responsible for the good conduct of the establishment, and for keeping it, as nearly as possible, what it should be?—Yes, I am quite sure that their conduct is proper while they are there; but you may make appointments at Church, any Sunday morning, or anywhere else.

1678. Are you frequently present in the evening?—Perhaps twice in the evening; I have always one of my officers there.

1679. As you cannot be cognisant of everything, would your officers report if anything wrong took place?—Yes; I had a man taken out of the canteen and put into the street once.

1680. Your officer is sufficiently independent of the people there, to be certain to report to you any irregularities that took place?—Yes.

1681. Mr. *Powell.*] How many girls dress in the same dressing-room?—It all depends on the number employed; I should think, perhaps, 20 at the present moment.

1682. Have they fires in their dressing-rooms to dress by?—No, there are no fires.

1683. Have the girls plenty of chairs to sit upon, and other arrangements necessary for their comfort?—They have everything they require.

1684. Supposing a girl going through the fatigues of the evening was anxious to have tea or coffee, would she have it in the dressing room?—She could send one of the dressers to the canteen to get it.

1685. Is the practice adopted?—Yes, it is adopted.

1686. But not to any extent, I suppose?—No, the girls have not much money to spend.

1687. Perhaps the girls get the refreshments cheaper in the canteen by going themselves than they would if those refreshments were brought to the dressing-rooms?—Yes, I think that is very likely.

1688. I suppose that the gentlemen who visit the canteen treat those girls?—Very likely.

1689. Can you give the Committee any idea how long it takes a girl to become a fair average stage dancer?—I cannot.

1690. Have you no idea?—Not the slightest.

1691. How many hours a day are they occupied by rehearsals?—Perhaps two hours when we are getting up a new ballet; but once got up, there is an end of it; we have had no rehearsals since Christmas.

1692. When once it is fairly put on the stage, the moment the ballet is well known to the ladies, the performers have the entire day at their own command?—Yes.

1693. Do you think that they earn money by tailoring and some other occupations during the day?—Some of them do.

1694. Should you consider that an exceptional mode of spending the day, or the custom?—I see so little of them, except when they are about their business, that I could not answer that question.

1695. You do inquire with regard to the manner in which they spend their leisure hours?—No.

1696. If it came to your knowledge that a girl was a loose character, would you conceive that any reason for dismissing her, if she did her duty on the stage?—If I heard that a girl was a common prostitute, or anything of that kind, I should dismiss her.

1697. In fact, if you thought that being a dancer on your stage was not done so much for the sake of dancing as for the sake of following another calling, you would dismiss such a girl?—If it was so represented to me, I should.

1698. Should you exercise any vigilance in these matters?—I have done so; some of the girls have been discharged on that account, but not many, perhaps five or six in a year.

1699. Would the circumstance of some being discharged act as a check on the others?—I think so.

1700. You carry your vigilance to such a length as that?—Yes; if the ballet mistress told me that a girl was not a proper girl to be on the stage, she is discharged immediately, and I have no doubt that has some effect on the others.

1701. Do you exercise any vigilance over the character of the females who attend the stalls?—None of the ladies attend the stalls.

1702. But there are female attendants at the bars?—Yes.

1703. Do you exercise any vigilance over the character of the females who keep the bars?—No, we cannot do that; I have never found any lady at the bars misbehave herself.

1704. You have no reason to suppose from their dress or demeanour, that they are ill-conducted girls?—Not the slightest.

1705. You have never seen anything in their conduct,

conduct, while at the bars, to lead any person with common sense and knowledge of the world, to suspect that they have another object beyond being your servants?—No.

1706. Would the same observation apply to the ladies of the ballet?—They are not allowed to come in front of the house at all.

1707. Having heard the questions I have put to you, and having answered them, have you any further remarks to make with regard to the character and conduct of the ballet girls?—I think that the ballet girls are thought to be very much worse than they are; if you were to put 100 ballet girls on one side of the room, and 100 of any other kind of women on the other side, I think that the 100 ballet girls will come out as well as the other 100; I believe they are put down very much worse than they are; I have found they are, many of them, highly educated and respectable, good girls; there are of course a few bad ones, but in my ballet there are some very highly educated women.

1708. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] To use a phrase which is incidentally significant just now, they are "the same flesh and blood as all other women?"—Yes.

1709. Mr. *Powell.*] Were you in a Committee room, on Monday, when we had evidence with regard to the girls employed on pit banks and collieries?—No, I was not.

1710. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] There are special temptations which every class is liable to?—True.

1711. I observe that in one answer that you gave, you said that nobody would be admitted behind the scenes, not even for a 10 *l.* note?—No.

1712. Is the price of admission behind the scenes over 10 *l.*?—No, there is no price whatever.

1713. We know that gentlemen who have a great deal of money, if they have a fancy, will pay any sum to indulge it?—I only remember one case of payment being made, and that was when one of the check-takers, who, I thought, was the best man I had, received 5 *l.* from a man to take him downstairs.

1714. Mr. *Locke.*] You mean that a man would not for 10 *l.* run the risk of being discharged?—That is it; I only know of that one case.

1715. Mr. *Powell.*] Have you any turntable, so that you can know by the mechanical action of the table how many persons come into your place of entertainment?—There is no turntable; I know by the checks.

1716. But you have no checks, such as they have at the South Kensington Museum?—No.

1717. Do you see any reason why there should not be such a check?—No; but the public generally do not like them.

1718. But if you had a check of that kind you would be able to ascertain whether any admissions took place contrary to your wishes?—Yes; but it would be very awkward; I am in and out 20 times in a night, and a lot of officials go in and out.

1719. Should you consider that closing the canteen to the public would be an injury to the speculation of the Alhambra?—Not the slightest.

1720. Are you aware that during last year, or the year before, when it was said that gentlemen were admitted behind the scenes at the theatres, the managers of the theatres entirely denied that that was the custom?—It always has been the case.

1721. Have you had a conference with the managers of other music halls?—Never.

1722. There is no association of managers of music halls, is there?—There is an association of managers of music halls, but I have never attended their meetings, although I am a member.

1723. Do you think it would be possible for the gentlemen who conduct the music halls to put before the Committee any result of their deliberations which might be useful?—I am not aware; I never had any meetings with the managers in any way; I know nothing of their movements.

1724. You have stated the grievance under which you labour; can you, assuming the affirmative rather than the negative side, suggest an amendment of the law?—I can suggest an amendment of the law; we think that the whole thing thrown open would suit better than anything else.

1725. Subject to police or magisterial supervision?—Certainly you must have some officer.

1726. Should you object to a superintendence over the performances on the stage by the Lord Chamberlain?—I think that all performances ought to be licensed, to see that they are properly conducted.

1727. Considering the great variety of performances which take place at the music halls, and the great number of songs sung, and the light character of many of the pieces, and the nature of those pieces, do you think it would be possible for one authority to exercise supervision over them all?—Certainly; with sufficient officers.

1728. That would not obstruct your speculation?—Not the slightest.

1729. Should you object to this being an authority, arbitrary in theory, but practically subject, as all other authorities in England are, to public opinion controlling every ballet you put on the stage?—I should not object to that in the slightest degree whatever. I think that the Alhambra ballets are very modest indeed.

1730. Mr. *Locke.*] Their petticoats are rather longer than they are at any of the other theatres, are they not?—Yes, they are.

1731. What you contended for last year was the freedom of putting performances on the stage which, by the 6th & 7th Victoria, "The Dramatic Licensing Act," you were doubtful whether you were permitted to do or not legally?—Yes.

1732. To what extent would you wish us to go in putting performances on the stage?—I should like to be able to do ballet, duologue, pantomimes, and operas. Shakespeare's plays we should not care about; as a matter of course it would be no use.

1733. But you would like to be able to play anything that would be profitable?—Everything that would be profitable.

1734. Do you see any reason why, simply because you have refreshments in music halls, you should not be able to put on the stage those performances which would be agreeable to the audience?—No, I see no objection; we ought to be able to suit all classes of the public.

1735. You think that the taste of the audience should regulate the performance on the stage, provided there is nothing indecorous?—I do.

1736. Mr. *Du Cane.*] You say that the pieces which you would wish to give must be very short?—Yes.

1737. Is that because your audience is constantly changing?—A moving audience will not stand to listen to anything that lasts a long time.

Mr. *F. Strange.*

20 April 1866.

If my selections last more than 20 minutes they get a little tired.

1738. You have no idea of the average time that any one person would remain in the course of the evening?—In the centre of the house, the stalls, where the families go, they come in early and stop till it is over; the enclosure is generally filled the whole of the time.

1739. I understand your wish to be that it should be lawful for you to give operatic performances, ballet, and pantomime? — Yes; and duologue.

1740. But you have no wish, at this present time, to interfere with the drama?—Not the slightest.

1741. Is that because you find the public taste is at the present time more in favour of operatic music and ballet performances, than Shakespeare and the drama?—You could not get the people to be quiet enough, because they walk about and talk.

1742. If it was lawful to do so, and you found that the public taste changed, and that there was a great wish for Shakespearian representations, if it paid you, you would put it on the stage, I suppose?—Yes, I should do it immediately.

1743. You would not, then, have any hesitation in competing with the theatres?—No; I should attempt it directly, if I thought it would pay.

1744. Mr. *Lusk.*] You have mentioned that you would have no objection to competing with the theatres in acting plays?—Yes.

1745. And that you would like to see it thrown open altogether?—Yes.

1746. Do you mean without any license?—No; what I mean is, that I should like to see the thing thrown open, so that the music halls could do the same as the theatres.

1747. But you would not like to see it thrown open without a license?—No, I should like it to be under the same license.

1748. Would it inconvenience you in your profession if there was anybody to look over your pieces to see how you put them on the stage?—Not the slightest.

1749. You would not be afraid of that at all?—Not at all.

1750. That surveillance would not injure you if the thing was morally and properly put on the stage?—Not at all.

1751. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You close every night at 12 o'clock, at the Alhambra, do you not?—We close at a quarter before 12 o'clock.

1752. But you have no positive order to close at that hour?—No.

1753. That is because you think it right to close at that time?—Yes, my license allows me to keep open till 1 o'clock.

1754. But you close as near 12 o'clock as you can, and, I suppose, you close earlier on Saturday nights?—Yes, the house is always cleared before 12 o'clock of Saturday nights.

1755. Do you find that on any particular night in the week you have more crowded audiences?—We get more of the lower class of people on Saturday than on any other night; the 6*d.* place is fuller on those nights, but there is not much difference elsewhere.

1756. And on Monday, I suppose?—Yes, to that particular part of the house.

1757. Because theatrical people tell me that Monday night is the great night?—Saturday night is the greatest night with me.

1758. *Chairman.*] Have you any further observations to address to the Committee?—No, I think not.

William Henry Bodkin, Esq., Examined.

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.

1759. Mr. *Locke.*] You are Assistant Judge for Middlesex?—Yes.

1760. How long have you filled that position?—About seven years.

1761. I suppose that very few persons have had more experience than you have had with regard to questions of licensing?—I have had very considerable experience for the last 30 or 40 years.

1762. I believe there are more cases of licensing before the Middlesex bench than any other?—Certainly.

1763. You have had great experience on the licensing day for public houses, which, I believe, is in March?—Yes.

1764. And the licensing for music and dancing is in October?—Yes. With regard to licensing public houses, I have never interfered with that except when the parties have appealed, and then they come to my court.

1765. You have never been on the licensing session?—No, never.

1766. But you sit as judge when appeals come from the session?—Yes.

1767. On appeals in Middlesex, do all the magistrates decide the question, or do you sit alone?—All who are not respondent justices have a voice; I speak now of public house licenses only.

1768. That is different from your jurisdiction at Dover, I suppose, where you are Recorder?—I have nothing to do with the licensing there, except there is an appeal.

1769. Which there never is, I suppose?—Never.

1770. In all appeals, as Recorder, you are the only judge to decide, are you not?—Yes, but there is a decision that the Recorder is not to hear appeals against the refusal of licenses for public houses; it goes to the county sessions.

1771. But in other appeals the Recorder is the sole judge, I suppose?—Yes.

1772. Is that so with regard to other appeals in Middlesex?—I am not the sole judge in Middlesex; any magistrate attending has a concurrent jurisdiction.

1773. With regard to those appeals in public house licenses, and music and dancing licenses, the whole bench of magistrates in Middlesex are judges to decide on appeals with the exception of those appealed against?—With regard to the music licenses granted in October; I very seldom attend on those occasions, and there is no appeal against the refusal of a music license.

1774. And in quarter session, you decide on that?—Yes.

1775. Consequently there would be no appeal from the quarter sessions to the quarter sessions?—Just so.

1776. But with regard to the public houses, it is an appeal from a smaller body to a fuller body of licensing magistrates?—Yes.

1777. Have music and dancing licenses for some years been easily obtained in the metropolis at the Middlesex Sessions?—I have never seen any objection which did not appear to me to be

well

well founded; a good many applications for dancing are refused. The magistrates were not aware until the last eight or nine years that they could grant a license for music only, but they took an opinion on the subject, and they now do it.

1778. Whether that opinion which they took is right or not has never been decided in a superior court?—Never.

1779. At all events, in consequence of that opinion the magistrates have acted, and they have no difficulty in doing so, because they can always refuse the license?—Yes.

1780. Therefore, if the applicant does not please to be contented with music only, they will not give him a license at all?—I have never heard the doctrine questioned.

1781. But, however, the magistrates do exercise their discretion in that matter?—Yes.

1782. Have you any experience with regard to the manner in which the music halls are conducted?—Not from personal observation.

1783. But you would know that from questions arising before the magistrates from any petition from the inhabitants, and so on against the renewal of their license next year?—Yes.

1784. Judging from those petitions, what is your opinion with regard to the mode in which the music halls are conducted?—It is a still higher question whether they ought to be licensed at all, according to the present interpretation put on the license. This Committee would I think have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the present state of the law should be changed.

1785. But I am now speaking merely of the mode in which they have been conducted?—We have assertions and counter assertions before us, but there is very seldom any serious contest raised. The magistrates are in the habit of going and seeing those places, and exercising their own discretion with regard to the license.

1786. What is your opinion with regard to the present state of the law?—I have watched the progress of these things for many years: it is curious to observe the manner in which the present state of things has arisen. If you start with the 25th George the 2nd, which is the foundation of this matter, you see that it is a statute totally inapplicable to the present day, but it permitted the magistrates to grant licenses for music and dancing conjointly, which they now separate. Under that statute for a long time such was the anomalous condition of those things that all the minor theatres had only those music licenses to sanction their performances. I remember very well when I was a young man seeing a man at the pianoforte just running his hand over the keys for the purpose of turning that which was in truth a dramatic performance into a musical performance, and so the law was evaded. Then on the motion of Mr. Duncombe, an inquiry took place which led to the passing of the late Act, and the placing of those theatres all under the control of the Lord Chamberlain.

1787. The case then was, that the only places that had the privilege of acting plays were Covent-garden, Drury-lane, and the Haymarket?—Yes.

1788. Did the other places perform under a music and dancing license only?—Yes.

1789. Those theatres were very much discontented?—Yes, of course; they were liable to penalties, and there were constant endeavours made to enforce the penalties against them.

1790. There was the case of the Victoria Theatre?—Yes.

1791. That was a very important case, was it not?—Yes. The statute to which I allude is the 6th and 7th of Victoria, which I have no doubt has been before the Committee.

1792. Then, since that time, as you say, the music halls have sprung up?—Yes, in a strange way. Under that power to grant music licenses, constant appeals were made to the Bench for music and dancing licenses. They were put on the growing taste for music, and that persons, particularly in the eastern part of the town, were addicted to dancing, and, on the other hand, it was said that a man could not have music or singers at a public dinner. And then it was said too, that in some religious ceremonies, Jews' marriages, and so on, music was needed, and on those pretences, from time to time, licenses were extended to public-houses, and I think unfortunately; but that was so. Then, whether from change of taste or not, the springing up of those music halls began by granting a license to public-houses by the men finding that music attracted a good many customers. A man built a large room behind his house, and others, seeing that room was so very well attended, followed, and then we had those magnificent places built.

1793. You recollect the "Eagle Tavern," I presume?—Yes.

1794. What license had they in the first place? Only the music license.

1795. Now they have the Lord Chamberlain's license?—Yes.

1796. What difference does it make with regard to that place now?—They perform dramatic pieces.

1797. Did they do that before under the music and dancing license?—It was by stealth, if they did so, by evading the law.

1798. They called those places saloons, did they not?—Yes, they called them saloons.

1799. But under the music and dancing license they did perform dramatic pieces?—Yes.

1800. The late Mr. Robson originally came out there, did he not?—I do not know.

1801. And some of the very first actors. That was under a music and dancing license, in a place where they had refreshments in front of the stage?—Yes; but a few years back the theatre was separated.

1802. You have had one case before you recently, against Mr. Strange of the Alhambra; have you not?—Yes.

1803. That case was brought before your bench of magistrates?—Yes.

1804. In what form was that?—He was brought before one of the police magistrates, and he was convicted, and he appealed against the conviction; that was tried in my court.

1805. What was that conviction?—It was a penalty for performing stage plays without a license.

1806. Was that under the 6th and 7th of Victoria?—Yes, under the 6th and 7th of Victoria.

1807. What did you do with that conviction?—We quashed the conviction. It is right to say that since that time the same police magistrate has had another complaint made against Mr. Strange by the same parties, who are understood to represent the patent theatres, and the magistrate said, "Whatever my opinion may be, as the quarter sessions has decided that I am wrong, I will not

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.

20 April 1866.

not convict;" but he gave a case for the opinion of the Court of Common Pleas, with regard to his refusing to convict, and the Court of Common Pleas refused to interfere with his decision; that is the state of the law now.

1808. That is very unsatisfactory, is it not?—It is very unsatisfactory.

1809. It is a matter of opinion, you would say, to what extent restrictions should be taken off the music halls with regard to their performances?—I should say that I should like the state of things for which they were originally built restored; music halls to be music halls, and theatres to be theatres.

1810. But when they were in the old state they acted plays?—Yes, in evasion of the law.

1811. You would have them acting plays again, would you?—No, I would not; I anticipate that the legislature means to interfere, and to put them on a proper footing.

1812. What should that footing be in your opinion?—You have not found any witness, nor will you find one, who can define a "stage play." In the Court of Common Pleas, it was stated by the judges that the line where music ended and dramatic performance began, was extremely difficult to discover, therefore I should shut it out entirely.

1813. But it was "a performance of the stage;" those were the words you decided on?—Yes; there is an interpretation clause, which is to tell you what stage plays mean.

1814. Tragedy, comedy, farce, and so on?—Everything.

1815. Will you mention what those words are?—It is the 23d section of the 6th & 7th Victoria, chapter 68: "And be it enacted, that, in this Act, the word stage play shall be taken to include every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or other entertainment of the stage, or any part thereof."

1816. Are you aware that burletta was introduced into that Act of Parliament for the first time?—It is very probable.

1817. That section, you see, embraces everything?—Yes.

1818. Previously to the passing of this Act, I believe, those minor theatres, as they were called, had played burlettas, and a question arose whether they had the right to do so or not?—Yes; it was contended before us that what they did at Mr. Strange's place was a burletta, and we thought it was not; but in giving that judgment, we said that we thought that if our judgment would cause any public inconvenience it was a matter for the legislature to interfere with.

1819. In a Bill which was brought in by me last session, entitled, "A Bill to amend the Law relating to Theatres and other Places of Public Amusement," by the 9th clause it is proposed to declare that, "The term stage play for purposes of this Act includes every tragedy, comedy, farce, burlesque, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, ballet, and other entertainment of the stage, and every oratorio, and every other piece, composition, or entertainment, dramatic, scenic, lyrical, or musical (not being merely instrumental), acted, sung, or presented, and whether by way of dialogue, monologue, or otherwise, and whether accompanied or not with any special dresses, scenery, or other accessories." Now, I suppose you would allow the music halls to play something?—I would allow the music halls to play music; what they have now as a stage, I should have as an orchestra.

1820. You would not allow anybody to sing? Singing is music; vocal and instrumental.

1821. Would you allow them to have dresses?—No, I should consider it a mere concert; that was the original intention.

1822. Do you not think that things have very much changed since then?—Things have very much changed, whether rightly or wrongly.

1823. Are you aware how many music halls there are?—There are a great number, no doubt; but I am aware they obtained their licenses under the representation that it was to encourage the science of music; it was never said that they were to perform theatrical entertainments, or anything approaching it.

1824. But the music halls having done it, and the people liking to go and see it, do you see any reason why those people should not be permitted to enjoy themselves?—That is a question for the Legislature.

1825. But, in your opinion, provided they conduct themselves with propriety, is there any reason why they should not be permitted to enjoy themselves in that way?—I think that the public demand for entertainments of this kind has increased considerably; I know that there are refreshments and smoking while the entertainment is proceeding; that is so; but really I do not see that morality is advanced by a man's seeing women dance half naked on the stage, and then go downstairs to join the audience.

1826. But do you consider that a woman in flesh-coloured tights is naked?—I said half naked.

1827. What part of the figure then should you say was half naked?—I do not want to go into particulars; we all know what is meant.

1828. You have been to the Alhambra, I suppose?—No.

1829. You are not aware whether the ballet dancers at the Alhambra are more or less "naked," to use your own expression, than the dancers at the opera?—They are much about the same I suppose, but then the opera is to amuse quite a different class of people.

1830. Do you think that the ballet at the opera tends to foster immorality?—I have no opinion to offer, but it is a very different section of the public which attends the opera.

1831. You think that the higher classes can take care of their own morals?—Yes.

1832. And that there should be legislation to guard the morals of poor people?—I think so.

1833. Do you think that poor people do not know what they are about as well as rich people do?—I do not lay down any general rule on the subject.

1834. Why should not one man who has not so much money as another man have an opportunity of seeing a ballet if he likes?—I do not know; I give no opinion about that; I only know that cases frequently come before me of a crime that is now very much on the increase, I mean the crime of embezzlement, robbing employers; and I find that the young men are very much induced to get into these difficulties through attending cheap places of amusements of this kind.

1835. Would you say, then that because some young men committed crime for that purpose there should be no such places?—No, I do not say

say that; but the nature of such unhappy cases cannot be overlooked.

1836. But you would not deny, what is always understood, that there is no virtue except in rising superior to temptation?—I would put as little temptation as possible in the way of everybody.

1837. What would you reduce the "temptation" to in this case?—To mere music.

1838. Would you allow music halls to have a small opera?—No, certainly not.

1839. Would you allow them to dress the singers?—No; that would be turning it into a dramatic performance.

1840. You would reduce it to a concert?—Yes; and grant any number of licenses you please.

1841. You think, perhaps, that people would not stop at such places very long, if that was the only performance?—That is a matter of taste; I do not know.

1842. A great many people entertain the notion that a regular old English concert is about the dullest performance that can possibly be produced, do they not?—Some people may think so; but I believe the concerts given in the metropolis are very well attended.

1843. But are they not attended by a very high and dry sedate kind of people?—They are attended by others of a lower degree also.

1844. But if some persons do not like that form of pleasure, and if they do not interfere with other people, why should they not enjoy themselves in their own way?—That is a matter of opinion.

1845. It is my duty to ask you what suggestion you would propose to make towards any alteration of the law that may be decided on?—The alteration that I would suggest is, that all theatrical performances should be under the control of the Lord Chamberlain, as they have hitherto been.

1846. Do you mean that that should apply to the whole country, or merely to the metropolis?—I speak of the metropolis; and I think that the music halls should be licensed by the magistrates; that the license should, in the first instance, be given by the magistrates in petty sessions, who are likely to know the districts, with a power of appeal to the quarter sessions against either the grant or the refusal to grant the license.

1847. Are the Committee to understand that you uphold that curious principle, "the wants of the neighbourhood?"—The magistrates residing in the district would know better the nature of the building for which the license is sought.

1848. And "the wants of the neighbourhood?"—I do not know about the wants of the neighbourhood particularly.

1849. But that is the great bone of contention, is it not?—It is with regard to public-house licenses; but not as to the music licenses, I think.

1850. It would be absurd to have that restriction with regard to a music license, inasmuch as people come from distant places to the "neighbourhood?"—Yes, no doubt. Highbury Barn is out of town, almost, and "the wants of the neighbourhood" would be that it should be swept away.

1851. Mr. Pownall, the chairman of the Middlesex magistrates, was wrong, then, if he said that you ever acted on the principle of "the wants of the neighbourhood," with regard to music halls?—My own experience does not satisfy me that that should be an element in the question, except the place was likely to be a nuisance.

1852. That would apply to the theatres in the same way, most of them being in the same localities as the music halls?—Yes.

1853. Covent-garden, Drury-lane, and so on, are all in the same neighbourhoods?—They are not to supply the wants of the neighbourhood.

1854. They are to supply the wants of the inhabitants of the metropolis?—Yes.

1855. Probably it is more convenient to have most of them round about the same spot?—Yes, no doubt.

1856. Is there anything which you would wish to add to your evidence?—I think that, in consequence of what I have heard since I have been sitting in this room, with regard to the canteen, and the visits paid by men, and the introduction of some of the ballet dancers into that room, I ought to add, that it recalls to my recollection a case which came before me once from the neighbourhood of Covent-garden; it was a place which had a music and dancing license; and they had *poses plastiques*, and had ballets of women there in a demi-nude state; they drank with the men who went there, and at last it became so horribly disgusting that the police interfered, and it was put down.

1857. Was that in Leicester-square?—No; it was at a place called the "Cider Cellars," in Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.

1858. That was where Porson first took the chair, was it not?—I do not know; very celebrated persons have been there, no doubt.

1859. Very celebrated persons used to take the chair there in former days; a gentleman in our profession, who was attorney-general once, took the chair, did he not?—I do not know.

1860. But they had no *poses plastiques* then?—No.

1861. But you do not compare the ballet to *poses plastiques*, do you?—It is very much the same kind of thing.

1862. Have you seen Menken?—No.

1863. You have not been to Astley's theatre?—No.

1864. Are you aware that the performance there takes place with the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain?—I daresay it does, because he licenses all those places.

1865. I believe she is not what you would call "half naked" (I have never seen her), but what you would call "quite naked," or nearly so?—I cannot say.

1866. But if so, and if it be "immoral" that the female figure should be seen in ballet costume, or in a costume which exhibits even more of the outlines of the body, then it appears that there may be "immoralities" in theatres as well as in other places of entertainment?—No doubt.

1867. But do you not think that, with proper supervision and distinct rules laid down, it would be an advantage to give as much liberty as possible for the performance of play or opera in music halls?—I think you have then no alternative but to license those houses as theatres; they must be either concert rooms or theatres.

1868. If you license them as theatres you would put them under the Lord Chamberlain, or somebody?—Yes; under any proper authority.

1869. Then would there be any objection to people taking refreshments in the middle of the

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.
20 April 1866.

room, or anywhere else, under those circumstances?—If Parliament thought fit to authorise an extension of the number of theatres, so as to include all the music halls, it would be very difficult to withdraw that element.

1870. You know, I presume, that the Lord Chamberlain's license to a theatre carries a spirit license with it?—It authorises the officers of Excise to give it.

1871. And the Excise Office give it as a matter of course?—They have no discretion.

1872. There is the opinion of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, that they are bound to do it?—Yes.

1873. Have you observed that any of those licensed theatres have refreshments at the back of the pit and in the pit?—I do not know; I believe it is the case that there is a counter or bar.

1874. For the sale of spirits and beer, and everything that persons who go there can desire?—Yes; but that is not like sitting down to a table.

1875. It is not so comfortable, but there is only the difference between sitting down and standing up?—No; but I should suppose that those who sit down at those tables are expected to call for something to drink, whereas in the other case it is optional.

1876. Have you been to those places in Paris?—Yes, to one or two of them.

1877. Have you been to the Café Chantant, where Theresa sings; everybody sits down at tables?—Yes.

1878. And in Germany it is the same thing, is it not?—No doubt.

1879. Of course it is necessary that the police should keep order; but if that is done is there any objection to those things, in your opinion, if people like it?—If you were to sanction everything that people like, you would have to sanction very widely.

1880. You must not license what would be inconvenient to other people; but what is the objection if that point be conceded?—I think I have already stated my objection.

1881. You would like to stick to the old system of licensing?—No; the magistrates might very properly be authorised to grant music licenses to the music halls, and that performance should be confined to music, and all theatrical entertainments should be under the Lord Chamberlain or some other authority.

1882. You have no objection to the Lord Chamberlain doing anything he pleases; he may license any place he likes for theatrical entertainments; it is the person who does it that makes the difference. You do not like the magistrates to act differently from what they have hitherto done?—That may appear to you inconsistent, but I do not see it. The Lord Chamberlain may license any house that Parliament may authorise him to license, and so may the magistrates.

1883. Are you aware that complaints have been made with regard to such places as the Beaumont Institution; you know that, I suppose, in the Mile End-road?—Yes.

1884. Are you aware that there are no refreshments there of any kind?—Yes.

1885. And that the Beaumont Institution would be liable to a penalty if they enacted one scene out of Shakspeare?—I daresay if they acted any theatrical or dramatic performance they would be liable to a penalty, if they had only a music license.

1886. But they have not what is called a publican's license?—No; Mr. Beaumont, who founded that institution, was a strong opponent of the junction of the two things, drinking and music.

1887. Has the manager of the Beaumont Institution ever, to your knowledge, made any complaints that they cannot have a dramatic performance on their stage?—I am not aware of any such complaints.

1888. However, if they were to put on the stage the dialogue between Brutus and Cassius, they would be liable to a penalty, in fact, that would come within that section of the 6th and 7th Victoria?—Yes; and so it would with regard to any other hall.

1889. Do you not think that some relaxation should be made in that respect?—If you want to hear Brutus and Cassius to advantage you can go to any of the theatres.

1890. Do you think that the theatre is the place where you could hear that to advantage?—Yes.

1891. Then you would say that persons who prefer to go and hear Mrs. Kemble read are demented?—No; that is quite a different matter.

1892. But they might have persons of that kind at the Beaumont Institution, or they might have two persons who could read very well a scene out of Shakspeare; and while they could not afford to have a full company to act a play, the performance might be a great deal better than any performance in a theatre?—All this merely shows again how difficult it is to draw the line.

1893. It being so difficult to draw the line, do you not think it would be a very good thing to rub out the line and leave the people to act what they please?—Speaking as an individual, I do not think so.

1894. You think that there is something objectionable, *per se*, in people acting plays?—No; I do not say that.

1895. Then what is your objection to rubbing out the line. I put to you the case of the Beaumont Institution; what objection is there that the Beaumont Institution should not, if they pleased, act a play?—I say that no music hall ought to be allowed to perform any dramatic entertainment whatever.

1896. Why not?—Because it is a departure from the object for which they were originally built, and it leads to that which, I think, is objectionable in the Alhambra, and places of that sort.

1897. You think whatever change may take place in society and the wants of the public, that nothing shall be in this year, 1866, applied to any other purpose than the object for which it was originally licensed?—I do not lay down any such absurd proposition.

1898. Then what is the proposition that you do lay down?—My opinion is, that the innovation on the part of the proprietors of music halls ought to be stayed; that they should be restricted to their original object, and that theatres should take charge of all dramatic performances; but if the wisdom of Parliament should think fit to say that all those places should become theatres, be it so.

1899. You think that Parliament having sanctioned that, it would be right?—No; Parliament does not always sanction what is right.

1900. But you mean to say that you think the law is so and so, and until the law is altered the music halls should not act plays?—Yes.

1901. But

1901. But that if we choose to alter the law, they may do it?—That is for Parliament to decide.

1902. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You have stated that you would prefer two jurisdictions; that of the Lord Chamberlain and the magistrates; one to deal with stage plays and the other with music halls?—Yes.

1903. Would you lay down any regulations for their granting licenses or leave it entirely to the discretion of the Lord Chamberlain and the magistrates?—With regard to the Lord Chamberlain I give no opinion. He is a high officer, and I suppose, with his assistants, he would properly regulate such things. With regard to the magistrates at petty sessions, I think they should grant licenses (with such regulations as should tend to order and morality) to other places for dancing and music.

1904. You would leave that very much to the discretion of the magistrates?—Very much.

1905. Have you ever heard of a case in which the petty sessional magistrates have been unduly influenced; I mean in granting licenses from improper motives?—No, never; whenever any mistake has been committed by the magistrates below, I have found it corrected by the magistrates on appeal.

1906. But I mean as a matter of favoritism or any other consideration, private or public?—I think not.

1907. My question refers only to the music and dancing license?—Just so.

1908. In your long experience of the cases brought before the Middlesex Sessions, have you any reason to suppose that music halls are worse conducted than theatres, or that disturbances leading to crime are more frequent there than at theatres?—No, I am not aware that there is any other tendency to crime than naturally attaches to the congregation of a number of persons of both sexes, but you give dangerous facilities when you let the ballet girls go downstairs, and associate with men who go there for that purpose.

1909. The music halls are, as a rule, just as orderly as the theatres, are they not?—I do not say that they are not; with that exception.

1910. Do you recollect any trial before you, where the fact of there being private rooms at either music halls or theatres has ever been mentioned?—No, I have never known that.

1911. Nor at casinos or dancing places?—No, I do not recollect any instance.

1912. Would you be in favour of granting to literary institutions the power of giving entertainments, such as those given by Mr. and Mrs. German Read, and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul?—If they approached to the character of dramatic performances then they would come within my view of the matter, and I object, but if they were merely musical, of course then the magistrates' license would sanction them.

1913. You would make no exception of that kind?—No, I would leave it entirely to the magistrates' discretion.

1914. Of course, with regard to literary institutions, there is nothing like an excise license, so that they would almost come under a different category?—They would no doubt obtain the magistrates' license.

1915. You would not positively forbid it, but in any enactment you would leave it to the discretion of the magistrates?—Quite.

1916. Would you license places of every description, such as penny gaffs, or the judge and jury?—The judge and jury, from what I have heard of that sort of entertainment, requires no license.

1917. But, I suppose, that you would call that a dramatic performance?—I never heard it, but from the representations made to me it is like a private party meeting, and one assumes one character, and one another in conversation; there is no stage, I understand.

1918. I am told that people do appear there in wigs and gowns?—I have heard that there was a man who was called the chief baron.

1919. Mr. *Du Cane.*] I suppose, that you would wish, in any alteration of the law, to have the line where music ends, and a dramatic performance begins, very clearly defined?—It is the difficulty of defining the line that has induced me to suggest that it should be abolished.

1920. But would it not be better, in your opinion, to have it clearly and fully defined?—Music halls should be confined to music, in my opinion.

1921. You wish the music halls to be kept entirely for music, and theatres for dramatic performances?—I think so.

1922. In your opinion there should be no dancing, and no representation in any sort of costume at the music halls?—None.

1923. I believe you have said that you have known cases of young men committing crime from attending cheap places of amusement?—When young men have been convicted of crime before me, I have endeavoured to trace the cause of it, especially where those persons have borne a good character, with honest parents, and I have generally found it suggested that it was from attending those cheap places of entertainment; with regard to men of more mature age it was betting.

1924. You do not speak of the music halls, I presume, where ballet representations are going on?—Yes, I do.

1925. I suppose your argument is, that if you do not allow those places of entertainment to give operatic or dramatic performances, you divest them in a great measure of their attractions?—You may divest them of attractions that I think work injuriously.

1926. And by doing so, diminish the chance of such people attending?—That may be; the proprietors must look after that.

1927. Suppose there should be a greater demand than there is now for dramatic performances, are the Committee to understand that you would rather have the Lord Chamberlain's license for theatres than extend the license for dramatic performances to music halls?—Certainly.

1928. And that, you think, would be generally conducive to morality?—That is my opinion.

1929. Would you extend the authority of the Lord Chamberlain all through the metropolitan district, instead of in the boroughs only as it is at the present moment?—Yes; I think it would be an improvement to do so.

1930. But not beyond the metropolitan district?—No.

1931. How would you define the metropolitan district?—There are several boundaries under legislative authority; there would be no difficulty about that, I think.

1932. Mr. *Clay.*] You have stated that the great difficulty is to define the line which separates a musical entertainment from a theatrical entertainment?—Yes.

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.

20 April 1866.

1933. You would admit music from operas?—I would admit music of any kind.

1934. Such as duets and trios?—Yes.

1935. But no dressing or decoration?—Nothing dramatic.

1936. But the word "dramatic" wants explaining, does it not; what is your opinion of its definition?—Nothing scenic; nothing theatrical.

1937. Take a duet in *Der Frieschutz;* would you object to the singers coming on dressed as German *jagers*?—Yes. You may go on putting cases until you arrive at the old difficulty; one of the judges said that it was extremely difficult to say where music ended, and where a theatrical performance began.

1938. Your object is the prevention of immorality?—Yes.

1939. Would not that be equally accomplished by having one officer to superintend all those places?—Do you mean with different licenses?

1940. With different licenses or not, supposing they were legitimate places of entertainment?—I have no great predilection for licensing by magistrates, or any other persons in particular.

1941. Is not the real thing this, that you want one responsible person to look after the whole of those places?—I doubt whether it would be so well done.

1942. Do you think it is well done now?—Yes, it is.

1943. You have mentioned a case where the police were forced to interfere at last?—Yes.

1944. Would not that state of affairs be prevented by officers whose duty it would be to inspect those things?—Yes, a public officer would be in the same situation as an officer of police; but in that case which I have mentioned, the interference did not take place until the public called out so loudly against that abomination.

1945. There was then no officer whose business it was to inspect those things?—There were the police.

1946. But that was only done incidentally; they were not forced to visit those places?—No.

1947. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] Do you remember the case of Cremorne Gardens, where there was an indictment brought by the proprietor against three or four young men rioting on the night of Epsom Races; you tried that case, I presume?—Yes.

1948. Has not Cremorne been better conducted on those nights ever since?—When the license is renewed, no complaints are brought forward against Cremorne Gardens.

1949. Since that case you mean?—None.

1950. I believe that one or two out of the four young men were convicted?—Yes; they were all convicted.

1951. In the case of Strange against Wigan, the Middlesex Bench decided against the magistrates who heard the case, and we quashed the conviction?—Yes.

1952. And the Court of Common Pleas supported us?—Yes, to some extent they did. The same parties complained again to the same magistrate, after our decision, of a new infraction of the law calling for a new penalty; the magistrates said, "these parties appealed to the Quarter Sessions, and they quashed the conviction; therefore I do not feel myself authorised, whatever my opinion may be, to convict again, but I will give a case for the Court of Common Pleas;" and when they went before the Court of Common Pleas, the Court said that they would not reverse the decision that the magistrate had arrived at, which was not to convict. That is the state of the law at present.

1953. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] I gather from your evidence that you are under the impression that the principle on which those music halls were originally licensed was for music only or dancing, as the case may be?—The music halls were intended for music only.

1954. And you think that the introduction of anything like a stage play by the parties to whom they belong is a clear innovation on that license?—That is my opinion.

1955. You think that they should be continued in their original character?—Yes.

1956. With regard to Highbury Barn and the "Eagle Tavern," have you any report with regard to the arrangements of those two establishments, or do you know it from your own knowledge?—No, I do not know anything of those places.

1957. You do not know that the theatres at those places are separate from the saloons where drinking goes on?—I believe that at the "Eagle" it is so; I do not know with regard to Highbury Barn.

1958. The licenses granted under the Lord Chamberlain are subject to his rules with regard to drinking, are they not?—Yes.

1959. Do those rules of the Lord Chamberlain prevent smoking and drinking within the auditorium?—I believe so.

1960. Mr. *Lusk.*] I believe that you take some considerable interest in the education of the masses-ragged schools and things of that sort?—Yes.

1961. Do you think it is necessary that the poorer classes should have any amusement?—Clearly.

1862. You approve of the mirror being held up to nature in various ways, I suppose?—Yes.

1963. As far as your experience goes as judge do you think that the amusements at those music halls and establishments of that kind have been well conducted?—I have already said that I have never attended them, therefore my opinion is not worth much on that point.

1964. You say that you would protect the performance of the legitimate drama as it is now preserved, I think?—No, I do not say that.

1965. Do you think that there should be licenses granted to those places of amusements?—Yes, to all places of amusement I think that the theatres should be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and the other places cannot be more properly licensed than by the magistrates.

1966. Why should the Lord Chamberlain be the best person to license theatres?—His is a very ancient office.

1967. Is he a man of letters?—I am sure I do not know, but I suppose that whatever assistance he would require from literary men or others he would get.

1968. Do you think that he is necessarily the best man to license theatres?—No, but it is an old office, and I have not heard it complained of.

1969. Would you give the Lord Chamberlain the licensing of music halls?—No, I say that they should be licensed by the magistrates.

1970. It is your opinion that the poorer class of people should have one class of men to license entertainments for them, and that the richer class should have the Lord Chamberlain to license entertainments for them?—The licensing of theatres is a very different thing from the licensing of music

music halls, there is the necessity for reading what is to be played in the theatres.

1971. People must have amusement, you say?—Yes.

1972. And somebody must license those amusements?—Yes.

1973. Would it not be better for one man to do it?—No; I think that the Lord Chamberlain is not so well acquainted with the wants of the different localities, and the different class of persons, as the magistrates are, who are in daily contact with them.

1974. Do you not think it would be better to improve the entertainments given at the music halls?—It depends on what is called improvement. They would be improved by withdrawing that which (it is of no use concealing it) must tend to inflame the passions of young men, where women play in the ballet, and afterwards join the men.

1975. But if you hedge round the best class of amusement with licenses from the Lord Chamberlain, you shut out the poorer classes, do you not?—No.

1976. Then would you let the poorer classes enact Shakesperian plays wherever they like?—No.

1977. Then do you not deny them the same privilege as the rich?—No, they have the same privilege of going to the theatres.

1978. If a poor man cannot, perhaps, afford to go to Drury-lane, you would not give him the privilege to enact what he liked if it was moral and decent?—I think that the magistrates are the best persons to be entrusted with the power of saying whether the music halls should be licensed or not.

1979. But I speak of amusements for the people generally. What would you do with the poor down at the east end?—There are theatres there.

1980. But you would not let people do anything except according to the Lord Chamberlain's rules; do you not think it would be better to throw the whole thing open?—I do not.

1981. Why not?—Because I think it would lead to a great deal of immorality and confusion.

1982. But I mean the enactment of a moral, good, sensible play; why should a music hall not do that?—That is assuming that everything should be decent and moral, which I doubt.

1983. But why should they not do it, if they were licensed, as well as other places?—I think that I have already stated my view on that subject.

1984. You have mentioned that young men are demoralised by those institutions; on the whole, do you think that crime is increasing in this country?—Some species of crime are increasing.

1985. But I mean crime on the whole?—No, not in comparison with the population.

1986. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Let me call your attention to such an institution as the Alhambra Music Hall. I presume you are aware that that, in fact, is a large theatre in which it would be perfectly possible to have any class of performance?—Yes.

1987. Supposing that all the usual conditions are complied with, the safety of ingress and egress, and so on, could there be any conceivable objection to the Alhambra improving the nature of its performances, and giving that which, under the present state of the law, would be considered a stage performance?—That is only asking me whether I think the number of theatres should be increased.

1988. Would there, in your opinion, be any objection to improving the character of the representations?—Certainly not.

1989. Would there be any objection to the Alhambra performing a decent and decorous ballet, such as they perform at the Opera?—If it had the Lord Chamberlain's license; then of course it would be enabled to do it.

1990. *Vaudevilles*, ballets, and small plays, would surely be better than what they are compelled in the present state of the law to stick to—merely tumbling or nigger performances; would not that be more improving to the audience?—I dare say it would.

1991. I am supposing, of course, that they were subject to the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain or some officer of that kind?—You must recollect that a new element has been recently introduced into this country, namely, that of having places of refreshment where theatrical entertainments are going on, and it is that new element which we have to deal with.

1992. All those things are in the choice of the frequenters of those places; but it would surely be better that they should see a decent play and pretty dancing, with good singing, in preference to tumbling and comic songs; all that would be an improvement, would it not?—There is no doubt that a better style of performance would be an improvement.

1993. Then, why on earth should not the Alhambra have a license to perform those kinds of entertainment which no doubt do come within the words "dramatic performances"?—That is a question for Parliament to decide.

1994. But will you be good enough to give me your own opinion, what possible objection could there be to that, supposing some officer (the Lord Chamberlain, we will say) had the same cognisance over anything done there as in the theatres; why should not the Lord Chamberlain grant his license to that kind of place, even though they have got those tables, with the grog on the tables?—I only speak of the thing as it is now. If it were licensed by the Lord Chamberlain it might be subjected to better rules and regulations.

1995. But is it not a hardship that the Alhambra cannot effect what you admit would be a great improvement, simply because it encourages the harmless taste of the people?—I cannot see that there is any hardship in the case; the Alhambra was built avowedly for the purpose of music, and music only.

1996. But if the people have an improved taste, why should they not have liberty to indulge it?—I question very much whether it is an improved taste.

1997. You say that *vaudevilles* and the like would be an improvement on nigger songs and grimacing clowns?—Yes; but I am looking at the way in which the performances are now conducted; I daresay if the Lord Chamberlain thought fit to license such a place, he would take care that it was well conducted. But I am speaking of things as they are; my general proposition is that the music halls should be confined to music; that the theatres should take all the theatrical representations; that *they* should be licensed under the Lord Chamberlain, and the other places under the magistrates.

1998. Mr. *Selwin.*] You were asked whether the Lord Chamberlain was a literary person; but I imagine that the Lord Chamberlain has more to do with the morality of the pieces than their literature?—

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.

20 April 1866.

ture?—Yes; and he always exercises a discretion with regard to what houses should be licensed.

1999. The manager in the first place and the public in the second place should be the judges of the literary character of the pieces?—Yes, certainly.

2000. I believe that a question was put which seemed to imply that your evidence would go rather against supplying the wants of the whole of the poorer classes of the people. But I believe a larger number of theatres do exist, licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, in those eastern districts than in the western, there being 15 theatres in those poorer districts and only 10 in the others?—Yes; and at very low prices.

2001. Theatres start up naturally in answer to any demand, and you would prefer that to the liberty of action of the music saloon being extended?—Yes; I should not object to their *number* being increased if they are confined to their legitimate objects.

2002. Do you know the prices of admission at the theatres in those districts?—No; but they are very low.

2003. And therefore they meet the wants of the people in such places?—Clearly.

2004. Have you any knowledge of the number of complaints that are generally brought before the magistrates from those music halls in the course of a year; are there many?—No, I think not; but I think that the propriety of the performance is not to be judged of by the number of complaints, but by the tendency of the performances.

2005. The inference being that a great number of complaints are never lodged, from the imperfect way in which these places are looked after?—Yes, there are a great many things which are very objectionable which do not come before the magistrates.

2006. What are the things which are taken into consideration by the magistrates in granting a license to a music hall?—There is generally a representation made that a place has been built for the cultivation of the civilising art of music; that the neighbourhood wants it, and so on; there is one observation which I should like to offer upon what my friend Mr. Pownall said. He seemed to think that the magistrates did not pay much attention to the modes of egress and ingress, and the safety of the buildings they license; but in fact there are rules laid down for that express purpose, and the magistrates generally go and ascertain their safety.

2007. Are you of opinion that the magistrates' supervision is as effectual in those cases as the Lord Chamberlain's?—Certainly.

2008. Mr. *Powell.*] Do the magistrates pay personal visits to those places?—Yes.

2009. Mr. *Selwin.*] We have heard a good deal about the bar as connected with the theatres being out of the auditorium, and the wish on the part of some people to introduce the present music hall system into theatres; would not that very much conduce not only to encourage drinking, but also to a more lax mode of conducting those places?—Yes, it would be highly objectionable.

2010. Are you of opinion that that system would be a great inconvenience to a large part of the public?—Yes; I think it would tend to disgust well-conditioned people.

2011. Mr. *Powell.*] I will read to you an extract from the evidence of the Honourable Mr. Ponsonby, with regard to the Alhambra. "A case arose in this way, some years ago (I think it was in the year 1857 or 1858): the proprietor of the Alhambra applied to the Lord Chamberlain for a license for the Alhambra; the Lord Chamberlain took the usual course; he sent an inspector, a professional surveyor, to inspect the building. The surveyor reported that one of the galleries was unsafe to contain such a large number of persons as the Alhambra was capable of holding, and that there was only one entrance for the whole audience. The Lord Chamberlain refused the license, but at the same time they had applied to the justices, and the justices, I believe, without any examination, granted the license to the building." I put that to Mr. Pownall, and he confirmed it?—I do not know the circumstances; but the result proves that the magistrates were right, for there has been no accident, although the building is crowded.

2012. But with regard to all the music halls, it is the practice of the magistrates to make a careful examination with regard to the safety of the galleries and the condition of the exits?—Certainly; they issue special rules for the purpose. They make it a positive condition that they should be satisfied by competent persons that the building is secure, and there are sufficient means of egress and ingress.

2013. Are those competent persons employed by the magistrates, or are they witnesses who are brought forward by the persons applying for the licenses?—They are witnesses who are brought forward by the persons applying for the licenses, but they are checked by the personal investigation of the magistrates who live in the locality, and go and see the buildings.

2014. Practically a personal investigation is made of those places by the magistrates, or by some person in whom they have the fullest confidence?—Yes.

2015. The poorer classes are seen in the theatres at the west end of London in considerable numbers, are they not?—Yes.

2016. You were at the meeting of the bench of magistrates last Friday, the 13th instant, I presume?—Yes.

2017. I am informed that the following notice was distributed on Saturday night last in the Strand Music Hall: "In consequence of the opinion of the Bench of Magistrates having been strongly expressed against stage dancing, under a music license, at their sitting yesterday, 'The Judgment of Paris' and 'Les Circassiennes' will be discontinued after next week, the necessary notices being given to the artists engaged in both in due deference thereto. In the meantime a license will be asked from the Lord Chamberlain (which), if obtained, will permit dancing on the stage, as it is practised at the theatres, in obedience to the desire of the patrons of this establishment and in accordance with the taste of the public"?—That illustrates very much the position of matters at present. The Strand Music Hall was built avowedly for the purpose of encouraging the taste for music, and it was licensed for music only. The parties then engaged in it (who have since become bankrupt) applied to the magistrates to allow dancing. The magistrates refused to do it. We said, "It was a music license and we would not extend it." Notwithstanding that, they did enact theatrical performances on a stage, rather more than even at the Alhambra, I believe. The consequence was, that when it

came

came to the magistrates' term to license that place again they refused to license it.

2018. In passing by, I have observed a notice, that the ballets will be discontinued after this week at the Strand Music Hall, but there is a notice of further performances. Can you explain the circumstances under which they can give those other performances?—They have got a music license, because the magistrates did not take that away; but having already a public-house license, the magistrates said to them, "As you have deceived us, we will not renew your spirit license."

2019. Mr. *Locke.*] Therefore they have no spirit license now?—No.

2020. Mr. *Powell.*] But you continue the music license?—Yes.

2021. *Chairman.*] That music license will be continued until next October?—Just so.

2022. You only gave them a license for music, and not for dancing; you do not wait till next October to say, "We will not give it to you for either," but you take away their wine and spirit license?—It was the first time that we had an opportunity of showing our sense of the impropriety of their conduct.

2023. Mr. *Powell.*] You think that the state of the law should be changed?—Yes.

2024. Will you favour the Committee in a concise form, with your views with regard to the alteration which you think should be made in the law?—If you are to allow the music halls to perform anything approaching to theatrical entertainments, it would take a man to sit down very carefully, and define if he could, what was music and what was a theatrical performance; my suggestion is that there should be no necessity for that; that the licenses to music halls should be confined to vocal and instrumental music, and that the theatres should be under the control of the Lord Chamberlain; and then if the Lord Chamberlain thought fit, in the exercise of his discretion, to grant a theatrical license to the Alhambra or other establishments, then they would be classed as theatres and places under the same regulations as other theatres.

2025. Do you think that there should be any controlling power over the songs which are sung, so as to guard against indecent or suggestive songs?—Under the Lord Chamberlain's license, they would be obliged to send everything to be seen by his officers, but under the magistrates' license, the magistrates would rely on the police bringing it under their notice.

2026. You think that there should be a controlling power of some kind?—Yes, certainly.

2027. Do you know why there was legislation with regard to betting houses?—Because it was found to be attended by ruinous consequences.

2028. Would not the same reasons influence the legislature to be strict in their laws respecting music halls?—Yes, but betting according to our law, is *per se* illegal; it is a different matter as to the music halls; it is here a question of excess, but there the principle is wrong. The cases are innumerable of men being ruined by going to low betting houses, and betting, first their own money, and then their employer's money.

W. H. Bodkin, Esq.

20 April 1866.

2029. Mr. *Locke.*] The evidence which you have given has been more especially with regard to the metropolis, I suppose?—Quite so.

2030. With regard to the country, the licensing of theatres rests with the magistrates, with the exception of one or two places under very peculiar circumstances?—Yes.

2031. But with regard to music and dancing, the 25th of George the Second does not apply to the country; it only applies 20 miles round London?—Just so.

2032. Now, what is the precise law in the country with regard to music and dancing in houses which have a wine and spirit license?—I am not aware.

2033. You know that there are large music halls in Liverpool and Birmingham, and throughout the country?—Yes; but I do not know at all under what authority they are licensed.

2034. I believe the authority is simply this, that where they have a wine and spirit license they consider they have the right to have music and dancing in their houses?—That may be so, because this restraining statute does not extend to them.

2035. Richmond comes within the 25th of George the Second, of course, but a very few years back Mr. Ellis, who then had the "Star and Garter," had a great many informations laid against him for having music in his hotel without a magistrates' license, and he applied to the quarter sessions at Kingston for that license?—Yes; and they granted it directly.

2036. You are not distinctly aware how it is that, in the country, they have those music halls without any special license whatever from the magistrates?—No, I do not know how it is; but I think, if I may be permitted to make the suggestion, it would be a very useful piece of information for this Committee to ascertain that from some persons who are cognisant of the facts.

2037. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] As the law now stands, the magistrates have no control, under the music license, over indecent songs that may be sung?—Only an indirect control; proof of the fact would no doubt induce the magistrates to take away the license.

2038. Pending the currency of the license, any number of indecent songs may be sung, without interference by the magistrates, until the license is again applied for?—Yes; that is so.

2039. *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to bring under the notice of the Committee?—No; I think not.

William Bodham Donne, Esq., called in; and Examined.

2040. Mr. *Locke.*] You hold an office under the Lord Chamberlain?—I do.

2041. What is the name of your office?—I am the examiner of all theatrical entertainments.

2042. Is that an appointment for life, or is it merely an appointment at the pleasure of the Lord Chamberlain?—I believe that it is an appointment (at least I infer so from the evidence which Mr. Colman gave in the year 1833) that expires with the Sovereign, but I cannot say that from my own knowledge; I believe it to be an appointment for life.

W. B. Donne, Esq.

2043. Have you got your written appointment with you?—Yes. (*The Witness handed the same to the Committee*) (Vide *Appendix*).

2044. How long have you held this appointment?—I became Actual Examiner of Plays on the 27th of March 1857; but I had done the work,

W. B. Donne, Esq.

20 April 1866.

work, with the exception of one year, from August 1849 down to this time. I was doing the work of the Examiner, Mr. Kemble.

2045. When was the office of Examiner of Plays first established?—I believe it was in 1737.

2046. Was it established by an Act of Parliament?—Yes; by an Act of Parliament.

2047. What was that Act of Parliament?—The 10th of George the Second, I think.

2048. That was in the time of Sir Robert Walpole, was it not?—Yes.

2049. That Act, I think, was passed to regulate the stage in consequence of performances being introduced on the stage of a political character?—It was.

2050. It was Foote who introduced Sir Robert Walpole on the stage?—No. It was Gay's "Beggar's Opera" which gave great offence in consequence of the allusions being so pointed, more particularly the song, "If you censure the age;" there was in the opera a fight between Peachum and Locket not many months after the fight between Lord Townshend and Sir Robert Walpole. But the play that really led to the Act was called the "Golden Rump." It was so full of political allusions and grossness, that Mr. H. Giffard, the manager of the Goodman's Fields Theatre, laid it before Sir Robert Walpole.

2051. In what year was that?—In 1737.

2052. But how many years before the Act of the 10th of George II. was passed was the "Beggar's Opera" brought out?—The "Beggar's Opera" was brought out on the 29th of January 1728.

2053. Did that Act pass in 1737?—Yes.

2054. Who was that piece called the "Golden Rump" written by?—It was never known who wrote it, or who sent it to the manager of the theatre in Goodman's Fields.

2055. Who acted in it?—It was never brought on the stage.

2056. Then in the year 1728 was there not a piece brought out, or attempted to be brought out, called "Polly"?—Yes; that was a continuation of the "Beggar's Opera." It was printed in 1729; but it was never brought out until 1777, when the elder Colman altered and produced it.

2057. There was an objection made to that, was there not?—Yes.

2058. I think that the Act of 10th George II. chap. 28 was not passed until ten years afterwards?—It was in 1737. [June 21.]

2059. And the "Beggar's Opera" was brought out in 1728?—Yes.

2060. And that continuation of it was about to be produced in 1729?—Yes.

2061. And that circumstance gave rise to the Lord Chamberlain interfering, and then subsequently to that in 1737, the Act of the 10th of George II. was passed regulating theatres?—Yes.

2062. That was the first Act that was passed for that purpose, I believe?—Yes; and it arose out of that play which I have just mentioned.

2063. Was your office created by that Act?—The office was created by that Act: there was an Examiner of plays created, and a Deputy Examiner.

2064. Are there provisions in that Act creating those offices?—I have not the Act with me.

2065. You were appointed in 1857?—Yes.

2066. On the death of John Mitchell Kemble?—Yes.

2067. Who succeeded his father?—Yes, Mr. Charles Kemble was for only a short time Examiner of Plays; he gave up the office in 1840. Lord Melbourne then gave it to his son, and he was Examiner of Plays until his death in March 1857.

2068. What are the duties which you have to perform as Examiner of Plays?—All the manuscripts performed at the theatres in Great Britain must be sent in for my examination, in order to their being afterwards recommended for a license by the Lord Chamberlain. I read all those manuscripts, and if I find anything objectionable, I endorse on the license the objectionable passages, with a direction to omit them in the representation, and then I recommend them to the Lord Chamberlain, or if I am doubtful about the whole bearing of the piece, it is then referred to the Lord Chamberlain to confirm or reject my opinion against it; if his opinion coincides with mine, the play is refused a license.

2069. When you refuse a license altogether, do you state any reason?—Yes, I give the reason for it: it is either indecent, or profane, or it is religiously or politically objectionable.

2070. Now, with respect to the licensing of new theatres, what is the course pursued?—That is not within my province, it is done by the other members of the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

2071. You do not entertain the question yourself with regard to whether or not a theatre is built in a proper style for the performances?—I am Inspector of Theatres as well. That office was first added to the duty of Examiner of Plays when I was appointed Examiner in 1857.

2072. Do you inspect the theatres?—Yes.

2073. With what object do you inspect them?—For the purpose of seeing that there are a sufficient number of exits and entrances, good ventilation, proper arrangements for lighting them, precautions against fire, accidents, &c.; and generally that the public security should be well cared for.

2074. But do you lay down any special rules with regard to the exits and entrances?—Yes, our rules are very strict on those points.

2075. Those rules only apply to new theatres, I presume?—They apply to all the theatres under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, new or old.

2076. Do you compel the managers of those theatres to make alterations, if necessary?—Yes, if there is anything that interferes with the public security we require an alteration; I am afraid that I cannot give you a precise copy of the rules; I will give you the authority by which I became Inspector of Theatres.—(*Vide* Appendix.) The rules would vary in different cases; I can give you a sketch of those rules. I always inspect all the theatres in London once annually, generally in the latter end of August or the beginning of September, previously to the licensing day, which is usually on the 29th of September, in order that a license may be either refused if necessary, or granted for a short time in order to allow time for the improvements directed by me. The most important points are these—that there shall be no obstruction of egress; that the doors must swing both ways, and that there shall be no unnecessary barrier put up, so that when the audience comes out each door opens outward, so that in case of any rush there shall be no obstruction; the passages also have been very often widened. I also inspect at other times, when any material change is notified to me in old theatres; and

and always when new theatres are reported as fit for reception of the public.

2077. Now, with regard to the passages, and more especially to the stalls at many of those theatres, you have not widened any of those passages, have you?—Yes, there have been some of them widened; but when we have to deal with the old theatres it is very difficult, because one may interfere with the main work, while in making new theatres that is provided for in the beginning.

2078. Are your directions confined to new theatres?—No, they extend to the old theatres also.

2079. Is it not utterly impossible in the small theatres to carry out your directions with regard to widening the passages; is there any room?—If there is room it is always done; sometimes there is a wooden partition, and that is taken away. Sometimes party (not main) walls have been removed to increase the space.

2080. Going into a theatre you get on to the dress boxes with a gallery behind; you have to go from there down to the stalls, down a narrow passage, in which two persons could not go abreast, and if you were to widen that you would have to interfere with the boxes or to knock down the wall of the theatre on the other side?—In the case of the Standard Theatre, Mr. Douglass, the proprietor, set his partition at the back of the boxes more than a foot forwarder, in order to widen the passages; it was, previously, dangerously narrow, and he gave up one set of seats; that objection now is removed by the Standard being a rebuilt theatre.

2081. With regard to all the theatres, you say that you have swing doors turning outwards, but in very few of the theatres is there more than one place of egress; take the case of the Haymarket Theatre, there is the pit door, the box door, and the gallery door, all under that same portico?—There are three places of egress.

2082. But you go out of the same propylæum, as the ancients would say?—You go out into a broad street, and the staircases are broad.

2083. At Drury Lane there are modes of egress at three sides of the theatre, are there not?—Yes.

2084. And is not that so at Covent Garden?—Yes.

2085. Do you not think it would be a very great advantage in new theatres that the modes of egress should, if it were possible, stand by themselves?—That is insisted on; it was not long ago proposed by certain parties to build a new theatre in Holborn in which, had the scheme been carried out, the Lord Chamberlain intended to insist upon there being separate entrances for the three divisions of the theatre, for gallery and pit, apart from each other at the sides of the building; and for stalls and boxes in the frontage to Holborn.

2086. Have you seen the new French theatres?—No.

2087. There they stand by themselves, but they have shops all round, so that there is no advantage in that, and therefore after all they have only one mode of egress. Now in this case in Holborn, you say that there is to be a street or passage on each side; do you intend to let them have any shops in the building?—No; those passages were to be kept clear.

2088. But are they in the theatre itself?—No.

2089. How would the sides be constructed?—Open passages.

2090. With doors at the sides?—No, the doors in the theatre.

2091. There will be doors into Holborn?—Yes, and doors into the passage, which was to empty into Holborn.

2092. What is the width of the passages?—One would have been 16, and one 18 feet in width.

2093. They are mere passages, not streets?—They would have been mere passages, both the walls belonging to the theatre.

2094. It is in fact this, that there is a passage in the theatre?—Yes, a passage in the theatre.

2095. Not a building distinct from the houses adjoining, but the adjoining houses on either side abut on the wall of the theatre?—They would have abutted on the outer wall of the theatre; those passages would have been fire-proof.

2096. In what way?—To be made with fire-proof bricks.

2097. What is there at the top of the passage?—A coved or arched roof.

2098. How high is that coved roof from the ground?—I should say 14 feet.

2099. What is there above that?—The rooms belonging to the theatre; refreshment rooms, or dressing rooms, or wardrobes.

2100. You consider that on either side of the theatre you have a fire-proof passage in the theatre?—Yes, there would have been fire-proof passages in the theatre.

2101. But the outside walls of those passages, are against the houses in Holborn, are they not?—The pit entrance was not; there would have been a wide passage on the west side, and again a wide space on the gallery side.

2102. But can the people come out into Holborn?—Yes.

2103. I suppose that you recollect in Drury Lane the entrance to the pit is entirely distinct from the entrance to the boxes; would it not be an advantage to have the entrances entirely distinct?—That would almost amount to a prohibition of new theatres in London, because ground is so expensive.

2104. You must have theatres in certain localities, or else people will not go to them?—Yes, the theatres must be in certain localities; we should be very glad to get clear ground, but it would be almost unjust on the parties proposing to build theatres to demand that.

2105. What rules do you lay down with regard to the passages in theatres?—That there shall be no obstructions to egress; of course when a crowd is coming into a theatre, there must be a certain check upon the incoming audience, to allow the money takers and check-takers to have time to settle their arrangements; but in coming out, all those barriers are ordered to be moveable, or to swing back, so that there may be nothing to obstruct egress.

2106. But in the old theatres you can make no alteration with regard to the width of those passages?—No; generally, we can only make them clear.

2107. Do you lay down any rule with regard to the width of the passages in the new theatres?—All the plans are submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, and examined by his own professional surveyor, and a great many corrections are introduced with regard to all points necessary for the public security.

2108. I presume

W.B.Donne, Esq.

20 April 1866.

2108. I presume that the last theatre which you licensed was the New Surrey Theatre; did you lay down any plans for the middle of the passages?—The plans were examined, and instructions were given with regard to the width of the passages, and all the other usual directions.

2109. You do not lay down any specific rule to govern all the theatres, with regard to the width of the passages, but a plan is made by the architect who is employed by the persons building the theatre, and laid before the Lord Chamberlain, and he approves of it or not, just as he pleases?—Yes.

2110. But the Lord Chamberlain does not lay down any set of rules, that the passages shall be so wide, and that the modes of ingress and egress shall be of this or that description?—Each case has its relative merits and consideration. Of course the width of the passages is regulated in some measure by the number of persons that the theatre is to, or will, contain; the Queen's Theatre would not require such wide passages as the Surrey Theatre. It makes also a material difference whether audiences leave the theatre in carriages of any description, or for the most part walk to their several homes. A theatre, for example, like most of the East London theatres, can clear out an audience much more rapidly than the West-End theatres.

2111. But the question is, have you any specific fixed rules; seeing that every theatre will hold so many people, do you take that into consideration, and say that the passages at particular parts of the auditorium shall be of a particular width?—We do not do it before the plan is laid before us, but we take care that they shall be of the width which we prescribe for that particular case.

2112. But do you not think it would be very much better if you had some rules agreed upon for theatrical buildings with regard to the safety of the audience, as a guide for the different architects, before they make their plans?—There are general instructions with regard to the safety of the audience; but I think that the circumstances must determine the rules; it is not a mere question of numbers, but of locality also.

2113. When any one wants to build a theatre, what is the course adopted?—He draws out a plan and submits it to the Lord Chamberlain.

2114. Before he begins to build?—Yes.

2115. You look at that plan, and if the passages are not wide enough you say so?—Yes, we look at the plan to see that the passages are wide enough, and if not, we direct them to be made wider, and so forth, in other essential points.

2116. If a man makes out his plans, and brings them to you, and you say that those passages are not wide enough, and it destroys his whole plan, he must either make another plan, and lay it out all over again, or else he will injure the symmetry of the house?—I do not think that we could lay down very stringent rules, for this reason: some theatres are larger in their dress circles; some depend on their gallery and on their pit, and some on both the gallery and the pit; the width of the passages is dependent very much upon the capacity of the theatre; the wants of the people and the capacity of the house are the things that require the most consideration.

2117. Now with regard to the licensing of plays, is it not the fact that of late years very few plays have been refused?—Very few; I will hand in a statement upon that subject. (*Vide* Appendix.)

2118. I believe that the number of licenses for plays refused from 1857 to 1865 inclusive, were only seven?—That is all; I have only taken those which I refused when I was actual Examiner of Plays; most of those on Mr. Ponsonby's list was my work also, when I was Deputy Examiner.

2119. At the present time you license all the plays throughout the country, do you not?—Yes.

2120. But there are very few new plays brought out anywhere, except in London?—Very few.

2121. Where are they?—At Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Sheffield, and Bradford occasionally, now and then Norwich, Sunderland, Bristol, and Newcastle on Tyne; I licensed two pieces for the Swansea Theatre not many weeks ago

2122. Now, with regard to the music halls or literary institutions; suppose they were allowed to have performances of the stage, and that the authority were placed under the Lord Chamberlain for the licensing of the performances which which they had there, do you think that the Lord Chamberlain's Office could perform that duty?—Yes.

2123. You think, supposing all the existing places of that kind had a theatrical license granted to them, with the privilege of bringing out plays, the Lord Chamberlain would not be over-worked by licensing all the plays which they brought out?—They would all pass through my hands. I think I could undertake to say that I could do it. There is one gentleman who, I understand, introduces extemporary songs every night; such a case as that could not come under my jurisdiction, of course. My busiest time is in the month of December, just before Boxing Night, and in the course of that month I generally have five or six regular plays to examine; but, besides, I always read through about 27 pantomimes and burlesques at that time of the year.

2124. Then you read the pantomimes through; but it would require a very skilful person to find out anything wrong in a pantomime, would it not?—We make them now put down what they do, as well as what they say in the introduction. Formerly the comic business was not put down; but being once called to account for what they did, I said, "If I am to be answerable for what you do, I must see what you are going to do."

2125. You have that comic business written down?—Yes.

2126. When the harlequin comes on and dances with the columbine?—Yes.

2127. And where he makes a change, and so on, you have that written down?—Yes, everything.

2128. How many pieces had you at Boxing time last year?—Twenty-seven pantomimes or burlesques, and five regular dramas.

2129. They come in nearly altogether, I suppose?—They mostly come in the last four or five days before they are wanted.

2130. And you go through them?—Through the whole of them.

2131. With regard to the ballet, I think you have stated that you have never been able to make out what a ballet means?—Yes, but I do not think I was understood, and I strongly suspect that there are a good many people in the same case. A ballet is rarely understood fully by more than about four people: the author of the ballet and the master

master of the ballet, the first dancer, and the *première danseuse*. I doubt whether many people, unless they are professional dancers, know much more than I do.

2132. I suppose you mean the original ballet, not ballet founded on a story?—Yes; for example, there was a ballet, when I was a young man, called "Raymond and Agnes; or, the Bleeding Nun," all played in dumb show.

2133. And then there is "Esmeralda"?—Yes.

2134. Of course those who have read the novel can easily understand it?—Yes.

2135. The ancient pantomime always told its own story, but where the feet are the language, it is very difficult for any one to understand the exact sentiment conveyed by the ballet. I think you have stated that you never understood the story of that ballet which was played at the Alhambra?—Never.

2136-7. You say that the Lord Chamberlain's Office could take the licensing throughout the whole of the country?—I feel confident that the Examiner of Plays could do it.

2138. Now, with regard to the performances at these different places. You say that men sing *extempore*, and so on; do you think it would be necessary to have any particular public authority vested in the Lord Chamberlain's hands, supposing there was an extension of his function, as to whether or not any impropriety was introduced on the stage?—It is certainly not necessary with regard to the theatres generally. I have very seldom had occasion to go to see whether my instructions are carried out. If I suspect, I go, but it is not three times in the year that there is any occasion for it, and perhaps the same confidence might be put in other places.

2139. How many theatres have been licensed within the last 10 years?—I will hand in a list of the present theatres. (*The Witness handed in the same.—Vide* Appendix.)

2140. What refusals have there been to license theatres lately?—There have been applications made for licensing places that were not theatres.

2141. There was an application to license St. James's Hall for theatrical performances, was there not?—Yes.

2142. On what ground was that license refused?—Because that is not a building built after the fashion of theatres; the objection lay to the form of the building; very often a building built for one purpose does not answer for another.

2143. But still, if there were proper modes of ingress and egress, and it was safe, do you see any objection to acting plays at St. James's Hall?—No, I do not, if it were put under the same conditions—I speak only with regard to the public security—as other theatres.

2144. Was it considered that St. James's Hall would not be safe?—I believe it was considered that there were not sufficient egresses, and that there were many things besides of which the hall did not admit.

2145. Your objection was to the building?—My objection was to the building, and that has generally been the objection in all similar refusals. I examined the Marylebone Institute, and there was no objection to it, beyond that the building was not a theatre.

2146. But now St. James's Hall is filled when there are concerts given there; if it is safe for people to go to St. James's Hall to the concerts, would it not be equally safe for them to go there to a play?—I do not think the audiences are precisely the same; there is not the same hurry out of the pit and gallery; you have to arrange for very tumultuous persons in some portions of several theatres.

2147. You consider that a theatre must be for the accommodation of every description of person?—Yes.

2148. With pit, gallery, boxes, and so forth?—Yes.

2149. But do you think it is necessary that the acting of plays should be restricted to their being performed in buildings accommodating every description of person; take the Beaumont Institution, in the Mile End-road; why should not they be able to give theatrical performances so far as their means would allow them?—Because, I think, that a theatre is a building specially contrived and constructed for the purpose of theatrical entertainments; but music halls and institutions are buildings licensed for another class of entertainments quite different; for example, I do not think that a theatre would be a good place for public lectures.

2150. I suppose you know that the people turn the Surrey Theatre into a church on Sunday?—Yes.

2151. Would not that be quite as extraordinary as the converse?—People may not be so hasty to get out on Sunday.

2152. Could you have a place where it is more easy to get in and out than the Beaumont Institution?—It is very well constructed.

2153. Supposing they liked to introduce two or three persons to act a portion of Shakspeare, they would be liable to a penalty under the 6th and 7th of Victoria?—Yes.

2154. Why should they not have the privilege of doing that if they pleased?—There are two or three things which should be considered besides: Theatres, where plays are to be acted, generally contain in proportion to the house, a considerable number of persons employed; theatres all stand at heavy expenses, and you would be taking the privilege from those who are following their proper vocations by allowing plays to be performed at such places as the Beaumont Institution.

2155. You think that there should not be free trade in theatres?—I think not.

2156. But why should not theatres, like anything else, be regulated by supply and demand?—Then, I would say, let the demand be for theatres, and not for buildings that are not theatres.

2157. But supposing the demand were for buildings that are not theatres, and that the Lord Chamberlain only interfered for the purpose of making them secure, what objection would there be to have theatrical performances at those places?—I do not see what could be gained by that. If you have a tragedy or a comedy in those music halls you must adapt them to the necessities of the drama; why not have them in theatres at once.

2158. But suppose people like to go and see them in music halls, can you see any objection to that?—The objection is this, that the music halls have their own business, and a very profitable one it is, and the theatres have their own business, which I am afraid is not always quite so profitable; then, I say, leave the music halls to their own performances; all the managers of theatres demand is that the music halls shall not take their performances.

2159. But the theatres have a wine and spirit license, just the same as the music halls?—Yes, they have lately.

W. B. Donne, Esq.

20 April 1866.

2160. Since the year 1858?—Yes; it was merely that a clause which had been suspended was then allowed by the Excise.

2161. But since that they have had precisely the same wine and spirit license as the music halls?—Yes.

2162. Mr. *Miller.*] Would there, in your opinion, be any objection to introduce refreshment tables into the pit of one of the great theatres?—I think so; the two things are incompatible.

2163. Mr. *Locke.*] There is some license by the Lord Chamberlain, and he makes restrictions as to the use of the refreshment license?—Yes; in one case a theatre in the east end was giving refreshments in the body of the house, and it was stopped; the manager was told that if he went on so he must forego his license.

2164. That is keeping refreshments in the centre of the auditorium?—Yes.

2165. But whatever is done at the back of the pit the Lord Chamberlain never sees?—The refreshment counters are all submitted to inspection.

2166. But when refreshments are taken at the back of the auditorium, there is no objection made by the Lord Chamberlain?—No. In the New Surrey theatre capital refreshment rooms are provided for every part of the house.

2167. There is a refreshment room for the pit in the pit?—No; you pass through a door into a room; all the refreshment rooms in the Surrey Theatre are outside the several divisions of the house.

2168. That is not so at all the theatres, is it; the Adelphi for instance?—The Adelphi has a counter on the level of the pit.

2169. With a beer engine?—I think they are provided with everything necessary for refreshment purposes.

2170. Have they those little barrels with gin and brandy, just like a counter in a public house?—I believe so.

2171. And so in the gallery?—Yes.

2172. In the boxes they have rooms behind, have they not?—Yes; for refreshments.

2173. It is at the back of the pit?—Yes.

2174. It does not interfere with the seats, but that is all?—That is all.

2175. How many applications do you say have been refused?—The St. James' Hall was one, and the Strand Music Hall made an application, I think, but I am not so well qualified to give the Committee that information because the applications do not come to me.

2176. Now, with regard to those literary institutions; what is the nature of the license granted to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed?—They have a full theatrical license.

2177. Why could you not give that full theatrical license to the Beaumont Institution in Mile End-road?—Would the managers of the Beaumont Institution allow me to alter a staircase if necessary. Have they got a long lease? I understand Mr. German Reed has got a long lease, and his rooms, having been built for a portrait gallery, form an exceptional case in respect to public convenience.

2178. But suppose that the Beaumont Institution had similar conveniences to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's, then I understand you to say that there would not be the slightest objection on the part of the Lord Chamberlain to give them a theatrical license?—I think not; but I cannot answer that question without reference to the Lord Chamberlain. But they must strictly submit to my inspection, as Mr. German Reed does.

2179. Mr. German Reed altered a staircase?—He did that and many things also.

2180. I suppose you could point out to all these people that there is something which requires altering?—I think they would require the same regulations.

2181. Then we shall be agreed on this, that where a respectable man with a long lease, and a building well adapted for the purpose, applied to the Lord Chamberlain, you would see no reason why a theatrical license should not be extended to all those places, if the persons desired it?—I do not quite admit so much as that. Mr. German Reed's case was a very exceptional case, and we might have a similarly exceptional case.

2182. What made Mr. German Reed's case so exceptional?—The circumstance of his having this long lease, and the remarkable fitness of his building.

2183. Suppose there was that advantage in another case, would not that case come under the same category?—If the case was similar to Mr. German Reed's there would be no refusal.

2184. Is there no other case of the kind besides Mr. German Reed's?—No; I think that is the only one.

2185. Now the Royalty Theatre has been licensed recently?—No; it was licensed many years ago as the Soho Theatre; originally it was Miss Kelly's theatre.

2186. And the Alhambra has been refused?—Yes: in 1859.

2187. On what ground was that license to the Alhambra refused?—The Alhambra was surveyed by myself and a professional surveyor, who accompanied me; and his opinion was that it was unfit in its present state for a theatre; that the whole of the inside must be altered.

2188. That is to say, you have one plan for a theatre; it must be in some way assimilated to the ancient form of a theatre; it must be of a horseshoe shape, or something of that kind going round in a particular way, with a pit here and a gallery there, and so forth; and that, supposing a theatre were constructed in which you could see very much better than you could see in *such* a theatre, and the seats were very much more comfortable, and the accommodation was much better still, you would not give it a license unless it was on that old plan?—No; the objection which the professional surveyor made to the Alhambra was that it was not sufficiently safe for the public.

2189. When was that?—I think it was in 1858 or 1859.

2190. But since that it is quite obvious that it must have been put in most excellent repair. It is full every night, is it not?—The great part of the weight is on the ground floor; one objection was that the galleries were not competent to bear the weight of a theatrical audience.

2191. Has there been application since?—Mr. Strange made one.

2192. When was that?—Subsequently to this movement on the part of the music halls.

2193. Was that refused?—Yes; Mr. Strange declined complying with the usual regulations respecting refreshments and smoking in the auditorium during the performances.

2194. Was an examination again taken of the building?—No.

2195. Then

2195. Then you are not in a position to say whether or not it has been strengthened?—I have examined it but once, on Mr. E. T. Smith's application.

2196. Is there any other. Did not Mr. Boucicault make an application for a theatre in the Haymarket?—Yes; but there was not a brick of that theatre laid; that was merely a tentative question, "If so and so, then so and so?"

2197. Was not that a very important question to ask?—It was a very fair question.

2198. That is to say, it was thus:—"If I build the theatre, will you give me the license; for I do not want to lay out money on a site with a chance of being refused the license." Why, then, was not the necessary sanction given?—There was no objection to the proposed site; but we could not give a license to what did not exist.

2199. But what was the objection to its existing?—That he must produce his plans and specifications; the Lord Chamberlain had not data to proceed upon; and there were several things besides: was the neighbourhood consenting to it, or was the neighhourhood averse to it?

2200. Would you, for instance, really ask the Haymarket whether they would consent to the building of a new theatre?—It is always asked whether there is any preliminary objection.

2201. Is the Haymarket, do you think, a place which would refuse its consent to anything?—We must ask before we can know.

2202. Whom would you ask?—The parishioners.

2203. You have a theatre, and you have an Opera, and at the top of the Haymarket a variety of things; you have the Pavilion, and what not else. Who, then, are the people in the Haymarket whom you would ask whether they would like to have another theatre?—It is always ascertained first if there is any objection in the neighbourhood, and if there is none, I do not know that the Lord Chamberlain should make an objection.

2204. Did the neighbourhood object?—It had not been asked.

2205. You would ask Mr. Buckstone, I suppose?—He would be one of the parishioners.

2206. He would probably say, "I do not want another theatre next door to me;" or he might say that he liked it; but you would hardly be guided by that, would you?—Perhaps I ought rather to have said that we should ask the people of the district in which the Haymarket stands.

2207. Would you ask the clergyman of the parish?—The "parishioners in vestry" used to be the way; there was one month given for the parishioners generally to express their mind.

2208. Do you not think that that is rather absurd in a place like London?—I think that many districts would be very much aggrieved if they were not asked the question.

2209. But you do not consider that the Haymarket people could be aggrieved, do you?—Probably not.

2210. Then that was not the reason?—No; I am not aware that Mr. Boucicault ever came before us in a tangible form; he had not at the time, I believe, a foot of ground to build his theatre upon.

2211. But if the Lord Chamberlain had said, "Well; I think that the Haymarket is a very good place indeed to have another theatre, seeing, that there are several theatres already round about there," do you not think that it might have been effected?—I should have liked to hear Mr. Boucicault's question, and also the answer. I doubt whether he got a direct "No" from the Lord Chamberlain.

2212. Do you know any other case that was refused where an application was made?—The Marylebone Institute applied for a license for theatrical performances, and it was refused.

2213. The applications for theatrical performances for places, not theatres, have been very numerous, have they not?—Not numerous; there was an application last year to have a theatre at Limehouse on a small scale; I examined the ground and saw no objection, and if they go on, they can have a theatre there. There is not the least wish to limit the number of theatres.

2214. But they must be on the present plan, I suppose?—No, I do not think I have said anything to imply that; only they must be constructed consistently with the public safety: whether they are round, square, oblong, or rhomboid, the Lord Chamberlain does not care.

2215. He does not care if they are like a circus, and they have their performance in the middle?—No; Astley's theatre was a circus for years.

2216. But it had a stage to it?—Yes, it had a stage.

2217. The Lord Chamberlain would license a place like the Cirque in the Champs Elysées in Paris?—Very probably.

2218. Suppose people like to act dramas in the middle of a circle, the audience sitting round it?—If the public security could be well provided for, we should offer no objection.

2219. That is all you care for?—Take care of the public, and they may act on a house-top if they like.

2220. I understood you to say, then, that provided the building is safe, and the proprietor has a sufficient lease (so that he would not be setting up a thing to day, and giving it up to morrow), and if he is a respectable man, the Lord Chamberlain is willing to grant licenses to anybody that chooses to apply who has those qualifications?—There is not the least wish on the part of the Lord Chamberlain that there should be a monopoly of theatres; but the buildings must be built for theatrical purposes.

2221. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] For how long have you been Examiner?—I began to act as Deputy Examiner in August 1849.

2222. You were appointed by Mr. John Mitchell Kemble?—Yes; I was proposed by Mr. John Mitchell Kemble, and accepted by the Lord Chamberlain then in office.

2223. He succeeded his father, Charles Kemble?—Yes.

2224. Charles Kemble, I believe, never did the duties of the office?—He did duty for a little more than a year.

2225. He returned to the stage, and that was considered objectionable?—Only for 12 nights; I believe there was an objection raised by Mr. Bunn, of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, to Mr. Kemble's appointment.

2226. During the time that Charles Kemble was the Examiner of Plays, his son John used to act for him very much?—Charles Kemble went abroad very soon after his appointment, and then his son acted for him for a time, and then the examinership was conferred on his son.

2227. John Kemble told me that his father said he did not think that he read five plays after he was appointed, but in the latter part of

W. B. Donne, Esq.

20 April, 1866.

John Kemble holding office you aided him?—Yes.

2228. That was your introduction to the office?—Yes.

2229. Since 1849 you have been the regular Examiner of Plays?—Yes, with the exception of a little more than a year after John Kemble returned from Germany, in 1865; he resumed his duties in 1866.

2230. And on his death you got that appointment?—Yes.

2231. Since you have held the office from the year 1857 to the present time, as many as 1,800 plays or more have passed through your hands?—Yes.

2232. That must consume an immense number of hours of your time?—It takes up a good deal of time certainly; but you get into the habit of it; I can take in every word and yet read very quickly; many of the manuscripts are very short.

2233. They are in full, I suppose?—Yes, every word is put down; a manuscript from the Britannia Theatre, for example, is very short, and may be read in a quarter of an hour.

2234. But to read 1,800 plays must have taken up a good deal of your time?—Yes.

2235. You have nobody to help you?—Nobody.

2236. The plays which you have rejected are few, but the plays that you alter are a good many?—Not many now; they have diminished very much of late years; all the excisions which I made in 1865, would not occupy more than that sheet of paper; not because I overlooked what was wrong in them, but because they did not require it.

2237. You draw a line with red ink, I suppose?—I draw a line in red ink, which means that those words are to be omitted.

2238. What is your allowance (for I believe that, like many other public servants, you are overworked and underpaid)?—The public salary is 320 *l.*, from which I pay income tax, leaving the net salary about 310*l.*

2239. In addition to that, there is paid to you a fee?—Yes, there are fees according to the number of acts in the play.

2240. That fee never exceeds 2 *l.* 2 *s.*?—No.

2241. It is 2 *l.* 2 *s.* for five acts?—It is 2 *l.* 2*s.* for three acts and over; under three acts it is 1 *l.* 1 *s.*

2242. Would one song be 1 *l.* 1 *s.*?—No, 5 *s.*

2243. Is that the law?—No, that is only a rule which I found existing.

2244. But as I know you are a generous man, do you not have some difficulty in getting those fees?—Never.

2245. Mr. John Kemble, who was an old schoolfellow of mine, told me that the fees were paid irregularly?—Sometimes I have not been able to get them, but that is now so seldom the case that it is hardly the exception that proves the rule.

2246. Those fees you receive from the managers when you return the manuscript, I suppose?—They are generally sent with the manuscript.

2247. The manuscript is generally returned by your messenger?—The manuscript sent for examination remains at the Lord Chamberlain's office. I am not allowed a messenger.

2248. You do not let them remain in arrears; because John Kemble said to me that he had had enough by letting them go on tick?—The managers pay punctually and honourably; I have no arrears.

2249. From your other occupation, when you were librarian to the London Library, you were constantly in the neighbourhood of the Lord Chamberlain's Office?—Yes.

2250. You very often refer a matter to the Lord Chamberlain himself?—In case I think a license should be refused, I always send the manuscript with a request that the Lord Chamberlain should look it over himself; but I have rarely occasion to do so.

2251. Sometimes he gives his own opinion, and sometimes he abides by your decision?—Yes.

2252. Would it not be far more agreeable to you to have no fees at all, and to be paid by a regular and increased salary?—My relations with the managers are so satisfactory that I do not know that it would be more agreeable, or work better than it does now

2253. They pay no fee for a rejected play, do they?—Yes; the fee is paid, not for licensing, but for reading. A rejected play gives more trouble, because it takes a longer time to consider whether it should be rejected or not, than a licensed one.

2254. Now, from the number of plays that you have examined, would you say that there is, on the whole, a higher style of writing and less occasion for you to perform the very disagreeable duty of refusing a play than there was formerly?—I think there has been within the last ten years a very remarkable improvement in the authorship of plays.

2255. In some years you have rejected none?—None.

2256. You think that there is a higher style of writing?—Yes; it is very perceptible, I think.

2257. That probably arises from the fact that the audience do not approve of anything that is objectionable?—Certainly; that is one of the causes.

2258. You have mentioned the plays that you have rejected; of course you did not mention the plays where you merely made corrections?—There are comparatively very few of such corrections now.

2259. You draw the pen through anything in the shape of an oath?—Yes, always.

2260. Anything that turns religion into ridicule?—Yes.

2261. And any political joke is objected to?—Yes.

2262. Are you aware that rule is constantly broken through?—I know it is occasionally, but I must be in a great many places at once to prevent it.

2263. The Lord Chamberlain is not a public prosecutor?—No.

2264. Are you ever informed of those cases?—Sometimes, and then, of course, I execute justice at once.

2265. Mr. *Locke.*] How do you execute justice?—By telling the manager that he must either withdraw the play or mind what I say to him.

2266. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] If those words are left out by your direction and are put in again, do you hear of it?—Sometimes I do; perhaps not in all cases.

2267. Do you report that to the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

2268. And

2268. And is notice taken of it?—Yes, directly, if it is proved.

2269. For instance, in "Faust and Marguerite," which was acted for a long time at the Princess' Theatre—Mr. Charles Kean being one of the most respectable managers—are you aware that words were put in occasionally into that performance that you had either disapproved of or which had not been submitted to you?—No, I cut out certain expressions in the scene in which there was a church, and I saw that performance several times, but the words which had been cut out by me were not spoken in representation.

2270. Is a pantomime submitted to you?—Yes.

2271. I think you have expressed your opinion that it was rather difficult to understand the plot of a ballet?—Yes.

2272. Is it not far more difficult to understand the plot of a pantomime?—No; the whole of the plot of a pantomime is written down.

2273. Are you aware that there is a practice in all theatres of what actors commonly call "gag"?—Yes, I am perfectly aware of that.

2274. That "gag" is not written down?—No, it cannot be.

2275. There is nothing to prevent a clown or pantaloon making use of words that you have never seen?—Nothing whatever.

2276. That is generally done?—Yes; at least often.

2277. Has it lately been ordered by the Lord Chamberlain that political squibs should be omitted in pantomimes?—They never were permitted.

2278. If a clown desires to raise a laugh or create a sensation when any particular persons are present whom he wishes to draw attention to he can do it; there is nothing to prevent his putting in such words, except that it is illegal?—That is all, you cannot stop "gag."

2279. For instance, political gag, jokes about the state of affairs in Europe, say Denmark, or any other question of that kind; you are aware that that is repeatedly done?—Yes.

2280. Some years ago, during the time you were Examiner "La Dame aux Camelias" was rejected. I can quite understand your objection to that, but then on what ground was "La Traviata" allowed?—That was not done by the same Examiner who refused to license "La Dame aux Camelias," and Mr. John Kemble thought differently and passed "La Traviata,"

2281. But you rejected "La Dame aux Camelias"?—Yes.

2282. There was another play that was rejected, a French play, "Le Verre d'Eau," at the time Lord Delawarre was Chamberlain, a story of the time of Queen Anne?—Those specified in that list are the rejected plays since March 1857.—(*Vide* Appendix.)

2283. That play is not in the list; was that before your time?—I think so. The Verre d'Eau was not examined by me.

2284. Have you a feeling that there is not so much mischief likely to be done at a French or Italian theatre as would be done if a play was performed in English in all the theatres round London?—I think that if there is a *musical* version of a piece, it makes a difference, for the story is then subsidiary to the music and singing.

2285. You have acted on that opinion?—Yes.

2286. No play has ever been stopped that has once been licensed, with the exception of "Jack Sheppard"?—"Oliver Twist" and "Jack Sheppard."

2287. Those were stopped by Lord Delawarre, in consequence of representations from the different parishes in which the plays took place?—Yes.

2288. You have had plays altered since the prohibition of the performance of "Oliver Twist" and "Jack Sheppard," but those were the only two that were stopped?—Yes.

Monday, 23rd April 1866.

PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Locke.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Lusk.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

W. B. Donne, Esq.

23 April 1866.

WILLIAM BODHAM DONNE, Esq., recalled; and further Examined.

2289. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] WITH regard to the system which you adopt in licensing plays, do you make any difference between plays and operas in your licenses?—None whatever.

2290. They are all referred to you, are they not?—They are all referred to me.

2291. And in the list furnished by Mr. Ponsonby, the rejected plays or any operas rejected appear, if any?—Yes, if there are any.

2292. Have you rejected, at any time, any opera that you can remember?—No.

2293. You, of course, are familiar with the plots of the operas that are played?—Yes.

2294. Many of them had been licensed before the period of time at which you took the charge?—Yes, long before that time.

2295. Can you remember any of them that have been licensed since that time?—"Fra Diavolo," "Martha," "Dinora," "Ballo in Maschere," "Faust," "Il Trovatore."

2296. And "La Favorita"?—No.

2297. And "The Huguenots"?—No, that was before my time; and "I Puritani" was before my time.

2298. You have no power when once a license is given by the Lord Chamberlain, under your advice, to revoke that license, have you?—I should have power if alterations were made in the licensed copy of a play. I now produce the form of license (*producing the same*). If they made any additions that had not been licensed, then the Lord Chamberlain might withdraw his license.

2299. On the question of the morality of the story involved in the plays licensed, there appears to be a large difference between the system adopted with regard to operas and the system adopted with regard to plays?—I am not aware that there is any difference. Can you give me a case?

2300. Take the story of "Norma;" it is directly immoral in its tendency, is it not?—I do not think that it can be said to be more immoral than in any acting plays.

2301. Which are licensed?—Yes; which are licensed; particularly the old comedies.

2302. But suppose the opera of "Norma" was submitted to you now, or "The Huguenots," or "La Favorita," or "Faust;" do you think there is any immoral tendency in the opera of "Faust"?—I think it would reduce the limits of dramatic representation very much indeed if those operas were objected to.

2303. You would license such a subject as "Faust" in the drama?—Yes.

2304. I merely wish to ascertain the principle upon which you act?—Just so. "Faust" is a European story; there may be portions of the story which it would be advisable to cut out for stage representation, but the story is common property.

2305. But the story of "La Dame aux Camelias" is also common property, is it not?—I should hardly say that it was as common property as Faust. Of course there is this difference to be observed, the drama must deal with the exhibition of human passion, and when that passion is represented as leading to evil or to good consequences, that is a legitimate object; but in cases where it is insinuated that, after all, wrong may be right, or, after all, not so very wrong; that becomes a far more serious question.

2306. Do you make any difference with regard to the stringency of your supervision in the case of a play as distinguished from the case of an opera, or between language spoken and sung?—My business is not with the music of an opera, but with the libretto.

2307. In discharging your duty as Inspector of Theatres, as preliminary to granting a license when you make your inspection of the plans, you consider the site, I suppose?—Yes, I go and visit the site.

2308. You keep in view the site with regard to public policy as well as public safety?—Yes.

2309. When you apply to the parishioners for their consent, to whom do you apply?—We do not apply to the parishioners for their consent, but it is the business of the person who applies for a license to build a theatre to ascertain whether there is any direct opposition in the neighbourhood.

2310. What evidence do you require?—He produces vouchers for the assent from people in the district.

2311. You always require that?—Yes, we always require that.

2312. Your principal object is to see that the safety and convenience of the public are attended to?—

to?—Yes; in all cases, both of theatres proposed and existing theatres, the public safety regulates all our proceedings.

2313. With regard to the licenses granted under the Lord Chamberlain for theatres, those licenses are subject to certain restrictions made by the Chamberlain, are they not?—Yes, they are subject to restrictions.

2314. And in all new theatres those rules of the Chamberlain are strictly enforced?—Yes, those rules are strictly enforced.

2315. You have said that in one or two of the theatres there is a drinking place or bar at the back of the pit?—Yes.

2316. Is that because there is no other convenient place?—Generally, in such cases, they are old theatres, and of course we cannot pull them about as we can a new building.

2317. But the permission to have a bar in such a place is exceptional, is it not?—Yes, it is exceptional; if the building admits of its being put in a more convenient place, apart from the auditorium, it is done.

2318. You would not allow it in the pit, if it could be placed elsewhere?—Certainly not.

2319. As a consequence of the bar being in the pit, is drinking or smoking permitted?—Certainly not smoking. In some instances there are printed notices in the theatre of prohibition of smoking.

2320. Is drinking allowed in the body of the pit, or must people go to the bar?—They ought in all cases to go to the bar, but I know that that most inconvenient practice still prevails, of carrying round baskets in some of the theatres.

2321. Will you tell me whether you consider that Mr. Woodin's performances at the Egyptian Hall fall within the title of dramatic performances?—I think not.

2322. Do you consider that that performance is an infringement of the Act?—No; Mr. Woodin some years ago had a sort of *quasi*-theatrical license; he was threatened by the informers, but he had no occasion to be afraid, for his entertainment consists of monologues, which are not mentioned in the interpretation clause.

2323. Do you remember a performance at the Egyptian Hall between Miss Grace Egerton and her husband, in which he and she changed character very frequently?—I remember hearing of it.

2324. Then two persons may perform small plays provided a third is not introduced?—At present the word "duologue" is not in the interpretation clause. Mr. and Mrs. Drayton went round with their "duologue;" they came to the Adelphi Theatre one season, and they were then licensed, not because there was any alteration in the duologue, but because coming into a theatre it became a drama for the time being. Such was the practice at the time. On reconsideration, however, of the Interpretation Clause, I am disposed to think that the practice was wrong, and that duologues, though not specified in that clause, are as much an entertainment of the stage as tragedy, comedy, farce, &c. Many names are now given to theatrical pieces, which were either unknown or not in use at the time of passing the Act for the Better Regulation of Theatres; such as comedietta, petite comedy, &c., &c.; but it is not pretended that these are not entertainments of the stage.

2325. Then those performances are not within the meaning of the interpretation clause?—As far as the practice of the time went, they not considered as being so. On weighing the matter, I believe such performances to have been within the meaning of the clause, and that the practice was erroneous.

W. B. Donne, Esq.
23 April 1866.

2326. With regard to the refusal of a license to the Alhambra Music Hall, the license was refused on Mr. E. T. Smith's application, was it not?—Originally it was.

2327. The license was refused because the galleries were not safe, was it not?—The professional surveyor who generally accompanies me did not consider that the Alhambra was at that time in a proper condition for a theatre.

2328. When Mr. Strange renewed the application, did he forward to you any evidence as to having altered the house to agree with the report of the surveyor?—I do not remember his having done so; but it did not come directly before me.

2329. But if it had been altered so as to secure the safety of the public, should you have licensed it?—It would not have been for me to determine; if I had been directed, I should have gone to examine it, but there was no order for me to do so.

2330. But if you had been requested by the Lord Chamberlain to examine the Alhambra with the view of granting a license to it as a theatre, and the result of your examination was that the safety of the public would not be endangered in case of accident or a great crowd in the galleries, should you have objected to report that it was a fit house for a theatre?—Each case stands on its own merits.

2331. You gave as the reason for refusing the license, that the galleries were not constructed with sufficient regard to the security of the public?—Yes.

2332. Supposing that point settled, should you in such case apply yourself to any other circumstances in the case, except those that touch the safety of the public?—If the Alhambra were subject to all the conditions of a theatre with regard to its structure, that case then would rest on its own merits; but I can hardly take upon myself to say what the Lord Chamberlain would do; supposing the cases were exactly similar, I suppose the result would be similar.

2333. But should you make any objection in reporting upon a building because it was not built with galleries, boxes, and stalls?—Certainly not. I think I have already said that there is no adherence to any particular form of building.

2334. The safety of the public is what you look to?—Yes, that is the be-all and end-all.

2335. Mr. *Lusk.*] You have had a good deal of experience in all matters connected with theatres and places of amusement, I suppose?—I have had a good deal of experience of theatres, but not much of other places of public entertainment.

2336. You have had a good deal of acquaintance with the theatrical part of literature?—Yes.

2337. Therefore I suppose you have considerable knowledge of the tastes of the public with regard to those matters?—I hardly know that; I am not a frequent playgoer; I do not watch the currents of public taste very closely.

2338. Looking at all things together, do you think it is necessary that places of amusement, such as theatres and so on, should be licensed?—I think they should be licensed; but that is rather an awkward question for me to answer.

2339. But I ask you, because you have a good deal of special knowledge; you think that the proprietors of those establishments should not be left to do as other people are left to do, trusting

W. B. Donne, Esq.

23 April 1866.

to their merits for success, as booksellers and music publishers do?—No; I think, from my practical knowledge, that it is a wholesome check, and not a check to which they object themselves. But you will get better answers to that question from the managers who will come before you. I am rather judging other people, if I offer an opinion. It would be unfair in me to give my judgment, because it is not within my knowledge; but I think, generally, that the licensing system is a wholesome system.

2340. Who appoints you to your office?—The Lord Chamberlain for the time being.

2341. Who appoints the Lord Chamberlain?—I do not know; I suppose it is the Minister for the time being.

2342. Or is it the Queen?—I am sure I do not know.

2343. Is that office of the Lord Chamberlain's a political office or a civil office?—I do not know.

2344. You do not know who appoints him?—I cannot say that I know; I have a supposition, but I do not know.

2345. Suppose a man had a grievance against you, to whom would he appeal for redress?—To the Lord Chamberlain.

2346. Suppose the Lord Chamberlain would not give much attention to the matter, to whom should he appeal then?—I have never known an instance in which any Lord Chamberlain has not given his attention to every case brought before him by me; I can hardly imagine a Lord Chamberlain who would not hear an appeal attentively.

2347. Suppose we have a grievance even against a magistrate or against a judge, we can appeal to the Home Office, can we not?—I believe there is an appeal in all cases, up to the very highest, in political and legal affairs.

2348. Would there be an appeal to Parliament then, if there was a grievance against you or your office, by that class of men who have to live by the stage?—The appeal from my decision is to the Lord Chamberlain; I do not know whether there is any mode of appeal from his decision.

2349. Do you think that those who issue licenses should be responsible to the press or to Parliament?—The present system, as far as I know, works tolerably well, to the content of all parties; I do not see why there should be a higher court of appeal, more particularly as the press exercises a very strong influence over such matters.

2350. Do you think that all licenses to all places of entertainment, should be granted by one authority?—It would tend to simplify the action very much, if they were granted in a uniform way; at present the Acts with regard to public houses and theatres, may lead to conflict of jurisdiction occasionally.

2351. You think that one authority would be, all things considered, the best to issue all those licenses?—I hardly know that I am competent to answer that question, because I do not know the general working of the magisterial authority.

2352. I suppose, first of all, with regard to the mere place where the amusement is to be performed, you do not think there would be any difficulty in getting doors of the right size, precautions against fire, and so on, do you?—The conditions for safety in public buildings are various; at some of them there is merely lighting by gas, but no performances in which fire is used, and therefore fewer precautions would there be required; in other cases, there would not be so much space necessary for egress. As I said on Friday, the circumstances of each case are seldom alike.

2353. But there is no difficulty on that point?—No, I never found any, but there might be in untried cases.

2354. An architect or a surveyor could easily say if a place was safe?—Yes, but I should like him to be in the Lord Chamberlain's employ.

2355. But how would you deal with the mode or manner of acting, who would judge there; would you have the police, or a staff from your place to overlook that?—If all places of public entertainment are to be inspected before they are licensed, there must be not only an inspector, but he must have some sort of staff to assist him.

2356. You think it would be necessary to have some person from your office to inspect those things?—By some means or other there should be a very strict inspection; quite as strict as that now exercised over some of the theatres.

2357. You would have somebody to look after the character of the pieces put on the stage, to give them, so to speak, the hall stamp?—Yes.

2358. Have you a staff for all those things at present?—For the whole of the duties of inspecting every public place of amusement, it is but a small staff; so far as reading the manuscripts goes, I have said that I, or at least the examiner of plays could undertake to do that.

2359. Would all that cause much expense?—To "inspect" effectually it must be made worth one man's while to give a great deal of his time to it, and therefore he must be well paid.

2360. How could you then get the expense paid?—I cannot say.

2361. Would it be by a tax on those institutions?—They might object to pay what they conceive to be a tax on themselves.

2362. Would you make any distinction between the drama and a musical entertainment, in the license given for music and dancing?—In case they all required some license, there might be a difference necessary in the form of license; they might be licensed to perform so and so according to the proposed nature of the performances.

2363. But why should there be any difference between what the two kinds of places performed, supposing it were moral and decorous, and everything that is proper?—One very good reason there is; it would tend to a classification of the theatres; audiences would then go to one house for some things, and to another house for other things.

2364. But when a man is in the market we do not interfere with him; we do not want a classification of books; is there any reason why there should be a distinction between the two things?—I think in the practical working a good many things might be done in places of public entertainment, which are now pretty generally kept out of them, by reason of there being somebody who inspects them.

2365. But why should the drama, any more than painting or music, be under trammels of any kind?—I think some sort of revision is necessary before hand, for the acted drama.

2366. Supposing we have agreed that there is a reason for a license, why should a man not be left to perform what he likes, just as a man may paint what he likes?—I think it would be rather difficult to say off-hand, but we are now going into general principles, which are of all things the most

most difficult to deal with in such cases; you might come to a general principle that every man should be exempt from a great many things that he is now subject to; every man is born free by nature, but may men pay taxes, though it might be thought a hardship to make any man pay taxes for some, to him, remote and perhaps unintelligibe purpose.

2367. But is this protective system any advantage to the public?—I think, as I have said already, it acts wholesomely on dramatic art.

2368. But why should you protect one class or occupation, and not another?—I think that the two businesses of theatres and music halls, apart from the question of morality, are quite different; there is plenty of room for both, provided they do not cross their respective businesses.

2369. But has the Legislature any right to interfere with people in their businesses?—It very often does; whether it should or not.

2370. Do you think it desirable that the Government should be a sort of father to any business or not?—That depends very much on the character of the son.

2371. Do you think that the Government should act paternally towards the theatres?—I again say I think that the system of restriction works wholesomely for the theatres.

2372. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] You say that it would be practicable for the Lord Chamberlain's office to exercise the same supervision over the music halls which it does over the theatres?—Certainly.

2373. Very likely that would involve a larger staff?—What I said the other day on that question regarded entirely the reading and licensing of manuscripts.

2374. With regard to reading the pieces, you say you could manage that?—I am sure I, or any examiner of plays, could manage that.

2375. Then supposing the Lord Chamberlain's office, or any other office in fact, was to undertake the supervision or censorship, and a music hall performed mere pantomime or ballet, there would be no possibility of exercising a preliminary supervision over that; all you could do would be occasionally to watch it to see that nothing indecent went on?—Yes; in the case of ballets, there formerly used to be printed with the libretto the plot of the ballet; a ballet can be examined beforehand as to the mere framework of the story.

2376. But in the ballet the angle of the leg is the language with which they speak, and that cannot be conveyed in the plot?—Yes, just so.

2377. You agree that it would be for the advantage of the audiences which attend the music halls, as well in the way of amusement as refinement, if the character of the performances were raised?—Yes.

2378. If instead of tumblers and *pseudo* niggers they could have pretty scenery and good dancing, pantomimes with characteristic costumes and light operettas and vaudevilles?—If it did tend to the elevation of the morals of the audience, certainly it would be an improvement.

2379. I am always supposing that those things are subject to the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain, or some other authority; but in that case it would be an improvement so far?—There is no doubt about it.

2380. Mr. Strange says that he would gladly substitute a much higher kind of entertainment if the law allowed him; do you not think it is hard upon the managers and the audiences that any law should step in to prevent such an improvement, always supposing that a supervision takes place?—Of course, I think it desirable that the character of any audience, or any performance should be raised, but I think we must be very careful when raising the character of the performances at the music halls, that we do not, in proportion lower the character of the performances at the theatres, because if we take away from the theatres one-third at least of their paying audience and throw it into music halls, we shall either make the theatres shut up altogether, or drive them to the alternative of giving performances like those at the music halls, so that as we raise the lever at one end, we may depress it at the other. I can conceive that many theatres under a new system may find it convenient, if not necessary, to become music halls. I am not so sure of the converse.

2381. That is rather trenching on the doctrine of monopoly, is it not; do you really think that the mere fact of tables being placed within the auditorium as at the Alhambra, and the people quietly enjoying their grog, should be a reason why the advantages of improved performances should be withheld from such establishments?—I doubt very much when what accompanies the tables is going on, whether very improved classes of drama can be introduced to any purpose or profit to any one.

2382. But I started from the supposition that they did not dream of producing heavy plays, but took light vaudevilles?—Yes, that might be so, but I think that they would find themselves much better paid by mere spectacular performances, rather by what can be seen than by what requires to be heard also.

2383. But there are many things which the present law will not allow them to perform?—Yes.

2384. To that extent it would be desirable that the law should be modified, would it not?—I think it might be very desirable to improve the performances, but I still think that there would be some adjustment wanted as to the theatres; the vaudeville is becoming very attractive in theatres, and the old farce has gone out.

2385. Do you think that you could draw such a distinction between what is called the legitimate drama and those semi-dramatic performances as would enable you to give licenses to the music halls for the latter class and keep the others to the theatres?—It would require much consideration, but I think it could be done.

2386. Then if it could be done there would be no difficulty in extending the privilege of the music halls to that lighter class of performances?—It could, in my opinion, be done most efficiently by an agreement come to between the lessees of the different places; for as they have conflicting interests, it would be very difficult for other persons, however experienced, to do anything without their concurrence and assent.

2387. Now, with regard to the safety of the buildings, and so on. Supposing that the Lord Chamberlain had the supervision of those music halls as well as of the theatres, you would apply the same principle in both cases, would you not?—Yes.

2388. If 3,000 persons can be contained in the Alhambra,

W.B.Donne, Esq.

23 April 1866.

Alhambra, it does not matter whether they are looking at a ballet or at Shakespere?—If they were equally secure from accidents the objection would be removed; the form of the building has nothing to do with it.

2389. *Chairman.*] I see by the form of the license which is given by the Lord Chamberlain that security is given by the managers against transgression of any of the regulations?—Yes.

2390. Do you know of any case where that security has been forfeited?—No, I do not. There was, I think, one case, in which the question arose, but the house to which the case applied, went into other hands, and there was no occasion for enforcing the claim on the sureties.

2391. Is the sum always the same for this security?—That does not properly fall within my department, but I believe that the sum is always the same. When there were saloons (which have recently become theatres) there was a difference in the security, but there are no saloons left now under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction.

2392. I understood you to say that you make no difference with regard to the plot in the licensing of operas and plays?—None whatever.

2393. You take into consideration the music of an opera as the vehicle of the story?—Yes; in reading an opera my business is simply with the plot and words of the libretto.

2394. You are as stringent with regard to the plot as if it were a drama?—Yes, quite.

2395. If it were sung in Italian, would that be so?—Quite so, or in French or German also.

2396. You would not anticipate any difficulty in regard to the licensing of small pieces, such as might be performed at the different music halls?—No, I think they would gradually fall into the present system for licensing theatrical entertainments.

2397. Do you think the number of the pieces would be greatly increased if the monopolies of the theatres were removed?—I doubt whether it would be increased so much as seems to be expected, what are now music halls, would probably adhere to pantomimes, and their *vaudevilles* would be very short; of course, their expenses for authorship and acting would be more, and they would accordingly do with as few as they could.

2398. Do you think that, practically, the existing system is a check on dramatic authorship?—I can hardly see how that can be so, when there are 24 theatres in the metropolis not to mention those in the provinces, playing at the same time.

2399. But at some of the theatres they play the same piece for a long time?—Yes, sometimes for more than a year, and even longer.

2400. So that the number of new pieces produced is comparatively small?—It is comparatively small; taking a period of 20 years, they are very much less; there was a time when, at the Surrey, alone, seven or eight new pieces were produced every quarter of a year, or even more run.

2401. But does the idea that they are going to pass under a license hamper dramatic authors?—I think not at all.

2402. It seldom occurs that you have refused to license pieces?—Yes; from 1857 to 1865 only seven pieces were refused a license.

2403. Do you often strike out passages?—I used to do so formerly much more frequently than now; I believe that the excisions in the whole course of 1865 would hardly cover a sheet of paper.

2404. Do you believe that the pieces would be more immoral if the censorship were removed?—I think it would be so in some cases.

2405. You think there would be a demand for pieces less moral?—Yes; I think in consequence of the excisions which were made some years ago, the excisions are fewer at the present time.

2406. Do you know anything of the system in France?—I know that it is rather more severe than our own with regard to the performances. In France the Censor attends the last three rehearsals as well as examines the manuscripts.

2407. The censorship is more severe?—It is politically so, but I think not in other respects.

2408. Have you ever cut out political allusions?—Frequently, but not many lately; it depends very much on the particular times or circumstances. A political allusion at one time would be very harmless, but under other circumstances might prove very far from harmless.

2409. Do you cut out religious allusions?—Yes.

2410. Have the excisions which you have alluded to interfered much with religious subjects?—Occasionally they have, but not very much; both as a matter of morality, and as a matter of taste, I never allow any association with scripture or theology to be introduced into a play.

2411. I suppose that dramatic authors by this time are generally acquainted with your system?—I believe that they are perfectly so.

2412. If the licensing system did not exist at all, do you think you could measure, by the excisions which you have made, what pieces might have offended against morality if there had been no licensing system at all?—I think I can see that if those pieces required such excisions, and there had been no censorship, there might have been more of such cases; some plays may have been put in tentatively, if a piece were successful in virtue of what I should cut out, the next piece with a little more to be cut out might be still more successful.

2413. You do not, then, think it fair to say that if you have only rejected seven pieces, if there had been no censorship there would only have been seven?—I think there might have been many more; sometimes I have been asked the question beforehand, "Will you admit so and so," and I have said, "Certainly not;" and if I have come to any knowledge beforehand of a piece not likely to be passed, I have, when possible, said to the author, "Do not send it to me since you must in that case pay me for the trouble of reading it."

2414. But might not the public taste exercise the same kind of censorship that you do, even if your censorship were withdrawn?—I should be very sorry to say that my individual taste was superior to the whole of the public taste.

2415. But do you think objectionable pieces would be condemned by public opinion?—It would, in some measure, depend on where they were represented; this question comprises the whole of Great Britain, and one can hardly tell what pieces would be most popular in some places.

2416. Have you found that pieces are particularly popular among the lower classes which are founded on burglaries and robberies?—Yes; and the results have been that two or three pieces of

of that order have not been allowed to be performed. "Oliver Twist" was one; it had a bad influence, and the Lord Chamberlain had a great many letters from parents and masters requesting that such pieces should not be exhibited, because they had an ill effect on their sons and apprentices. New plays turning on such plots are now not recommended for license.

2417. Would the play, however, have a worse effect on them than reading the books?—No doubt there is that difficulty, that you may buy for 6 *d.* at a railway stall what you may see for 3 *d.* at a theatre. But it is to be remembered that representation of a story appeals much more strongly than merely reading one, to the senses of an audience.

2418. Mr. *Locke.*] You have stated that you consider that the word "monologue" does not come within the interpretation clause of 6th and 7th Vict. sec. 23. Has that ever been decided by any court of competent authority, or is it merely your own opinion?—I am not aware that it has been decided.

2419. Will you state the reason why you consider the word "monologue" does not come within the 23d Section of the 6th & 7th Vict. c. 68?—Because the entertainments "of the stage" are therein specified by name; and that is not one of them; I am again speaking to the practice formerly, I have already said that the practice I now think to have been erroneous.

2420. Let me call your attention to four words in that section, "or any part thereof;" the words that precede that are, "stage play shall be taken to include tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or any performance of the stage." Now, taking those words altogether, and coupling the words, "or any part thereof" with, we will say, a tragedy, do you not consider that a person delivering the soliloquy in "Hamlet" on a stage would come within the meaning of the Act? The soliloquy in "Hamlet" is a part of the tragedy of "Hamlet," and therefore if any man were to declaim that on a stage where persons paid money to see the performance, would not that be a breach of the provisions of this 6th & 7th Vict., whereby a person is precluded from giving any "performance of the stage" (unless licensed by the Lord Chamberlain), "or any part thereof?"—I think, if that case were referred to any authority, he would at once say that the soliloquy in "Hamlet," although it was in one sense a monologue, was not a monologue within the sense of the legal definitions.

2421. A monologue is a man speaking by himself?—Yes.

2422. A monologue would be the same thing as a soliloquy then? Does not the Act go to this extent, that any play whatever, "or any part" of any play, cannot be performed without the license of the Lord Chamberlain, where persons pay to see the performance?—That is a question for a court of law to decide.

2423. It never has been decided by a court of law, has it?—No; at least, not to my knowledge.

2424. Then how do you draw the distinction? Do you recollect the late Mr. Albert Smith's performance at the Egyptian Hall?—Yes.

2425. Was that a dramatic performance?—It was once, because Mr. Albert Smith had a license.

2426. It was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain?—He and Mr. Woodin both fled for refuge to the Lord Chamberlain.

2427. They both delivered monologues?—Yes, both Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Woodin.

2428. Did you draw any distinction between Mr. Albert Smith's performance and Mr. Woodin's?—The informers were upon them, and both of them came for a *quasi* theatrical license; but those were the only cases in which it was granted.

2429. But if Mr. Woodin's performance did not come within the provisions of the Act, why was it necessary to give him a license?—I told him at the time I did not think he was in danger; we only gave it out of benevolence.

2430. But Mr. Woodin thought that he was in danger?—Yes, he thought that he was in danger, and so did Mr. Albert Smith.

2431. Having looked at this section again, do you really think he was in danger?—I believe that my opinion, though in accordance with practice, was wrong, and that they were in danger.

2432. What was the cost of the license that was given to Mr. Woodin?—I suppose he paid the usual 7 *s.* a month.

2433. What would that 7 *s.* be for?—For the license.

2434. For the place?—Yes; then, having got a theatrical license, it became necessary for him to send me the libretto of his performance.

2435. But there has been no decision on this point?—No.

2436. Mr. Woodin had a license, but is there anybody who has performed monologues that you know of who has not had a license?—There may be many whom I have not heard of. Mr. David Fisher had a license for a monologue, because he intended to produce it in theatres; he performed it in St. James's Hall, but there the license was not then considered to be necessary.

2437. He wished to establish in London that it was a theatrical performance, so that theatrical managers might permit him to act it in the country, I suppose?—It was merely to guard himself against inconvenience.

2438. You stated on Friday that religion, politics, and morality, were the three subjects to which you chiefly brought your attention in licensing a play?—They are.

2439. I suppose you cannot lay down any distinct rule with regard to your licensing any of those three subjects; take first of all religion, do you think that at the present time, supposing the play of "The Hypocrite," which was adapted from "Tartuffe," were to be sent to you, you would license that play?—Not without great excisions. The subject of "Tartuffe" is a perfectly legitimate dramatic subject. But there are passages in "The Hypocrite" which are very offensive.

2440. Would you leave out Mawworm?—I should cut him very short.

2441. Mawworm as performed by Liston was the very soul of the piece?—Yes.

2442. It filled the house?—Yes.

2443. You recollect that George IV., who had not been to a theatre for many years, when he did condescend to go to the theatre, ordered this play of "The Hypocrite" to be performed?—I have heard so.

2444. Do you recollect that caused great offence to a certain class of people?—No doubt.

W. B. Donne, Esq.

23 April 1866.

2445. Do you know the play called "The Way to Keep Him"?—Yes.

2446. In which there is a direction given by a sanctified master of a shop to water the vinegar, sand the sugar, and come to prayers. If that had come before you, would it have been struck out?—I think in "The Way to Keep Him" the scene is all laid in high life.

2447. You recollect, at all events, that passage in some comedy or other; would you have struck it out if the comedy had come before you to license?—It would depend very much on the character of the grocer into whose mouth the words were put.

2448. It was not merely because he was a grocer that he was held up to ridicule?—No; he might be a grocer and a villain, of course.

2449. However *quâ* grocer he was made to speak those words, would you have struck them out?—No; I should not have struck them out; but much depends on the context; the context might make such a passage highly objectionable, or it might be perfectly harmless.

2450. Probably, if you had been Licenser in France at the time "Tartuffe" was produced, you would not have allowed it to go on the stage?—I do not think I could have helped it, inasmuch as that comedy had the express approbation of Louis the Fourteenth.

2451. The Crown came in to the rescue of the author; but supposing you had been the licenser pure and simple, and had acted on your own principle at that time, I suppose "Tartuffe" would never have been acted on any stage, and I presume that, upon the same supposition, we should have had very few, if any, of Shakespeare's plays, and certainly none of them in their integrity?—The licenser was very strict in those days—I mean the Master of the Revels—and it must be remembered that a great many words have now lost the meaning which they had in Shakespeare's time, and have become mere expressions. Sir Thomas Herbert struck out such words as "zounds," "bodikins," and so on, because in Shakespeare's time they contained a very solemn meaning, and excisions of that kind were proper at the time, though they would be meaningless or pedantic now.

2452. It would be very interesting to know the principle on which the Master of the Revels acted in those days, considering on the one hand what he left in, and on the other, that you seem to think he was so very severe; but at all events, you do not think he would have cut such a character as *Mawworm* very short, do you?—No, I think he would not; there was a strong feeling at that time against the Brownists and Puritans.

2453. But I thought I understood you to say that the existence of an immediate political or religious application was one of your reasons for not allowing some things to be put upon the stage?—There is another thing which must be allowed some weight with reference to *Mawworm*, the sermon is not in the original play.

2454. You mean where he gets up behind the screen?—Yes.

2455. At all events, the dramatic licenser in those days allowed it?—The play was merely "The Nonjuror" recast.

2456. Do you not, in great measure, attribute the inferiority of dramatic authorship in modern times, compared with what it was in former days, to the influence of the modern censorship, at least in great part?—Before I can answer that question, I must be permitted to say that I am not quite certain that I can agree with you as to the inferiority of modern dramatic authorship; for example, looking at Genest's History of the Stage, and referring to the list of plays that were acted in 1765, and then turning to the list of plays that were acted in 1865, I think I am entitled to say that there has been a great improvement in dramatic authorship. It must be remembered that in looking back we see the top of the mountain only, the two or three good plays which have lived, but not the masses of rubbish that were acted in those days, and have since sunk out of sight and mind.

2457. Can you mention many plays brought out during this century which are likely to remain visible in the shape of mountain tops for our posterity?—I regard "Virginius," "Ion," "The Patrician's Daughter," "Still Waters Run Deep," "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," "Arrah na Pogue," "The Colleen Bawn," and some others, as likely to survive, and certainly far more deserving of surviving than two-thirds of the plays of the last century and a half.

2458. Mr. *Walpole.*] And, probably, you would include "Richelieu"?—Yes, certainly, and perhaps also the "Lady of Lyons." Some of the modern comedies are very good; of course I do not mean to say equal to "The School for Scandal."

2459. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think we have anything equal to Goldsmith?—Yes.

2460. You do not despair of dramatic authorship?—Far from it.

2461. But do you not think that if they had greater scope, dramatic authors would produce better plays?—I do not think any restrictions are put upon them which can or at least ought to cramp any man's powers.

2462. In the Greek drama, politics and religion were of course introduced?—Yes, certainly religion, because a dramatic performance was a religious service, only allowed at a certain period of the year; and in the old comedy, at least, politics also to a great extent, if not the essential ingredient.

2463. Religion, from a theologian's point of view, is not permitted in the dramas of the present day, nor would I suggest that it should be, but do you not think that dramatic writing as well as acting, must decline in energy in proportion as we exclude some topics of broad and living interest which a too-nice censorship might find "political" or "religious"?—I have never said that I would entirely interdict religious subjects in a drama. You gave me the particular case of "The Hypocrite," but perhaps it will be some guide if I mention that I did recommend for license "Polyeucte," which had always been prohibited till I did so. I saw no reason why a religious drama of that kind should not be represented, nor do I, provided it is not doctrinal.

2464. Did you license "Moses in Egypt"?—No.

2465. That was produced at Covent-garden theatre. I forget whose version it was, whether it was that of Rossini or Mozart?—I think it was played by a different name, "Nino," but it was long before my time.

2466. The plagues of Egypt were introduced on the stage in that case, were they not?—I dare say, but I was not then examiner.

2467. In

2467. In any case, performances of that kind were quite common in England, in former times, were they not?—Yes.

2468. In fact, they were the staple commodity of the theatre formerly?—Yes, and they are so in the Spanish theatre to this day; even in England "Joseph and his Brethen" has been performed within the last 25 years.

2469. In character?—No, not in character.

2470. You mean the oratorio where the words are merely sung, but the "Moses in Egypt," to which I refer was performed in character on the stage of Covent-garden?—It must have been previous to 1849.

2471. At all events, that species of performance has been discontinued, has it not?—Yes, I had an application to license a drama founded on the story of Joseph and his Brethen, but I refused it because it was almost the Scriptural story; offers were made to alter it, but it was impossible to unscripturalise the plot.

2472. When "Moses in Egypt" is put upon the stage in Paris, it is not at all the story of the Pentateuch, because the tables are carried about before the Israelities had crossed the Red Sea?—I never saw it performed. There was another instance, that of "The Prodigal Son," which was performed in this country.

2473. When was that?—That must have been in 1850 or 1851, and there was a great controversy about it, but I defended it; for the plot of many comedies may really be said to be the story of a prodigal son.

2474. Now with respect to *vaudevilles*, can you define exactly what a *vaudeville* is?—It is a very short, light farce, but what is the meaning of the word *vaudeville*, I cannot say.

2475. It is a French word, and it means a light farce, interspersed with songs perhaps?—No doubt there might be a *vaudeville* without songs, but they generally have songs in *vaudevilles*.

2476. And usually very much out of tune?—A light farce with songs would scarcely be the precise definition of *vaudeville*.

2477. I understood you to say that the modern farce is going out of fashion, and that the *vaudeville* is being introduced instead of it. You must have had some kind of precise idea of what was substituted for the thing which is being rejected?—Yes; a *vaudeville* may generally be said to be of a much lighter texture than a farce. The term "farce" is very seldom used in the manuscripts which are sent to me. They now-a-days call such things *comediettas* or *vaudevilles*, or *petite comedies*.

2478. What should you call "Simpson & Co.?"—That was called a farce; but it would now probably be called a *comedietta* in two acts.

2479. What was it called in France, before it came over here?—I do not know.

2480. Could you give us a statement of the number of original pieces, if any, on our stage which have been submitted to you. I mean the number of pieces which have not been adaptations from the French?—I should be unable to answer that question; but a good many of the melodramas produced at the East end are taken from the novels which run through the cheap newspapers.

2481. Do you consider the "Ticket-of-Leave Man," to which you have referred, an original play?—Originally it was French, but it is completely altered to suit English ground.

2482. However, you think that that *quasi*-French piece will be a mountain peak for posterity?—In any case it is an excellent play. Dramatists have always borrowed in that way. Many of Dryden's plays are Spanish in their origin.

2483. We do not often go to see a play of Dryden in these days?—They did in his days, and long afterwards.

2484. How many of them have survived?—"Don Sebastian," "All for Love," may, perhaps, be said to have stood their ground.

2485. However, you do not at all inquire into the origin of the plays that are submitted to you for licensing?—No.

2486. Still, you can tell when the play is of French origin, I suppose?—Yes, in many cases.

2487. The French manners show through the English workmanship?—Yes; and that is generally at the root of much that is improbable in modern comedy; the importation of foreign manners not according with our own.

2488. Probably you may recollect an article in the "Revue des deux Mondes" on that subject, which attributed the falling off in the English stage to the fact that it did not represent English manners?—Yes.

2489. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] With regard to the licensing of operas, do I understand you to say that you proceed upon the same principle as in licensing plays?—Precisely so, attending to the story. It is the *libretto* entirely that I look at.

2490. The words would be the principle on which you would exclude an opera, rather than the moral which might be supposed to be contained in the story?—If I thought an opera was decidedly immoral, I should object to it, just as I should object to a play.

2491. Can you mention any operas now performed that are not immoral?—The application of such a rule as that would exclude an enormous number of plays and operas from the stage.

2492. Take Gounod's opera of "Faust and Marguerite," do you consider that immoral?—Do I understand you to ask me if the story of "Faust" is immoral? The story is a world-story. It was played at Drury-lane 30 years ago; the subject is hackneyed on the stage.

2493. You recollect there is a church brought on the stage in that play?—Yes.

2494. Would you consider that the mere representation of a church on the stage was immoral?—Certainly not, the mere representation of it; it is necessary for the purposes of the scene. It is the established custom of the stage from time immemorial to introduce such scenes.

2495. It is not your practice to go very strictly into the morality of an opera?—It must be something almost of a scandalous character to warrant interference. If you sift the matter to the very dross in this way, two-thirds of the plays of any period in the history of the stage must be condemned. Where there is an obvious intention or a very strong suspicion of an intention to make wrong appear right, or right appear wrong, those are the cases in which I interfere; or those in which there is any open scandal, or any inducement to do wrong is offered, but stage "morality" is————the morality of the stage, and generally quite as good as the morality of the literature of fiction.

2496. If there were a large number of what are called *double entendres*, would pay any attention to that?—That is a species of wit which is very nearly extinct; but if I see a real *double entendre*,

W. B. Donne, Esq.

23 April 1866.

entendre, I always cut it out, and mention the fact on the back of the license; our books would show that, because the excisions are all copied.

2497. Mr. *Miller*.] Our great object is to ascertain whether the theatres and music and dancing places can be so licensed and brought under control, that they may amuse the public without conducing to immorality; are you of opinion from the experience that you have had, that licenses might be granted to music halls of a character that would enable them to go on with their performances without any serious detriment to the audience?—That is, licenses for the entertainment and not the buildings?

2498. Not the buildings?—Yes, undoubtedly, because supposing every one of the present music halls were converted into a theatre, they would of course come under inspection, therefore what would be possible in the one case is possible if they remain music halls.

2499. If they were brought under the management of some competent authority, do you think they might exist to the extent that they do now, and contribute to the public amusement, without interfering more with the morals of the people than the ordinary theatres do?—If they were subject to the same regulations, and if the same care were taken in reading what they would send for license.

2500. Can you suggest to the Committee the particular authority, and the particular license that you would grant to such places?—No; that is a point to be settled between the managers of the theatres and the managers of music halls. No one person could do it to the satisfaction of either party.

2501. If that were done, to what extent would you allow the music and dancing halls to go in the way of dramatic performance?—That would be settled between the two contracting parties. "We will undertake only to do this;" and "We will let you do this."

2502. Whatever they determine on, you would embody in the Act?—Yes. There is a great deal of capital embarked in all those places; in music halls as well as theatres. That is a commercial question.

2503. Do you think that there is good feeling enough between those parties to enable them to come to some arrangement?—I think there has been for the last two or three years a good deal of angry feeling between them; but I suppose they would act like sensible men with a common interest, so that the feud should not continue.

2504. You have stated, that before a person began to erect a theatre, he applied for a license, and he showed you his plan?—Yes, he sends in his plan; the first step would be to say, "I have an intention to put a building on such and such a ground, is there any preliminary objection?"

2505. Is that made necessary by law?—The Lord Chamberlain has power to make bye-laws for that and other purposes.

2506. That application must be made before the building is commenced, must it not?—That application must be made before the building is commenced.

2507. Do you insist upon the stage lights being guarded?—Yes.

2508. You have spoken of certain arrangements that you thought necessary for the egress of people in the event of accident; we have all read of the dreadful accident which occurred at the Haymarket Theatre, when George the Third and the Queen attended there. That accident was occasioned by the accumulation of the people outside the building, and the same thing occurred at Santiago?—Yes.

2509. Do you require that there should be any given number of policemen outside the building in order that the street may be clear in case of accident?—No, we do not require that. But at the time when the Prince of Wales was married, and when the theatres were thrown open to the public, Sir Richard Mayne was requested to add to the police for the purpose of keeping a clear passage.

2510. Seeing that the passage, ways, and exits would be really useless unless the outside were kept clear, would not that be important to attend to?—I have never seen such a crowd on ordinary nights as to suggest the difficulty.

2511. I speak of cases of accident; exceptional cases?—A crowd rushing out of a theatre would necessarily force its way through any ordinary crowd on the outside, but the subject is well worth thinking of.

2512. Take the case of Covent Garden or of Drury Lane; what time would it take, in the event of an accident, for the audience to get out of the building?—The question of "clearance" is constantly asked on the inspection of a theatre. I should say that you might clear either of those theatres in 12 minutes.

2513. That is to say, if the crowd outside permitted the people to disperse?—In case of fire there would, no doubt, be a block by the crowd, but there could be no permanent arrangement made for occasional casualties of the kind.

2514. Is there any room in the great theatres which may be called a canteen, or a large room for the ballet girls to assemble in between the performances?—There are always rooms for the ballet girls to dress in.

2515. Are men permitted to go into that room?—Certainly not.

2516. Do you lay down any rule for that?—No.

2517. Do you know the earliest age at which ballet girls are permitted to commence their operations?—In pantomimes there are children three years old.

2518. But I mean ordinary ballet girls?—No, I do not know.

2519. Some doubt was thrown on the propriety of consulting the neighbourhood, particularly the neighbourhood of the Haymarket, before a new theatre was built; but even in respect to the Haymarket, has not the parish in which that is situated made great efforts to improve it?—Yes, certainly; on Friday last, I said that the Haymarket was a portion of the parish of St. James.

2520. The vestry of St. James has made great efforts of that kind?—Yes.

2521. So that they would be rather entitled to consideration on that account, more perhaps than any other locality?—I do not know to more, for every locality should have its proper consideration.

2522. In judging of the propriety of allowing any performance like that of "Mawworm" and similar things, would you not be regulated by the circumstances, political or otherwise, prevailing at the time?—Decidedly.

2523. If,

2523. If, owing to those circumstances, the play should appear to be personally, political, or religious, you would object to it?—Yes.

2524. But supposing there was nothing in the terms to give the facts such a significance, you would not object?—I should not.

2525. On the contrary, are not such characters as "Mawworm" rather calculated to do good by bringing the vice of which he was guilty, under public contempt?—When I said that "Mawworm" would not be allowed now, I referred to the whole of the part, as it is usually performed; in fact, most of the profanity of "Mawworm" is not in the real play at all.

2526. Take the "School for Scandal"; is it not the case that sometimes when a hypocrite is exposed on the stage, it does public good?—Of course, that is the very essence of the drama, but it is a matter that will so much depend on the circumstances of the times, that to lay down general rules would be next to impossible.

2527. The Committee have had a paper sent to them by a gentleman of the name of Stanley, in which he says, "It is very undesirable and unfair to the proprietors that the Lord Chamberlain should have the control over the music halls, because he is an officer attached to, and his principal duties are in connection with, the Royal Family and the nobility, and therefore not acquainted with the habits and requirements of the middle and lower classes"; do you admit that to be quite true?—It appears to me that the author of that judges rather from his own notions than from any knowledge.

2528. He goes on to say, "Because he and his officers, in consequence of their long connection with the theatrical managers, have become strong partizans in the theatrical interest"; do you admit all that?—I deny altogether, that I come here as the partizan of anybody; I am happy to say that the managers and myself are upon good terms with one another, but I do not come here as their or anyone's partizan.

2529. If it were decided that the place for licensing was in your office, that would involve the necessity of a considerable extension of your officers?—So far as the inspection of buildings is concerned it would; but, with regard to the examination of theatrical manuscripts, it would not.

2530. The inspection would require an increase in the number of officers?—Certainly, the inspection of buildings.

2531. Supposing your office undertook the licensing, could you separate the two things into two departments; that is to say, the theatres and the music halls, and have a separate branch for each?—Yes, it would be very possible; it would be very desirable to have a set of rules laid down for the inspection of all public buildings under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, and a similar set of rules for the new circumstances that might arise with regard to manuscripts.

2532. Therefore, even if there should be any prejudice existing (I am far from saying that there is) in your present officers, they would not extend to the new circumstances of the department?—There must be new officers if the new buildings are to be under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction; and, for there to be a really good inspection, it must be repeated when any alterations are made; the real thing would be for the theatres to be frequently under supervision; that would occupy one man's time, with perhaps that of two or three people under him, multiplied as the places of public entertainment would be.

2533. You think it practicable for the Lord Chamberlain to undertake the licensing of the whole of the music halls throughout the country?—Quite practicable with an additional staff.

2534. Mr. *Clive.*] You drew a distinction, and very properly, between such plays as "Tartuffe," or "The Hypocrite," where vice is portrayed to be condemned, and the more naked production of vice?—Yes.

2535. The one you think is necessary, and the other to be prevented?—Yes.

2536. In this document put in by Mr. Stanley he says, "Public feeling is against anything immoral or indecent being placed upon a stage; anything of the kind would be hissed off the stage"; could you not trust to that without any superintendence at all?—I think not in all places.

2537. Mr. Stanley also says, "The proprietors therefore desire the right to perform small pieces, limiting the number of performers, say, to five or six persons, say, operas, operettas, pantomimes, burlesques, interludes, farces, ballets, or by whatever name they may be called." Suppose that to be allowed, would it be possible to keep up any distinction after that between music halls and theatres?—No, because five or six persons is a company, and all such pieces are entertainments of the stage.

2538. You have stated that you knew of no instance of a license being refused; was one refused to Canterbury Hall?—I think Canterbury Hall applied once, but I am not quite certain. St. James's Hall, the Alhambra, and Canterbury Hall are on similar ground. There were many applications, and the ground of refusal was, "You are not a theatre, and therefore we cannot give you either a theatrical or a *quasi* theatrical license."

2539. There is no distinction between Canterbury Hall and the others?—None at all, they all had the same answer.

2540. Mr. *Locke.*] Was not that application from Canterbury Hall after the decision in the Court of Common Pleas?—I think it was after the first or second hearing in the Marylebone Police Court, but I am not certain about that.

2541. After the decision in the Court of Common Pleas, was there not an application to the Lord Chamberlain from the managers of Canterbury Hall for a theatrical license, which was refused?—It would not come before me, but I think that was so.

2542. *Chairman.*] In reply to a question put to you, I think you stated that the Lord Chamberlain had no power to order the withdrawal of a play that had once been licensed?—I must qualify that answer, it is correct, but it is not quite explicit enough. I was going to speak of the withdrawal of the play of "King Lear," during the malady of King George the Third for 13 years. If additions were made that altered the character of the play, of course the Lord Chamberlain would have the power of withdrawing it. Circumstances might again arise which might make a play very dangerous at a particular time.

2543. The Lord Chamberlain has that power, in fact?—Yes, he has that power.

2544. "Jack Sheppard" was prohibited at all the theatres in 1859, I believe?—Yes.

W. B. Donne, Esq.
23 April 1866.

2545. It had been acted for some time?—Yes; it had been acted for some time; it was replaced on the stage again, and at length it was withdrawn. But, under very special circumstances, it has been allowed to be acted for benefits.

2546. Then the Lord Chamberlain not only has that power, he exercises it?—Yes.

2547. You have spoken of a license given to Mr. David Fisher to go into the country; have you got two classes of licenses?—The license must be to a theatre; there is no personal license.

2548. Were the theatres specified to which he might go?—In the form of the license you will see the name of the theatre is put down, but that is good for Great Britain after being once granted. Mr. Fisher took out his license in case he might find the rooms unavailable in the country and have to go to a theatre.

2549. Do you exercise supervision with regard to the country?—With regard to the manuscripts, I do.

2550. Do many escape?—I think not many. I have sent me for reading between 20 and 30 every year from provincial managers.

2551. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] I have just had two papers put into my hands which suggest a question or two. The Lord Chamberlain has the supervision over all the theatres in the country?—So far as regards manuscripts he has.

2552. How does he manage with regard to the building of a theatre in the country?—He has nothing to do with that beyond the Metropolitan district: the magistrates have the sole power over the country districts in respect of the buildings. The Windsor Theatre is the only one in addition to the Metropolitan theatres that is under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction.

2553. Now, supposing the privilege to give dramatic or semi-dramatic entertainments was extended to the country in the same way as it would be in London if it included the music halls, do you think it would be so large an extension as to make it impossible for the Lord Chamberlain's Office to exercise the supervision?—No, I think not; they generally would take the London pieces.

2554. Are you at all aware of the general feeling of dramatic authors on the question of the present state of the law of theatres?—No.

2555. Have any representations been made to you upon that subject?—None.

2556. I suppose you never heard of this petition from dramatic authors in support of an immediate alteration and enlargement of the present theatrical and musical licensing system: "That your petitioners have found that the existing legislation concerning theatres operates as a restriction upon their industry, while it has not in any manner supported or elevated dramatic literature; that the lower middle class and working class have of late years developed a large appetite for intellectual amusement, which the number of theatres and the present construction of theatres (which give no comfortable or proper accommodation for these classes) have failed to satisfy; your petitioners therefore pray your Honourable House to pass the second reading of the Theatres, &c. Bill, which measure, in your petitioners' belief, is sufficient to remedy the evil of which they complain." The gentlemen who sign this petition are "Charles Reade, Bayle Bernard, Robert Bell, George W. Lovell, R. B. Knowles, Dion Boucicault, John Oxenford, Palgrave Simpson, J. A. Heraud, F. G. Tomlins, E. L. Blanchard, Henry T. Craven, Arthur Sketchley, John Brougham, F. C. Burnand, Andrew Halliday, W. Sawyer, Edmund Yates, Howard Paul, N. H. Harrington, and J. Hollingshead." Those are well known names in dramatic literature, are they not?—Yes; that petition could not be better signed; many of them are very distinguished names; I have conversed on the subject of the petition with two or three of those gentlemen who have signed it; some of them I am intimately acquainted with.

2557. *Chairman.*] This petition has not come to your knowledge?—No, it has not.

2558. Have you anything to add to your evidence?—No, I think not.

FREDERICK STANLEY, Esq., called in; and Examined.

F. Stanley, Esq.

2559. *Chairman.*] You are Solicitor on behalf of the London Music Hall Proprietors' Protection Association?—Yes.

2560. You yourself have had an interest in music halls?—Yes; I have been interested in two music halls: the Oxford and Canterbury Halls.

2561. You have prepared a paper with regard to your views on the question of theatrical licenses?—Facts and views.

2562. Will you hand in that paper as part of your evidence to the Committee?—Yes. (*The Witness handed in the same.*—Vide *Appendix.*)

2563. Do you think that the present system is too restrictive with regard to music halls?—Yes, I think so.

2564. And that there should be more freedom of licensing?—Yes.

2565. Do I understand you to think that licenses should be removed altogether?—Not altogether.

2566. In what cases would you retain them?—I would retain them with regard to theatres; I think that the music halls should only have a limited license, because they are only constructed to perform limited pieces.

2567. Do you think that the pieces performed at the music halls should be licensed?—I think not; I think there is no use in it.

2568. Do you think that the pieces acted at the theatres ought to be licensed?—I do not see any necessity for licenses for pieces anywhere.

2569. With regard to the localities, do you think that the system of licensing should be kept up; would you license particular places for the performance of particular pieces?—I think that the places of entertainment should be limited; I think you should only supply the demand of the neighbourhood.

2570. You are not in favour of open competition?—Not entirely.

2571. Do you wish the present restrictive system to be removed from the theatres, so that the present music halls may have a more unrestricted license?—Slightly.

2572. But you do not wish it to be thrown so open that there should be additional music halls?—I simply say that the present music halls are not

not constructed so as to enable the proprietors to perform heavy dramatic pieces; it might be dangerous if they were allowed to do so.

2573. But you think that the licenser ought to consider the demand in particular localities?—Yes.

2574. You would not give too many licenses in any neighbourhood?—Not in any neighbourhood.

2575. Why not leave it to demand and supply?—Because they would degenerate with too much competition, you must make a place pay, and then the proprietor will have a good entertainment and conduct his place properly.

2576. You are aware that that is part of the argument of the managers of the theatres against music halls?—I was not aware that that was their argument; I thought their argument was, that too much competition might lower the standard of the drama; I am speaking only of the places, the music halls, not the pieces played in them.

2577. But if the argument of the managers of the theatres is that the restriction should be kept up, because too much competition would make the drama degenerate, you hold a similar view with regard to the music halls?—I do not think that too much competition would make the drama itself degenerate.

2578. But the places would degenerate, in your opinion?—If you did not enable the proprietor to make his place pay it would be so.

2579. In what way would they degenerate?—They might become vulgar, perhaps; they might descend to low means to make their places pay.

2580. Do you say that as the representative of the Association for the Protection of Music Halls?—No, that is my own opinion.

2581. Which of the music halls do you represent?—The whole of the music halls, except the Alhambra; I think I may say all the principal music halls.

2582. What would you consider would be the vulgar means to which they might resort?—I think that the supply of good professionals is not sufficient if you have extreme competition.

2583. Then would these "vulgar means" make a place pay better than the higher means?—No; but they would endeavour to get the public in by any means.

2584. Does not it come to this, that you think if it were more vulgar it would pay better?—No, they would not succeed in making it pay.

2585. What means would they resort to?—That case has not happened yet.

2586. Suppose you had a music hall, and you found that it was degenerating, and would not pay, what would you do?—I should leave it.

2587. Then is not it the proper way to leave all this to supply and demand; would not the places be shut up if there was no demand?—That may be so.

2588. But you still maintain that there should be a certain number of music halls, and that no further licenses should be given, and all in order that their high character should be kept up?—It is not a useful thing to have two music halls in one street, certainly.

2589. Does not competition generally improve everything?—Generally, so long as the supply of the material is continued.

2590. Would not it make the music halls exert themselves more if there was competition?—There has been competition, and what did they resort to? gymnastic exercises, Leotard, and such things.

2591. That is a matter of regret, you think?—Yes, because one or two of those people nearly broke their necks.

2592. Did those entertainments pay better than the entertainments which they supplanted?—Yes, certainly; people wanted excitement.

2593. Are you thinking more of musical performances or of small stage plays, with regard to this question of competition; when you say that you would fix a limit, do you mean as to the places themselves?—I mean places of entertainment generally; theatres as well as music halls.

2594. You are in favour of the restrictive system, then?—I say that the tribunal for granting licenses should have regard to the requirements of the neighbourhood, the character of the person applying, and the nature of the place; I think that those should be the leading points to consider in granting a new license.

2595. You say in your paper, that "public feeling is against anything immoral or indecent being placed on the stage; anything of the kind would be hissed off the stage;" that is the result of your experience?—Yes.

2596. Are you speaking of all entertainments?—Yes; I think that anything of that kind would be hissed.

2597. In supper-rooms, where comic songs are sung, is anything indecent hissed off the stage?—They do not exist now, but I think they would be.

2598. There is no occasion for any supervision at all, you think?—There has not been any occasion in the music halls; there have never been any complaints of immoralities for the last 18 years.

2599. You say in your paper that "it would be extremely difficult, almost impossible, for proprietors of music halls to submit their entertainments for approval;" do you think that there should be any difficulty in submitting the longer pieces for approval?—No, it is more a question of time; I mean a song, or a very short entertainment; it would not be impossible to submit pieces of any length.

2600. Would it be difficult to submit all the songs and pieces represented?—If you mean the whole of the entertainments, it would not be impossible, but it would be an immense thing to do.

2601. Do you not keep up the same thing many nights in succession?—No.

2602. Do you change the songs every night?—Yes; the programme is not arranged beforehand; it is arranged as the evening proceeds.

2603. But is there not a general selection of songs that are taken and sung at the music halls?—No, there is an immense variety.

2604. Who composes these songs and pieces?—The authors.

2605. There would be no difficulty in submitting them for approval, then?—No more difficulty than there would be in submitting every play or every book for approval, but there would be that kind of difficulty.

2606. I see you are of opinion "that a new tribunal should be appointed for the purpose of granting licenses for music halls, and that theatres and music halls should not be under the same authority?"—I think so; I think they should be kept distinct.

2607. What is the distinction between the two?—The smoking, principally.

F. Stanley, Esq.

23 April 1866.

2608. Then a music hall where there was no smoking would be a theatre?—No, not necessarily, except as every place of entertainment is a theatre.

2609. Then if they were to smoke in a theatre it would become a music hall?—It would be very much like one; the fusion of the two things would not be useful; there are certain persons who desire to take their families to places of entertainment, who object to the inconvenience of smoke.

2610. You would have a different tribunal to grant licenses for the two things?—Yes.

2611. Then places where they smoke must have licenses from one authority, and places where there is none from another authority?—There is a distinction now between the music halls and theatres, and it is as well to keep it up.

2612. But is there no distinction between the character of the performances?—Yes, there is a great distinction.

2613. Are the Committee to understand that you would wish to remove that restriction to some extent?—To a very limited extent; the music halls do not ask the right to perform heavy pieces.

2614. They ask to be allowed to perform pieces in which five or six persons could play?—Yes, or even less, if that is thought too great a number.

2615. You are not connected with the Alhambra now in any way?—No.

2616. But those pieces which you would propose to perform would be stage plays, I suppose?—I do not know what is not a stage play.

2617. If this right were extended to the music halls, would they be prepared to give the same security as the managers of theatres at present give?—Yes, the managers of the music halls would be prepared to give any security for good conduct.

2618. Pecuniary security?—Yes.

2619. You say that it would be desirable to proceed by steps, and that the restriction should only be partially removed; why do you suggest that?—To see how it would work. It would not be well to turn all the theatres into music halls and all the music halls into theatres.

2620. If there were no distinction, against whose interest would that be?—The interest of the public, that portion of the public who desire to go to the theatres to see heavy plays, and sit still for hours without smoking, would suffer, because there would be no place where they could go to, with the exception of one or two of the principal theatres.

2621. Do you think, then, that the managers of theatres would even now allow smoking if it were not for that prohibition of the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes, in all but a few theatres I think they would; they do allow smoking at the back of the pit and boxes.

2622. You think that the character of the theatres is kept up rather by the present system?—I do not say that it lowers the character of the theatre if you have smoking. I simply say that you do not give those persons who desire it an opportunity of going to a place where they can see a performance without being annoyed by smoking, and I think that it is advisable to have those two kinds of places.

2623. At all events smoking lowers the character of an entertainment, I suppose, if the people do not sit still while a piece is being performed?—No, it does not lower the character of the entertainment, the entertainment is the same whether the people stop or not.

2624. Do you consider that the little farces performed at music halls are of the same character as Shakesperian pieces?—Certainly not of the same character.

2625. Mr. *Locke*.] What precise places do you represent?—The Oxford and Canterbury Hall.

2626. They are under the same company, are they not?—Yes; I also represent the Metropolitan, in the Edgware-road; the Regent, at Westminster; Wilton's, in Wellclose-square; the Philharmonic, at Islington; Weston's, in Holborn; the Cambridge Music Hall, at Shoreditch; the Winchester, in Southwark Bridge-road; the Lord Raglan, in Theobald's-road; the Middlesex, in Drury-lane; the London Pavilion, in Coventry-street; the South London, in the London-road; the Marylebone, the Bedford, at Camden-town; Deacon's, at Clerkenwell; the Sun, at Knightsbridge; those are all I recollect.

2627. Some of them are very small places, are they not?—Two or three of them are.

2628. The Oxford is a large one, I believe?—Yes.

2629. Is it capable of playing a ballet?—Yes, they have played one.

2630. Have they played a ballet at the Canterbury?—Yes, and they are playing a ballet now.

2631. Do you think that a ballet is an advantageous thing to play?—Do you mean an advantageous thing to the proprietors?

2632. Yes.—It depends on circumstances.

2633. Does it draw?—Not always.

2634. If you had a very bad one it would not draw, would it?—It would depend on the locality.

2635. Does the ballet draw at the Canterbury?—I am not the proprietor, therefore I cannot tell you.

2636. Are they acting a ballet at the Canterbury now?—Yes, but I have not asked them whether it draws.

2637. They play a ballet, I suppose, for the purpose of it drawing; it is not merely to amuse the proprietors?—No, certainly not; that would be rather expensive amusement.

2638. At the Oxford you say they had a ballet, but are they performing it at the Oxford now?—I have not been there for a long time to stay throughout the evening; there are two selections from operas; there are some persons who dance, some comic singing, solo singing, solos on the piano, and solos on the flute. I do not remember anything particularly beyond that.

2639. Do you think that if the performances were improved, so that they were enabled to enact a short *vaudeville*, it would be an advantage, or not?—It is rather difficult to provide an entertainment for the public now; and, therefore, the music hall proprietors want an extension of the privilege.

2640. What sort of extension do you mean?—To enable authors to write something for the music halls; it is very difficult to do that when you are only allowed to have one person on the stage.

2641. Would it be an advantage to enable authors to write pieces for the music halls by enabling

enabling the music halls to perform light pieces?—Yes, I think it would.

2642. You think it would be an advantage that the music halls should have the privilege of performing stage plays within the definition of the 6th and 7th of Victoria?—No, they are not fit for the performance of heavy pieces, and therefore they should be limited.

2643. It would be utterly impossible for them to act Shakspeare, and therefore you think it is necessary to prohibit it?—I think it is advisable to let them give such an entertainment as they can, and not one that they cannot.

2644. Do you not think that they would find out what they could not do as well as what they could?—Yes, and then they would pull their places down, or they would all become theatres.

2645. Do you think that the Alhambra has done that?—I think that the Alhambra is a theatre, and should have a theatrical license; it is not a music hall, it was never built for a music hall.

2646. But why do you think that the Oxford, for instance, ought not to have a theatrical license?—Simply because they do not require it; they would rather be without it.

2647. But you cannot now perform any description of stage play at the Oxford, can you?—No.

2648. But you think that they ought to be enabled to do so?—They ought to be able to represent duologues, at all events.

2649. But you spoke of six persons?—Yes, that is the outside number which I think they ought to have; but the proprietors would be quite content if you limited it to four persons.

2650. If you gave them an opportunity of having larger performances, you think that some of the music halls would give larger performances, and that would interfere with those that only give the smaller ones?—No, you would alter the places; they would all have to be altered.

2651. If they made the places better they would have better performances, is that what you mean?—They would all become theatres.

2652. And that would be better?—No, it would not be better; they would all become theatres, and then they would cease to pay, and that is why they do not desire to have the right to ruin themselves. When one does a thing, another is forced to do it to keep pace with the first.

2653. According to your theory, if any one was desirous of getting rid of music halls altogether, the best plan would be to let them turn themselves into theatres, and then they would go to utter ruin?—It is not my theory; it is the theory of all the music hall proprietors in London, except Mr. Strange.

2654. But you want something, do you not?—Yes, we want the line drawn between a theatrical entertainment and a musical entertainment.

2655. What would you suggest for that purpose?—I can quote the language of the resolution of the proprietors.

2656. First of all, will you tell us who the proprietors are who came to that resolution?—Nearly all of them; that was in April 1865.

2657. Who are they?—Mr. Morton and others.

2658. Does it not include every one of the houses in your list?—Yes.

2659. Were they all represented at that meeting?—At the various meetings they were; this was not the result of one discussion; Mr. Strange at first agreed, but he afterwards altered his views. I do not know that he attended that meeting. He afterwards said he should like free trade. These are the words of the resolution: "Songs or selections from operas, the performers being in evening costune. Any entertainment consisting of dancing, singing, or dialogue, in or out of costume, where not more than five or six persons are engaged therein, without change of scene during such entertainment, and all Ethiopian entertainments."

2660. You considered that that entertainment, including "all Ethiopian entertainments," would be a very distinguished performance, I suppose?—I do not think so; but the public may.

2661. What makes you say that?—Because they come to see it.

2662. And because the Alhambra is full of people?—That is by reason of the ballet.

2663. That is not an Ethiopian performance, is it?—No.

2664. What is an Ethiopian performance; a man blacks his face and sings a comic song, is that it?—No; say 18 men black their faces and sing choruses.

2665. It is only when there are as many as 18 men with blackened faces that the entertainment is Ethiopian?—No; but we had 18 with a full band and chorus; their performances were followed by some comic songs, supposed to be a representation of the Negro character.

2666. But you do not want 18 people on the stage, unless they were Ethiopians?—No; only five or six persons where you have acting; the Ethiopians do not act.

2667. The only case in which more than six people would come on the stage would be where they blacked their faces, and represented an Ethiopian performance? — I do not limit the number except you have acting, because you must then have scenery, which makes it a theatre.

2668. That resolution to which you have referred was come to by those gentlemen at a time when they thought if they asked for a little they might get it, but if they asked for too much they would get nothing; was not it the ground of that resolution, that they thought it was probable, by coming for that modest proposal for an Ethiopian performance, they might get something?—No; they came to this resolution with a view to meet the views of the theatrical managers; we had a meeting to endeavour to settle the question, so as not to interfere with them.

2669. Were not the theatrical managers desirous of giving you as little as they could?—They said that they did not require the law to be altered.

2670. They said, did they not, that they would not agree to 18 Ethiopians, or anything else; that they would make no concession, but the law must take its course?—They said so; and they said, moreover, that if the proprietors had comic songs in character, they should prosecute them.

2671. That resolution was come to for the purpose of getting what you could?—That resolution was come to for the purpose of getting what they wanted, not what they could.

2672. But you have said that you could not get what you wanted then?—That is the reason we are now trying for this Bill.

2673. Therefore you ask for that and nothing else,

T. Stanley, Esq.

23 April 1866.

else, and if you cannot get that, you will have nothing?—I do not say that; if we do not have that, I think we shall have everything.

2674. And you are afraid of having everything?—Yes.

2675. Because somebody else might compete with you, and do the things better than you?—No, because then the music halls would all be turned into theatres.

2676. Suppose they were, what then?—I think I have already given you the reason against that.

2677. What is that reason?—That they would not pay.

2678. Some of them would be given up, and others that were not given up would pay; is not that the case with regard to all other things in the world?—They would close, I think.

2679. And some of them would open again, I suppose?—Yes; I think as they closed and opened they would ruin each proprietor, as the theatres do.

2680. According to that, it is a very odd thing that you can get your tea and sugar at all; some of the shops open and close very often?—Yes.

2681. A man does not keep up a shop unless it pays?—But he does something besides selling tea and sugar. Grocers lose by their sugar, and make their tea pay; they make something pay. But if you make this number of theatres they will not pay.

2682. I suppose they would become that which the public wants demanded?—Some persons want to go to a theatre where there is neither eating, drinking, or smoking.

2683. That would be furnished for them according to the law of supply and demand, I suppose?—No doubt.

2684. Why should that place shut because another place where they have eating, and drinking, and smoking, is open; the person who frequents one requires what the person who frequents the other does not; why should they all be shut up?—There is no doubt that the rule of demand and supply might regulate those matters, but the music hall proprietors do not require it.

2685. You mean those whom you represent?—I represent all of them but one.

2686. You said that when that resolution was come to it was to please the theatrical managers, whom you could not please, and now you cannot please yourselves?—No, it is to please the music hall proprietors they ask for this extension, and not the public. I do not know that Parliament is called upon to give them more than they ask for.

2687. You think that the public do not ask for it?—No, certainly not; the music hall proprietors ask for it.

2688. Then they should have nothing but what they ask for, you think?—That is for Parliament to decide.

2689. Have not those of the public who require music hall entertainments become much more numerous since the performances have improved?—They have become much more numerous in consequence of the great number of music halls; the music halls create a public.

2690. They create a public, at all events, which wants to go there; it is no use your creating any other public, is it?—I suppose they want to go.

2691. They do go, do they not?—Yes.

2692. Large numbers do, in fact, go since the performances have been of an improved character?—I am not aware that they have been improved during some years; they cannot improve them owing to the law.

2693. But certain things have been done which are not according to the law; for instance, ballet?—There is only one music hall that does that.

2694. I thought you said that the Oxford and Canterbury Hall had ballets?—Yes; but I do not say that it is an improvement.

2695. At all events, that is three, taking the Alhambra, and those places are generally full; is not that a higher state of things than if you had only a man with his face blacked, coming and dancing about on the stage?—Yes, it is an improvement on that, no doubt.

2696. Have not the number of persons who visit those places increased considerably since that improvement began?—I cannot say that they have.

2697. You say, in your paper, that "Many new operas, composed abroad, have been produced at the Oxford for the first time in this country, and have been subsequently produced at the opera houses;" is not that an improvement on Ethiopian entertainments?—Yes.

2698. Well, has that paid; have people gone to hear it?—Yet, it has paid.

2699. Then, if that be so, I suppose the public do not go there because they do not want that kind of performance, but because they do?—Most likely.

2700. You cater for the wants of the public in making that improvement?—Yes; but I cannot say that the ballet draws the public.

2701. I see you make a suggestion at the end of your paper with regard to what the performances should be. On page 12, you say, "The proprietors therefore desire the right to perform small pieces, limiting the number of performers, say to five or six persons; say operas, operettas, pantomimes, burlesques, interludes, farces, ballets, or by whatever name they may be called"?—Yes.

2702. Do you wish to include anything whatever, then, by whatever name it may be called?—With that limit as to the number of persons appearing.

2703. But your description includes everything, apparently?—No; the gist of the sentence is the limit with regard to the number.

2704. Was your reason for fixing on six that it would otherwise become a theatrical entertainment?—That is the reason of the proprietors, it is not my reason.

2705. That resolution was drawn up when the music hall proprietors were in antagonism with the managers of the theatres, was it not?—They are in antagonism now.

2706. But it was drawn out in that way with a view of making an arrangement between themselves and the managers of the theatres, was it not?—No; it was for the purpose of getting the law altered.

2707. They thought they might get that if the managers were willing that they should do so?—Yes; they say, "That is what we ask, and we do not want any more."

2708. Because they could not get any more?—No, they do not want any more.

2709. When did you see them all last?—Since this Committee has been sitting.

2710. How long ago?—About a fortnight ago.

2711. Was there a meeting?—Yes.

2712. Where

2712. Where was it held?—At the Oxford Music Hall.

2713. Were there many of those proprietors there?—Yes, a great many.

2714. And did they authorise you to make this statement?—Yes, they authorised me to represent the facts to this Committee.

2715. Were there any facts agreed on by them?—Yes, there were certain facts.

2716. Was there any meeting at which this paper was approved of?—No, I only prepared it on Friday last.

2717. This paper has not been submitted to the managers since you prepared it?—No, not since I prepared it; but the facts are facts extending over my experience of 18 years; the music halls were not in existence during the period of some of the facts contained in that paper.

2718. But this paper, whatever it represents, is a paper which you drew out last Friday, and which has not been submitted for the approval of the persons who are interested in the music halls?—But I submitted the main points to them.

2719. Was that before or since you wrote out this paper?—Before.

2720. What did you submit?—That part with regard to the limit of five or six persons; the advisability of the Lord Chamberlain having control; the new tribunal, and police supervision; I think all the suggestions for a new law were submitted.

2721. You drew up a Bill in 1860, did you not?—Yes.

2722. You have got it there, perhaps?—Yes.

2723. What became of this Bill; was it ever introduced into Parliament?—No; the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis told me that he approved of the principle, and he said that if I could get a Member to introduce it to the House, he would support it.

2724. That he would support its principle?—Yes, he would support its principle because he approved of the Bill. Then, afterwards, Sir George Lewis went to the War Department, and I wrote to Sir George Grey on the subject. I have his reply: "I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and to inform you that he has not seen the Bill relating to music halls to which you refer, and that he can give no assurance of the Government supporting it."

2725. What is the date of that letter?—The 9th of August 1861.

2726. *Chairman.*] You submitted the Bill to Sir George Cornewall Lewis, and he said, that if a private Member introduced the Bill, he would not withhold his approval of the principle?—Yes, I drew it at his suggestion.

2727. And then Sir George Lewis went to the War Office and Sir George Grey wrote that letter in which he says that he could give no pledge on the part of the Government?—Yes, because he had not seen it. I have subsequently addressed Sir George Grey upon the subject, and I have here this letter of 22d of April 1865: "I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant enclosing a copy of the Bill to amend the Acts concerning places of amusement, which you drew at the suggestion of the late Sir G. C. Lewis."

2728. Mr. *Locke.*] That was last year?—Yes.

2729. After I had brought in my Bill, you went to the Home Office?—Yes.

2730. That occurred in consequence of your visit to the Home Office; did you give Sir George Grey a copy of your own Bill which you drew in 1861?—Yes.

2731. This Bill was drawn out at the suggestion of Sir George Lewis, you say?—Yes.

2732. In what way was that suggestion made; did you call on him or ask him anything about the matter?—I applied to him to receive a deputation from the music-hall proprietors, and he consented to receive that deputation.

2733. When was that?—I think it was in 1860; however, it was just before Sir George Lewis went to the War Department.

2734. Just before that he was at the Home Office, and you called on him and asked him, as I understand you, to receive a deputation?—I wrote to him to ask him to receive a deputation from the music-hall proprietors, and having received his assent to that, I saw Mr. Clive, and asked him whether he did not think it would be better that, instead of bringing a great many people, I should attend alone on behalf of the proprietors. I had two or three interviews with Sir George Cornewall Lewis, and I pointed out the defects of the Act with regard to stage plays, and asked that some line should be drawn. We had a good deal of discussion on the subject, and he said that it would be very difficult to draw the line in any Act. I suggested I might be able to to draw a Bill, whereupon he wished me to do so. I prepared that Bill and took it to Sir George Lewis; he read it, and said he thought it would meet the difficulty. In substance he said that he approved of the principle, and he also said, "If you can get a Member of the House to introduce the Bill, I will support the principle." He did not pledge himself to the language. After that I saw the late Mr. Duncombe, who agreed to apply for leave to bring in the Bill. Whilst we were about it, Sir George Lewis went to the War Department. I then applied to Sir George Grey to ascertain whether he would take it up, but he not having seen anything of the Bill declined to interfere; then the theatrical performers were quiet for a year or two, and we thought it unnecessary to do more for the present.

2735. The principle of the Bill is contained in the one section, is it not?—Yes.

2736. The previous part is a mere recital of the different Acts of Parliament?—Yes, and then it goes on to say, "Whereas it is expedient that the two last-mentioned Acts should be amended, Be it further enacted," and so on." Then it proceeds, "The Acts of the second and third year of Her Majesty, chapter 47, and the sixth and seventh year of Her Majesty, chapter 68, shall not be construed to prevent or prohibit any person using or keeping any concert room or public garden for the performance or representation of the music of any opera, operetta, burlesque, or other piece, or for the performance or representation (without acting or change of scene) of the music of any opera, operetta, burlesque, or other piece, or for the performance or representation of dancing on a platform or stage, or for the performance or representation (without change of scene) of any entertainment consisting of dancing, singing, or dialogue, by not more than persons, or for the performance or representation

F. Stanley, Esq.

23 April 1866.

of any negro or Ethiopian entertainment: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to render it unnecessary to obtain a license from the said justices pursuant to the said Act of the 23d year of King George the Second, chapter 26."

2737. You have always been in favour of the blacks, I see?—I have not; perhaps the proprietors have, because many people like them.

2738. At that time the theatres had begun to interfere with you, had they not?—Yes, they had.

2739. I believe that some steps were then being taken by the managers of the theatres against the music halls?—Yes.

2740. What were the steps that were taken then by the theatrical managers?—The music hall proprietors were summoned before the magistrates for performing stage plays; the first case was the case at Canterbury Hall.

2741. When was that?—In 1860, I think.

2742. The Canterbury Hall proprietor was summoned; what was the performance then?—It was at Christmas time; two persons came on the stage and represented a kind of pantomime; they played various characters, 17 or 18 I think; the great point of the entertainment was the quick change of dress; the performers simply passed round and came on in different characters; we were summoned before a magistrate, and I think he gave his decision that it was a pantomime simply because it was called so in our bills.

2743. But the magistrate's decision was against you?—Yes his decision was against us, and we were fined 5 *l.*

2744. Was that the only case, then?—No, there were some other cases.

2745. Against the Canterbury Hall?—No, against other music-hall proprietors, there was a general attack.

2746. Was that in 1860?—Yes, about that time.

2747. Do you know the reason of that attack, particularly in 1860?—It was a combination of the theatrical managers.

2748. But was there any particular entertainment that was given which led to that, or what did they allege as their reason for interfering?—They alleged that the music-hall proprietors were encroaching on stage plays.

2749. After you had had your interview with Sir George Lewis, and prepared that Bill, were there any other attacks made?—Not for some time afterwards.

2750. Until when?—I should say a couple of years; it was a considerable time.

2751. Were the attacks numerous then?—Yes, they were numerous.

2752. And did they continue from the date when they recommenced their attacks down to last year?—Yes, they attacked almost everything, even the optical illusion, called the "Ghost entertainment," at the Canterbury Hall, and the combination extended to Birmingham.

2753. That at Canterbury Hall was the one which Mr. Norton has spoken to, called "Hodge Podge"?—Yes.

2754. And Mr. Norton suggested an application for a license to the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

2755. And that license was refused?—Yes.

2756. On what ground was it refused?—I do not know; I do not think that any ground was alleged; I think the Lord Chamberlain said, "If we give you a license we must give them all one." I think Mr. Morton told me that.

2757. If the Lord Chamberlain had given you that license, you would have had the privilege of performing every description of stage play contained within the provisions of the 6th and 7th Victoria, would you not?—No, I think the application was to license "Hodge Podge," but I am not quite sure.

2758. But I presume that you would not have refused to take a full license?—Mr. Morton would not, I dare say.

2759. Seeing that if he got this license "Hodge Podge" would have been included?—I cannot say whether he would have refused it or not.

2760. You have never heard Mr. Morton say that he would?—I never heard him say anything about it; Mr. Norton suggested that application.

2761. *Chairman.*] You applied for a license under the recommendation of Mr. Norton, limited to that play?—That is my impression.

2762. Mr. *Locke.*] The object was to get a license, and then "Hodge Podge" would thereby be licensed?—I will not be certain, but I think it was to license that piece, and not the place.

2763. Are they playing a ballet at Canterbury Hall?—Yes.

2764. Does it tell a story?—It does tell a story of some kind, but it is difficult to get at the story of a ballet; there is a story now and then, but it goes and comes again.

2765. But it is not what is commonly called a *ballet d'action*, is it?—I do not know.

2766. Are there dances?—Yes, and a good deal of acting in it.

2767. I will not ask you if they are liable to a penalty for that?—I have no hesitation in saying that they are liable.

2768. But since action was taken by the music-hall proprietors at the last licensing day for music and dancing (in October), by the Middlesex magistrates, and notice was given with regard to the illegality of the performance of concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms before five o'clock in the afternoon, has all action on the part of the managers ceased, or, if not so, when was it that all action ceased on the part of the managers?—It was before that.

2769. Was it on the decision of the Court of Common Pleas with regard to the Alhambra ballet?—They have not done anything since that.

2770. Then they are waiting, like yourself, for legislation upon the subject?—I do not know what they are waiting for; I do not know whether they are waiting, or whether they are too busy to attend to it.

2771. They have not attempted to molest you with regard to this ballet, which you say comes within the definition of the 6th & 7th Victoria as a performance of the stage?—No.

2772. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] I see you say in one clause of your paper, "The music-hall proprietors have frequently urged the theatrical managers to come to an agreement upon the question by defining the line," alluding to the difference between theatres and music halls; now how do you define the line?—The only way we could define it would be by restricting the number of performers; we thought by having a small number of persons on the stage, which would

would not so much affect the theatrical managers, they would not object to it.

2773. You do not attempt to settle the matter by defining the difference between what are called light and what are called heavy pieces?—No; but so small a number of persons must necessarily play something light.

2774. Was that plan approved of at this meeting of the music-hall proprietors?—Yes, it has been approved of at their meetings during the past three years.

2775. I mean that limitation with regard to the number?—Yes, that was the only plan which we could adopt.

2776. You say, in another clause, that you believe Mr. Strange is the only person who permits any of the public to go behind his stage?—I ought to say that it is not behind the stage. I do not think that his place has any connection with the stage; but I do not think that any other music-hall proprietor allows any person to go into any place that is at all private.

2777. But Mr. Strange does occasionally admit the public?—Yes, but not behind the stage itself.

2778. Therefore that is a little incorrectly stated in your papers?—I only mean the canteen; it is a separate refreshment room, it is not among the scenes. I might mention that I spoke to Mr. Strange on this subject on Saturday last, and he said that if it was against public opinion he would be the last man in the world to insist upon it; that he has done so simply because he wishes to prove that there is no harm in it, but he will give it up if necessary.

2779. You say in another clause, "It has been stated in evidence that the system of the music halls is that persons paying at the doors receive the value of the admission money in drink. This is not the case; there is a distinct price for admission to the performance, and the public are not required or called upon to have any refreshment at all unless they please;" is that the case in all the music halls?—Yes.

2780. At all events all that you represent?—Yes, and I represent all of them.

2781. You mean with the exception of the Alhambra?—Yes, and they are not required to drink there.

2782. The next two clauses seem to be a little contradictory. You say, "The profit on refreshments is certainly not the primary object of the music halls; at the same time, without the aid of such profit, it would be impossible for the music halls to be kept open and give a good entertainment at a cheap rate;" and yet in the next clause, you say, "The music hall proprietors frequently expend more than their receipts for admission in the cost of the entertainments which they produce; they expend a portion of their profits on refreshments, and, therefore, if the privilege of selling refreshments be taken away, the prices of the entertainment must be considerably higher, or its quality lower, or music halls cannot be carried on at a profit." It is, then, the refreshments which pay, I presume?—Most of the proprietors, no doubt, spend more than they receive at the doors for admission; it is the balance which is left from the admissions and profits upon refreshments which constitutes the profit of the proprietors.

2783. But you say in the preceding clause that the profit on refreshments is certainly not the primary object of the music halls; I suppose the primary object is profit?—No doubt.

2784. And the refreshments are really the only chief source of profit you say, do you not?—No; the profit is the balance received from both of those sources, the admission and the price of the refreshments sold.

2785. If there was the admission only without anything from the sale of spirits, would it pay, do you think?—Not unless you raised the prices and made the places into theatres.

2786. The refreshments make them pay, then?—You may put it so, but it is both the things, and the profit is the balance.

2787. Mr. *Miller*.] I find here you say, speaking of the mode of granting licenses at present, that the present system of licensing is bad?—Yes.

2788. And then you say, "I think the tribunal for granting music and dancing licenses is unsatisfactory; it is composed of a vast number of gentlemen who are appointed magistrates by political influence." Have you ever known a case in which political influence was exercised in the granting of a music and dancing license?—No; I say that the magistrates are appointed by political influence, and that they are a constantly changing body.

2789. Yes, I understand that; but have you ever known a case in which political influence was exercised in the granting of a music and dancing license?—No, I do not believe that political influence has anything to do with it.

2790. So that although the magistrates may be appointed by political influence, they do not exercise any such influence in granting or refusing a license?—No, I think not; but I think that they exercise private influence sometimes.

2791. In one paragraph of your statement you say that private influence is used in matters of licensing; can you give us any instances in which that private influence has been exercised in preventing the getting of a license?—I would rather not give instances.

2792. But it is a serious imputation, and I think you ought to give all the instances you can?—I will give you one in which I myself was interested; it was an instance of an application for the renewal of a license for the Oxford Music Hall. I had information that one magistrate, who was interested in another music hall (not personally interested, but interested in the welfare of another proprietor, was exercising his influence in order to get this license refused. He is now dead; I had very strong evidence to satisfy me that he tried to use some influence by getting magistrates to attend to refuse the continuance of the license. I brought some influence to bear, and succeeded in getting about 70 members on the Bench with a view to overwhelming the opposition; that was the case which Mr. Pownall refers to in his evidence.

2793. Can you state any other case?—Not that I know of my own knowledge; but I do not doubt that magistrates have been asked to come and vote for certain licenses. I have been told so by the solicitors.

2794. But you do not know it of your own knowledge; you have only heard that?—I only state that I believe private influence is brought to bear; that is my opinion from what I observe, and what I have been told.

F. Stanley, Esq.
23 April 1866.

2795. Now will you look at the bottom of page 7, where you say, "I have never heard a complaint by the neighbours of a music hall, as to its being a nuisance, or in any way an annoyance to them, and I believe none such have ever been made;" do you not think we may take that as some evidence that licenses have been granted with some judgment, discretion, and impartiality?—I do not say that they have not been granted with discretion, but I do say that it is an improper tribunal; they may have gone right, but there is a possibility of their going wrong.

2796. Admitting that there is a possibility of their going wrong, has not that improper tribunal been sufficient hitherto for the granting of very proper licenses by your own admission?—Yes, but they are not always so correct in refusing. I can mention another case of the Oxford, when I applied last year for a dancing license to be added to that of music.

2797. But ultimately you succeeded in getting your license, did you not?—No, the Alhambra has a dancing license; the Metropolitan in the Edgware-road holds a dancing license, and the Canterbury Hall in Surrey holds a dancing license; and I applied, as solicitor, on behalf of Mr. Morton, to add to the license for music that of dancing for the Oxford Music Hall, which was refused, and the reason urged by some of the magistrates, was that Mr. Morton might turn it into a casino. I think that was a very improper judgment, because the Bench knew very well that he had held that license for the Canterbury for 18 years, and had never broken his pledge there; it was a very bad reason to urge, whilst his neighbours had a license at the Alhambra and at the Metropolitan.

2798. In that case your objection merely comes to this, that their judgment did not agree with yours?—That their judgment differed from the judgment of the press; and that they are not consistent in their refusal of licenses.

2799. I am not asking about their consistency in refusing licenses; in that one particular license, your judgment differed from their judgment?—I thought it ought to have been granted certainly.

2800. There the magistrates happened to differ with you in opinion, and you think that necessarily they must be wrong?—I do not know that they are wrong.

2801. In plain terms, do you attribute to them any venality in their judgment?—No.

2802. It is an error in judgment that you blame them for; for, in fact, differing with you?—Not with me alone, but with the public, and I hope the majority of the Members of the House of Commons.

2803. You have stated that to prevent too much competition, you would not allow a license to be granted to two music halls contiguous to each other?—I do not think it is advisable.

2804. To whom would you leave the discretion for the time being in questions of that kind?—To the tribunal of new judges, whoever they are to be.

2805. Suppose there is no alteration in the mode of granting licenses, would you leave it to the present tribunal?—Yes.

2806. Do you think that they have judgment enough to decide questions of that kind?—I do not think it would be advisable to let any person have entertainments, without some kind of supervision or license.

2807. Speaking of Mr. Strange's canteen, have you ever been into it?—Yes.

2808. At night?—Yes, I was there about 11 o'clock on Saturday evening.

2809. Were the ballet girls there?—No.

2810. Have you been into that canteen when the ballet girls were there?—No, there were none there; it was just previous to the ballet going on.

2811. Then when you say that you believe that no immorality goes on there, you have no means of knowing so from your own inspection, have you?—I have heard a good deal about it, and I know pretty well what does go on; it is merely the sale of refreshments; it is too public to be very immoral; it is an ordinary bar and room. I could judge for myself, and I saw that it was an ordinary refreshment room with tables round it, and a bar with persons behind the bar, and persons round it; it is well lighted.

2812. Do you think that if there were any alteration in the mode of granting licenses, you could get a better report of the state of things than you describe at the bottom of page 7, where you say the neighbours of these places have never made any complaint?—I do not think it possible to get a better report of them at all.

2813. Then as, after all, you have no great complaint to make of the manner in which the licenses are granted, do you not think you should have been a little more careful in referring to that subject in your paper?—They cannot do it much more carefully; but I may refer to Mr. Pownall's evidence, in which he says there is a great deal of private influence, and he referred to the Oxford case.

2814. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You have said something about private influence being used very often for the purpose of preventing a man getting a license?—Yes.

2815. Are you aware that private influence is quite as much used in favour of granting a license?—Yes, and that is my objection to the tribunal; I think that private influence is more often used in favour of granting a license than against it.

2816. You think that no private influence should be used at all?—Yes, certainly.

2817. With regard to political influence, you mean that the Lord Lieutenant might have political leanings, and that he would probably appoint a magistrate of his own way of thinking?—I think it is so. I have always understood that they are appointed in that way. I simply say that there is a good deal of private influence used in matters of license. I do not mean on both sides, because I never heard of private influence being used against a license except in that one case; but I believe it is the fact that persons who seek to get a license, do try to get some assistance among their friends who have influence with the magistrates; and I think that it should be left entirely to the new tribunal to decide impartially.

2818. Have you ever taken any part on behalf of the Argyll Rooms?—No.

2819. You are not aware that the proprietor canvassed every racing man in London to give him a vote?—No, I am not aware of that.

2820. The Argyll Rooms are very well conducted, are they not?—Yes, they are very well conducted.

2821. You say, on page 7, "I have never heard of

of a complaint by the neighbours of a music hall as to its being a nuisance, or in any way an annoyance to them; and I believe none such have ever been made"; but you are aware that the Argyll Rooms were closed for 12 months in consequence of the complaints of the neighbourhood, are you not?—That is not a music hall.

2822. You only refer to music halls?—That is all.

2823. What is the largest number of persons that have ever attended the Oxford or Canterbury Hall during any one performance?—About 2,000.

2824. You say here that you think no more police supervision is necessary: but would you have 2,000 or 3,000 people in a great building like the Oxford or Canterbury, and no police supervision whatever?—I think it is not necessary; they have never had any police there, and they have averaged 8,239 people per week for two years.

2825. You have officers of your own, I suppose?—We have one officer, and waiters; that is quite sufficient.

2326. You think that it is quite sufficient to call in the police if required?—Just so; our man was a policeman who has been pensioned.

2827. But you think that policemen are disagreeable to the audience?—They are not required in well-conducted places.

2828. In case of disturbance you would call in the police?—Yes, if necessary.

2829. You have stated that you have been to the Alhambra. I went there the night before last, and I never saw a more orderly audience, but there were policemen, and men in livery who were acting as policemen?—Yes, that is a very large place.

2830. Would you not think it necessary, in a building with 2,000 people, to have some supervision of that kind?—No; for the Oxford has gone on for several years without a policeman, and that is very strong evidence that they are not required.

2831. You have never had any disturbance at the Oxford?—Never.

2832. And you never heard of any one having his pockets picked?—I never heard of such a thing.

2833. Mr. *Clay.*] You are opposed to open competition in the dramatic profession; you understand, when I speak of open competition, I mean, of course, that there are certain police regulations applicable to all of them, the only object of which should be to secure peace and safety, and decent order in the audience; taking it in that sense, I understand you to say that you are opposed to open competition?—I am not opposed to it, but the proprietors say that they do not require it.

2834. The gentlemen whom you represent are opposed to open competition?—They say that they would rather be without it.

2835. They think there should be a distinction drawn between the legitimate theatres and music halls?—Yes.

2836. Do you not think that any distinction which you might make of that kind would be certain to end in dispute similar to that which has been going on for some time between the theatres and music halls, the latter supposed to be trenching on the business of the legitimate theatres, and the legitimate theatres being anxious to restrict them within the narrow words of the Act?—I think not, because they say, "Decide it according to the number of persons who perform."

2837. We will suppose that your definition of what the music halls should be allowed to do is, that they might perform any piece, or part of a piece, which could be represented by six people; is it not within the bounds of probability that the music halls might wish to represent the most telling scenes from the legitimate drama; you might have some lady of great dramatic talent, and you might like to represent the screen scene in the "School for Scandal," for which only four performers would suffice?—Yes.

2838. Do you recollect when Mr. Macready brought out "Henry VIII."?—No.

2839. There was a very beautiful scene there, representing the death of Queen Catherine, which depended not merely on the rendering of Shakspeare, but on some extraordinary effects of light thrown on the dying Queen; angels flying in the air, and so on; is it not possible, with six performers, that you might represent something of that kind; and if that were so, would not the legitimate theatres have cause to complain, and would you not have a recurrence of this old dispute?—No; the music halls would have the right to do that according to the definition, and if they had the right the theatrical proprietors could not complain.

2840. You think that if the music halls laid down their own definition, they might represent anything of that kind that could be done by six people, and even represent a scene, or perhaps a whole act, from a legitimate tragedy or comedy, and that then the proprietors of the theatres would not complain of their thus picking out the plums?—I daresay they might complain, but if that became law I do not think they would be heeded; that limitation is all that the proprietors ask for; they now complain without reason.

2841. But if they complain without reason now, they might equally complain without reason under the new system?—Yes, no doubt.

2842. It appears, then, to be perfectly clear that there is no line that you can draw which will not cause hard cases occasionally on each side of the line; if you draw any line whatever between music halls and theatres you will have cases: on one side, of which it would be a hard case for the music halls to be restricted; and on the other side, a hard case for the theatres to have their privileges trenched on?—If you have any line drawn, you must go close to one side or the other; many of these observations would even apply to mere readings from plays.

2843. Then these things being so, unless it be absolutely necessary to draw such a line, do you not think the public generally, the proprietors of music halls, and the proprietors of theatres, would be all the better for being without such a line?—That is a matter of opinion.

2844. Can you mention the names of any plays which are well known and often performed at theatres which, under this definition of yours, you would be able to perform, and which it would pay you to perform?—"Box and Cox" would be one, and light farces of that kind.

2845. It was given in evidence by one witness that it would be very much to the advantage of music halls, that instead of being confined to selections they should have the right of performing operas and burlettas?—Yes.

F. Stanley, Esq.

23 April 1866.

2846. Do you think so?—The proprietors would perform light operas if they had the opportunity.

2847. You have heard of Offenbach's comic operas, of course?—Yes, I have heard selections from them.

2848. Do you agree with another witness, that it would be advantageous to give that kind of thing as a stage performance at music halls?—I think it would be advantageous to give the lower classes good music, and to perform such operas in music halls.

2849. You know that the comic music of Offenbach is that which has now the greatest celebrity; would it in your opinion be an advantage to give such music, instead of mere selections such as you now give?—Yes, it would be an advantage to enable them to do that.

2850. But you could not do that with six performers, for you must have a chorus; you might, perhaps, do with a chorus of six or eight, but you could not do with less, could you, and even that would very much cramp you for purposes of musical effect?—Perhaps, when the number was finally put into the Bill, it would require a little consideration.

2851. The only change that would be left open to you would be to change the six to 20, would it not?—No; my definition is that only that number should act; a chorus is another thing; it is not acting.

2852. I understood you to say that you thought entirely open competition would tend to lower the character of the music halls, and to introduce vulgar performances?—If you have too many places there would be too much competition.

2853. If you throw it entirely open, and leave it to the law of supply and demand, I understood you to say you thought it would tend to vulgarise the performances?—I think that the places would degenerate if you have a supply which is greater than the demand.

2854. But surely, if the supply is greater than the demand, the supply ceases?—Yes, that is what I say; and I would not suggest any legislation which could lead to that result.

2855. In fact, what you want is protection for the music halls?—No, not protection for the music halls—protection for the theatres; and I think that is the best protection that the music halls can have.

2856. But surely you want protection for the music halls, because you say that you do not want too many of them; that is asking for protection, is it not?—No; I say, leave it to the new tribunal to judge of that question of number.

2857. But I am supposing that licenses are got rid of altogether, and that anybody may open a music hall next door to you if he pleases; that you object to, do you not?—I do not think that would do good to anybody.

2858. You objected, I think I heard you say, to the performance of Leotard, which I have always understood was a remarkable exhibition of grace and vigour, as a vulgarising performance?—I did not say Leotard was vulgar, but he could not perform in every place; then imitations sprang up, which were vulgar and were dangerous exhibitions.

2859. But the police can stop a dangerous exhibition, can they not?—I think not.

2860. You have given two opinions that appears to me to be difficult to reconcile; one being that unrestricted competition would lead to the vulgarising of the performances, and the other that it would lead to all the music halls becoming theatres, and their playing heavy pieces, the last being "The Road to Ruin"?—It would be one or the other.

2861. But which would it be?—I do not know; some would go one way, and some the other.

2862. But whatever the result is, you are convinced that it would be a very mischievous one?—I think so; it might lead to half the music halls going one way, and half the other.

2863. And there being no good performance left in the country?—I do not say that.

2864. Mr. *Lusk.*] Do you represent your own opinions, or the opinions of the proprietors?—Both.

2865. Because you appear to me to shift from one to the other in your phraseology?—I am ready to indicate any particular point where I agree with the proprietors.

2866. Do you think that any change is necessary in the present state of the law?—Yes, I do, in order to get rid of the present disputes.

2867. Have you ever considered the interest of the public in this matter?—If you make a law which would enable the proprietors to give good entertainments, then I do consider the public as well; if it is a good intellectual entertainment I am taking the public into consideration.

2868. You say that the old plan of entertainment used to be a "free and easy;" and that Mr. Morton created taste for better music in certain classes of the people?—Yes.

2869. And the character of these entertainments is still improving, you think?—Yes.

2870. And the old public-house free and easies have ceased to exist, you say?—Yes.

2871. Do you think that that is an advantage to the public?—Yes.

2872. Do you not think, then, that even the present state of things may be improved?—Yes, by letting the music halls give a more intellectual entertainment; by giving them a little more liberty.

2873. What do you mean by giving them a a little more liberty?—Allowing them to do small light pieces.

2874. Supposing they wanted to perform heavy pieces, what would you say to that?—Then, I would say, "Do not let them;" they do not want it; they had better not do it; it would not pay.

2875. You are not considering the public in that case?—Except that if you enable the proprietor to earn enough money to give a good entertainment, you are, in fact, considering the public.

2876. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] You say that those establishments to which you refer, only want six persons to be on the stage at once?—Not more than six.

2877. But suppose the managers of the Alhambra wished to have more, why should they not have more?—I do not say that it is either right or wrong; I say that is what my clients desire; it is the desire of 20 against one.

2878. But the music halls, considered as buildings, are very different in themselves, are they not?—Yes; the Alhambra was never built for a music hall.

2879. The Alhambra is capable of having 20 persons on the stage at once if they please?—Yes.

2880. Suppose

2880. Suppose the proprietor, or any other proprietor in similar cases, wishes to have 20 people on the stage at once, if it is for his advantage, and if the audience who attend there also like it, why should it not be done?—There is no reason why he should not do so; only let him get a Lord Chamberlain's license, and make it a theatre.

2881. You have offered another definition of a theatre in saying there should be no smoking there?—Yes, I think there should not.

2882. Then if the Alhambra chose to improve its performances, and to have 10 actors instead of six, you would say "You shall not smoke here, because it is a theatre," I suppose?—If you let that one place do it they would all do it. There would be theatrical entertainments in all the music halls, and there would be no distinction between them and theatres.

2883. And what would be the harm of that?—It would be all smoking then.

2884. If the Alhambra is allowed to have this liberty, you think that the audience at all the theatres would smoke too?—I think that at all but one or two of the principal theatres they would, and I think that in fact they would all become music halls.

2885. Mr. *Lusk.*] If people liked it what would there be to complain of?—I think that you might complain yourself if there were only two theatres in London to which you could go without finding smoking going on there.

2886. I am not forced to go unless I like?—Just so, but you might desire to go to a place where there was no smoking.

2887. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] You seem to think that acting even by five or six people only, where people smoked would withdraw people from going to theatres where there was no smoking?—I do not think that the music halls have taken people from the theatres.

2888. But you must surely be taken to mean that the extension of the powers of these music halls, so that they could give dramatic entertainments, would have that effect?—Not a slight extension, but it would if you threw it all open, I think.

2889. And you draw the line at five or six performers?—They do.

2890. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] You say, however, that there is a difference between the audiences that go to the theatres and the audiences that go to the music halls, do you not?—There is a difference, but perhaps some of the same audience might go to both; one night to a music hall and another night to a theatre; but they would not go two nights in succession to either, I think.

Friday, 27th April 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Locke.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Du Cane.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Walpole.

The Right Honourable GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, in the Chair.

FREDERICK STANLEY, Esq., called; and further Examined.

F. Stanley, Esq.

27 April 1866.

2891. *Chairman.*] You wish to put in a paper, do you not?—I will put in an estimate showing the cost of music halls in London. (*The same was handed in.*—Vide *Appendix.*)

BENJAMIN WEBSTER, Esq., called in; and Examined.

B. Webster, Esq.

2892. *Chairman.*] You are Lessee of the Adelphi Theatre, are you not?—No; sole proprietor and manager.

2893. We should be glad to hear your views with regard to the licensing of theatres. Do you think that the present system of licensing theatres by the Lord Chamberlain works well?—I think so.

2894. Do you think that the censorship that at present exists over dramatic literature is injurious to the stage, or the reverse?—I think it most essential to the well-doing of the stage.

2895. Do you think that dramatic literature would at all take a different course, if there were no censorship?—Decidedly.

2896. In what direction?—In an immoral direction, and in a political direction.

2897. You think that there is a certain check put on dramatic authors with regard to the morality of their pieces, by the censorship?—Certainly.

2898. Could not that check be exercised as strongly by the opinion of the public alone?—No, certainly not.

2899. You think that immoral pieces would be able to keep their hold on the stage, if introduced?—Certain political and immoral expressions would creep in, and that would gradually advance.

2900. I do not know whether you have seen any portion of the evidence already given before this Committee, but we have heard that very few pieces are condemned by the Lord Chamberlain. Do you think, if there were no censorship, that such pieces as are condemned by him would be increased much?—Yes.

2901. You are not of opinion that the taste of the public would be a sufficient check?—I do not think so; the public is too mixed for that.

2902. What effect has the present system of licensing theatres, and refusing licenses to music halls, on dramatic literature generally?—I think it is injurious to dramatic literature to allow theatrical performances in music halls, and also to the drama as an art.

2903. Must it not create more competition for pieces fit to be acted?—I think not.

2904. But at the theatres pieces have such a long run that all the theatres do not produce many new pieces in the year; is not that so?—That is an extraordinary event rather than otherwise, which does not occur often in the history of the drama.

2905. Could you say off-hand how many new pieces you put on the stage at the Adelphi in the course of the year?—It depends on the run and success of the piece; in the case of the "Colleen Bawn," and "Rip Van Winkle," there was an exceptional run; but, perhaps, we produce at the Adelphi ten or a dozen new pieces, and, perhaps, 20 in the course of a year.

2906. Is it frequently the case that the same piece is acted at different theatres?—In what we call the old drama, it is so; not in the new drama, unless they are taken from the French; it is open to all the managers to avail themselves of French pieces.

2907. Do you think that the drama would suffer by the music halls being allowed to represent stage pieces?—Most decidedly.

2908. Can you state in general terms what you think would be the effect of music halls being allowed to represent stage pieces?—I think it would be the destruction of the art of acting; even now we experience great difficulty in supplying the stage with actors, which, I believe, is entirely consequent on the music hall system of rivalry.

2909. Would not competition create in the profession of acting a larger number of actors?—No; because actors before they arrive at anything like a knowledge of the profession, are snapped up by the music halls, and consequently they cease to have the ability to take a high position; their style is vitiated by the very applause which they receive from the class of persons they act to.

2910. Do you know how the salaries paid by music hall proprietors compare with the salaries paid

paid by the theatrical managers?—There is a different system in the two places; in the music halls they are allowed to have what are called turns, that is to say, they can perform at two or three music halls in a night, by which they can make a very large sum per week; in theatres it is almost impossible to do that, and we do not permit it.

2911. Is it not the case that actors, on the whole, can make more money at music halls than at theatres?—Yes, by that system.

2912. Do you not think that it is interfering with the actor's profession if the Legislature confines him to certain theatres?—I do not think so. I think that if men enter the profession with a love of the art, they should look to the high bearing of it, and not to the mere money getting principle on which those actors at music halls are proceeding.

2913. Are not actors like nearly every other profession in that respect, that they go on the stage for a livelihood as much as from love of the art?—Then they never make great actors. I never knew a great actor who merely looked at pounds, shillings, and pence, in the first course of his education.

2914. Take the art of painting; would not it be hard on a painter if you were to say that he should paint pictures of a certain kind because it would vitiate his taste to paint bad pictures?—Yes, but the two things do not go together; for if a painter takes the lowest order of subjects when he paints, they may still be conducive to a high development of the art; but that is not the case with actors in the same position.

2915. Suppose a painter found that there was a demand for daubs instead of fine pictures, would you say you must not paint daubs?—No, certainly not; nor would I confine an actor so long as he remained in a theatre. Many actors begin with tragedy and end with comedy, while others begin with comedy and end with tragedy.

2916. But by not permitting stage plays at music halls, you confine them to a certain class of acting which is not so remunerative as the other, do you not?—That would depend on what the music halls would attempt to do.

2917. But an actor would be able to make more money at the music halls than at the theatres?—Yes, by those turns he would; but he would not advance in professional reputation.

2918. Have salaries increased much to actors since the music halls have come into vogue?—No, I think not, particularly; they have always been very well paid. I have paid as much as 40*l.* a night to actors.

2919. For how many months in a year?—For nearly the whole season.

2920. Do you know the views of the actors with regard to the music halls?—All actors that have anything like ambition are opposed to them; they would consider it a degradation to act in music halls.

2921. Do you think they would not go there if the music halls were allowed to act stage plays?—Not the higher order of actors.

2922. You think that it would be the lower order of actors who would go there?—It would be the unfledged actors. Before they have learned sufficient of their profession they are tempted to come to London to these music halls, while if they remained in the country studying they might become good actors, to supply the place of those who are gone, which we cannot do now.

2923. You think that the present system of confining acting to theatres is of practical use to the art of acting?—Yes. The school of acting was formerly in the country, and an actor remained there until there was a chance for his talent of an opening in London.

2924. Where is the school now?—It is destroyed in consequence of free trade in the drama; there is no school now.

2925. But have we got free trade in the drama?—Decidedly, great free trade; I took the chair to get free trade for the drama, and I have repented it ever since.

2926. In what way have you got free trade in the drama?—Formerly the patent theatres and the Haymarket were the only theatres that could act the legitimate drama; that was thrown open. I was ambitious and young, and thought I should like a chance of playing a high character of drama, and I took the chair for that object; but experience has taught me that I was wrong.

2927. You think that the fact of there being so many theatres has rather damaged the character of the acting, do you?—No; I do not care how many theatres there are if they are theatres.

2928. But are there theatres in London now which are not theatres?—At times the representation at those music halls approaches theatrical representation; in fact, it is positively theatrical representation.

2929. Has that been going on long enough to have any effect yet?—Yes; good comic actors are taken away and induced to become comic singers; they do those dialogues and speaking songs, which destroys their style, and ultimately they cannot take a position in high comedy or high tragedy in London.

2930. Do you not think that the school of acting in France is fully equal to that in this country?—I think it is very superior.

2931. They have a good many more theatres in Paris than in London, have they not?—I think not; the liberty of theatres does not seem to be understood here at all; that is not in France half what it is in this country; no dramatic representation can take place, nor can a dress be assumed out of a theatre, and I am quite willing to have that same system here.

2932. Do you know how many theatres there are in Paris?—I do not think it is quite as many as we have here.

2933. Colonel *Sturt.*] Are there more in Paris than in London in proportion to the population?—No; I think not; some of them are exceedingly small; the *Bouffes Parisiennes* is exceedingly small, and the large theatres are not many.

2934. But would not the existence of a number of small theatres with corresponding performances tend to destroy the character of the acting as much as the music halls?—No; because the same audiences would not go to them; they have not the temptation of drinking and smoking; they endure under that temptation things which they would not otherwise endure.

2935. Do you think that the taste of the public is not at fault quite as much as the music halls if your view is correct?—No; I do not think that the taste of the public generally is at fault at all.

2936. With regard to this inferior kind of acting, if the public disliked it the music hall proprietors would not engage such actors, would they?—I do not know that, but I think that very bad acting and very improper singing is tolerated in

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

in music halls which would not be tolerated in theatres.

2937. Would the same class of individuals tolerate a thing at a music hall that they would not at a theatre?—I do not think that they have the same publics, exactly.

2938. You think that there is something so special about the drama that it is wise not to leave it to simple supply and demand, like anything else?—I look on the drama as a matter of high art, and I think its development is a great benefit to the public, lifting them far above the usual routine of their lives.

2939. But is there anything special about acting that should induce us to treat it differently from any other art?—I think so; it is composed of a very few members; there are not 2,000 actors in the United Kingdom owing to the difficulty of attaining success. There are very few who attain the first rank; it requires the greatest study, the greatest observation, and the greatest practical illustration; there is no art that requires so much devotion from a man as the art of acting.

2940. If there were no legislation at all about it, do you think that the art of acting would perish altogether?—I think that if there were only one theatre in London it would not answer.

2941. But what I mean is, if there were no legislation at all about it, would the art degenerate?—I do not think it would be right to let any person open a theatre without a guarantee first, with regard to money. In France you must prove that you are capable of conducting the theatre with propriety, or else the Legislature will not grant it to you.

2942. What I mean is this, do you not think that the taste of the public, without any interference of Parliament, would settle the question between good and bad acting?—No, I think that the censorship is quite necessary.

2943. I understood you to say that a certain monopoly must be continued in favour of theatres?—That is impossible now, but if it had never been destroyed I think we should have had much higher acting.

2944. You think we may help to produce high acting by a system of monopoly?—Yes, certainly, because then those who have ambition remain in the country until they can come to fill a proper position in London.

2945. You do not think it is from the deficiency of talent?—Yes, from the deficiency of *practised* talent.

2946. It comes to this, that you think the drama wants a little nursing?—Yes.

2947. You think that you cannot leave it alone to grow naturally, like other things?—No, it requires great care.

2948. With regard to music halls, you think they would tolerate inferior preformances, because people can smoke and drink there?—Yes.

2949. Is there much more drinking at the music halls than at the theatres?—Yes, certainly. I do not believe in drinking at the theatres; especially with regard to my own, or at Mr. Buckstone's, or at the Olympic, the drinking there is excessively small.

2950. The proportion of your receipts, or rather your profits from that source is small?—Yes, it is not worth the gas that we burn.

2951. If it were necessary would the theatres be willing to give it up?—I have not the slightest objection; it is necessary in case of illness and things of that kind, but beyond that I do not care about it.

2952. Would the music halls be willing to give up the sale of drink on their premises?—I think if it is to elevate the public the sale of drink on the premises should be done away with in music halls.

2953. Do you think it is the province of Parliament to attempt to elevate the public by this sort of artificial measure?—I do not believe in the elevation of the public by music halls.

2954. Have you ever gone into the proportion of profits of either music halls or theatres from the sale of liquor?—I am not cognizant of the profits of music halls, but I have heard that there is a great profit from the sale of drink.

2955. Mr. *Locke.*] I should like to ask you whether you have changed your opinion since I last had the pleasure of seeing you, and whether you are now prepared to say what, if any, addition you would make to the privileges of music halls, with regard to their performances?—I would keep everything like pieces of theatrical representation from music halls.

2956. What would you restrict them to?—To music and singing, which I think would be more profitable in the end than the style of thing which they now try for.

2957. Do you not think that those persons who keep music halls are the best judges of what is profitable to them?—That may be; but the object of their establishments is the sale of drink, therefore they do not look at the thing as a matter of art.

2958. People would not go there to take refreshments unless there were amusements offered to them, would they?—I think they will go to see good amusements anywhere without any other temptation.

2959. The better the amusement then, the more the public would go?—Yes; but I do not think that dramatic representation is a better amusement for those places.

2960. But why is not a dramatic entertainment a better amusement; is it not the fact that more people go in consequence?—I do not believe so. I believe that the entire temptation is eating, drinking, and smoking, with the amusement of singing.

2961. You think that the music halls, in desiring to give dramatic entertainments, wish to do that which would not be a benefit, but a harm to them?—I think that it would not be a benefit to them, but that it would be a great injury to the drama.

2962. But if people did not go to see it they would soon give it up, would they not?—They go for the temptation of drink.

2963. But suppose the music hall proprietors imagine that more people would go to their places if dramatic performances were given?—I do not believe it.

2964. If that were so do you not think that the music hall proprietors, in their own interest, without looking at the public at all, would discontinue dramatic performance necessarily if they found it did not pay?—I think that they are looking at present gain, and not to ultimate results.

2965. What do you mean by that?—I mean that in course of time it would be injurious to them in a pecuniary point of view.

2966. If that were so their producing dramatic performances would be a benefit to the theatres in point of receipts, would it not?—Yes.

2967. Then

2967. Then, upon what principle is it that you object to it?—I do not think that the drama should be degraded by being acted before smoking and drinking in any establishment.

2968. That is simply your reason?—Yes.

2969. The degradation of the drama?—Yes.

2970. So far, the evidence you have given to-day is much the same as was given by Charles Kemble and others, before, I think, the first Committee on dramatic literature, when the distinction between the patent theatres and minor theatres was got rid of?—I never read that evidence, and I never heard it.

2971. But, however, you have heard that there was a struggle then between the minor theatres and the proprietors or managers of Covent Garden, Drury-lane, and the Haymarket Theatres?—I never mixed up in that, for I took the chair to throw open the drama to the minor theatres.

2972. But you never read the report?—Never.

2973. You were instrumental in getting rid of the privileges of the patent theatres?—Yes.

2974. Do you repent of that?—I do, most sincerely.

2975. You think it would have been better if Covent Garden and Drury-lane had been continued as they were?—We should have had a higher order of acting and a higher order of writing.

2976. But we having established free trade to that extent, do you think it is possible to stop?—No, I think not. I think it is impossible to stop with regard to theatres, but there it ought to stop.

2977. Is there any charm in the word theatre; is not any building, properly erected and arranged for the accommodation of the public with regard to their safety and comfort, a theatre; do you see any reason why one building more than another should have the privilege of performing plays, if the people wish to go there, and see them?—Provided that all exclusion of drinking and smoking was carried with it, I see no objection.

2978. But why exclude drinking and smoking?—Because I think it is degrading to act before such a class of people as prefer drinking and smoking to the intellectual amusement of the drama.

2979. But if men like to do it, why should there be a law to hinder it?—The drama would become less and less an art, and less and less an edification.

2980. Do you recollect the late Mr. Robson?—Yes.

2981. Where did he commence his career?—I have heard that Mr. Robson commenced his career at the Grecian; then he went to Dublin to refine himself, and he became an actor.

2982. Was he not an actor at the Grecian?—Not a great actor; he learned his profession more when he went to Dublin.

2983. But still his success had gone to that extent at the Grecian that he obtained an engagement in Dublin?—Yes, at a small salary; not more, I believe, than he had at the Grecian.

2984. But did he not learn to act at the Grecian, in the first instance?—I do not know. The first knowledge that I had of him was at the Grecian, but I should think that he had acted before.

2985. How long was he at the Grecian?—I do not know, but I should think that he had acted before he went there.

2986. But he was there for a considerable time, was he not?—I am told so.

2987. And then he went to Dublin?—Yes.

2988. And then he became one of the most successful actors who ever appeared on the stage?—Yes; he was seen by the late Mr. Farren, who engaged him for the Olympic.

2989. Probably if Mr. Farren had taken the trouble to go to the Grecian he would have taken him from there?—I cannot speak upon probabilities.

2990. We can, at all events, in a great measure attribute the enjoyment which we have obtained from the acting of Mr. Robson to his having been an actor at the Grecian?—All actors have commenced in a humble way. I began in a barn, and Elliston and Kemble did the same; in fact Elliston looked on barns as the hot-beds of genius.

2991. You would not give the music halls the chance of being the hot-beds of genius?—I think talent there would retrograde; but a barn is another thing; the gentlemen and the ladies of the neighbourhood patronise them.

2992. Do not ladies and gentlemen go to music halls?—I should not term them so; I think they are very doubtful people.

2993. Do you think that a person must lose cast by going to a music hall?—Yes; even if my son went there I should not like it; and as to taking my wife and family there I should think I was a scandalous person if I did so.

2994. Why do you think so?—Because a music hall is an immoral place.

2995. If so, is not a theatre immoral too?—No; we exclude all immoral characters; we are bound to do so.

2996. So are the music halls, are they not?—No, they are not, I believe; we cannot admit them, even if we are inclined, and I have not been inclined for the last 30 years.

2997. Are there no immoral characters in your theatre?—None who are known.

2998. Supposing they conduct themselves with propriety; how would you get rid of them?—It is not difficult.

2999. How would you do it?—By detectives.

3000. How do the detectives act?—The detective acts by pointing out when they come to pay that they are immoral characters, and their money is not taken.

3001. Colonel *Sturt.*] You mean notoriously bad characters?—Not so notoriously bad altogether; but I am bound to do what I cannot explain here.

3002. Mr. *Locke.*] You never interfere with any lady or gentleman going into a private box, I suppose?—I should do so if they were improper characters.

3003. But you would not inquire into what conduct they pursued in the box?—It must get to the knowledge of the people in the theatre if there was anything improper, and they would be turned out.

3004. Even when the blinds are down?—There are no blinds.

3005. Are there no blinds in the boxes—I mean curtains?—There are curtains, but they are not drawn.

3006. That is at the pleasure of the person who is there, I suppose?—No, most of them are fastened.

3007. But they draw halfway across, do they not?

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

not?—If you know better than I do, of course I cannot tell the Committee anything.

3008. Your theatre is differently planned from others?—I think at the Haymarket and at the Olympic there are not drawing curtains, nor is there any respectable theatre would dream of such a thing; there are none at mine.

3009. How many pieces do you say you have produced during a year?—It depends on the run of the pieces.

3010. How many nights did the "Colleen Bawn" run?—Nearly 300, I think, but not consecutive nights.

3011. What breaks were there?—There was one break at Easter, when Mr. Boucicault and his wife went to Dublin for a month; and there was a break after that.

3012. And you played the "Dead Heart" in the breaks?—Yes; I played the "Dead Heart" and "Janet Pride."

3013. How many nights did the "Dead Heart" run?—For 70 nights the first time, and nearly as many on its revival.

3014. There was no new piece performed at your theatre while the "Colleen Bawn" was being acted, was there?—Yes, many.

3015. Small pieces, I suppose?—Yes, small pieces. A good farce will draw a good deal of money; sometimes more than a play.

3016. You perform two or three pieces a night, do you not?—Yes, three pieces.

3017. There is always one piece, I suppose, which you try to make run as long as you can?—No; it depends on the public; we cannot make it run.

3018. But you look forward to its doing so?—Yes.

3019. I believe that the Adelphi has been as successful as any theatre in London in having a long run for its pieces?—Yes.

3020. Going back to "Tom and Jerry" even?—That ran a good many nights, but we had only a six months' license then.

3021. It ran for six months?—Yes; and there was "Black-eyed Susan."

3022. And "Victorine"?—That ran a long time.

3023. The Right Honourable Chairman asked you whether or not, when pieces ran for an immense time at the theatres, it was not injurious to dramatic authors, there being a limited number of theatres, and those theatres being taken up with one particular performance, the dramatic authors have no opportunity of writing for the stage while that is going on, have they?—Other theatres do not have those runs; they have other theatres to turn to; they are not obliged to bring all their pieces to the Adelphi.

3024. Take the Princess's again?—That has been unprecedented.

3025. Take the "Ticket-of-Leave Man" at the Olympic?—Yes, that is another case; those are exceptional cases.

3026. But all those were running together?—Yes.

3027. There are three favourite theatres well occupied?—Yes; and 23 theatres not so occupied.

3028. But there are pieces running at most of those too?—No, I think not.

3029. There was "Ixion" at the Royalty?—That ran for a long time, but that is a one-act piece.

3030. But that was the attraction of the evening; it began at eight o'clock?—But you underrated those small pieces when I spoke of them at the Adelphi, and now you put them against high class plays.

3031. But the performance at the New Royalty is not so long as it is at the Adelphi?—It is just the same number of hours, I think.

3032. It does not begin so soon, and ends sooner, surely?—I think not.

3033. Take the Strand Theatre again?—In those places they bring out a variety of pieces; that success is again only a one-act piece; what are there chief attractions would be my afterpieces.

3034. At the Strand Theatre they have a piece which has a good run, and then they play "Deaf as a Post" (not a great novelty, for I recollect Liston in it) and "Frightened to Death," another old piece, one before and the other after the chief attraction. What chance is there at the Strand Theatre for any other dramatic author than Mr. Burnand who wrote that piece; there is no opportunity given to any other author of exercising his talent, is there?—If they brought a manager as good a piece as "Deaf as a Post" they would get it acted in any theatre in London.

3035. Would the manager be disposed to pay for any other piece if he could fill the house without it?—We must supply fresh entertainments. When the "Colleen Bawn" was drawing crowded houses every night I was forced to give new pieces, and to pay for them.

3036. The house would not have filled without, I suppose?—I could not tell, but you must make the whole entertainment as agreeable as possible.

3037. But if you found that acting a new piece and an old farce would fill a house to suffocation, you would not get a new piece, would you?—Yes, I would.

3038. For the glory of the drama?—I do not know whether I should study the glory of the drama; I should study the excellence of the piece. I do not consider farces the glory of the drama.

3039. But why would you bring out a new piece if your house filled?—Because novelty is agreeable to the public.

3040. Why overload it?—We do overload it; it may be an indiscretion, but we do it, and we think it is right.

3041. What are you doing now?—"Through Fire and Water," "Crying Jenny and Laughing Johnny," and "The Wreck Ashore."

3042. Which is the new piece there?—"Through Fire and Water" "Crying Jenny and Laughing Johnny."

3043. Those are two new pieces?—Yes.

3044. The "Wreck Ashore" is very old, is it not?—Yes.

3045. Is the new piece a long piece?—It is a long two-act piece.

3046. But neither of them has run as long as "Rip Van Winkle"?—No; but the "Wreck Ashore" is quite as important in character, and "Through Fire and Water" is the same.

3047. The two new pieces are about the same length as "Rip Van Winkle" I suppose?—Yes; about the same length.

3048. In fact, you have two new pieces equal together in length to "Rip Van Winkle," and besides that, you have the "Wreck Ashore"?—Yes; but those two separate new pieces will cost more than one piece of three acts; we have two distinct authors to pay, of course.

3049. You

3049. You say that the actors at those music halls have turns?—Yes.

3050. That has been the case sometimes at theatres has it not?—Never.

3051. Not when the same manager has had two theatres?—We do not call those turns, because we are not paid extra; we have to work double and get no extra pay.

3052. Is not that liked among actors?—I think not; it caused a great deal of illness running from one place to the other.

3053. But at the music halls the performance is so short that it does not injure the actor?—No; they keep their broughams.

3054. Do you not think that if we were to introduce a law which would prevent men keeping their broughams, it would be rather a harsh law?—I do not object to men keeping broughams.

3055. But they would not be able to keep broughams if they were not permitted to give these performances?—Certainly; so must I give up my dinner if I give up acting.

3056. But is it not very hard to say that a man shall not have a performance of a kind which will enable him to keep his brougham?—I do not say so.

3057. But you propose that the legislation should be such as to prevent these people from acting in those music halls?—Decidedly.

3058. Must he give up these "turns" which enable him to keep a brougham?—No; one man who never acted at all but sang nigger songs has made his fortune. I do not object to that.

3059. Is the reason why you object to throwing the thing open that it is degrading to the drama to be performed where there is eating, drinking, and smoking?—Yes, it is degrading the art, and I would sooner starve than do it.

3060. But if other people would rather not starve than do it, why should they not please themselves?—Then they have no proper ambition in their profession.

3061. Why should everybody be ambitious?—Such a man can never rise to the head of his profession.

3062. Suppose he likes to live comfortably at the tail of his profession?—It was never intended that the drama should be in that position. We should never have had Shakspere or Sheridan if such a state of things had existed.

3063. How do you know the state of things in the time of Shakspere?—Smoking, eating, and drinking, were not in vogue then.

3064. But they ate and drank in those times, did they not?—Not in the auditorium of the theatre.

3065. But the theatres then were very different from what they are now?—I do not think so.

3066. The love for the stage was much greater, was it not?—In Sheridan's time and in Shakspere's time of course there was some difference.

3067. They always had their performances in the afternoon?—Yes; meals were taken at a different time then; the dinner-hour was one o'clock and supper at eight; now the dinner is at eight o'clock and the supper I do not know when.

3068. You have spoken about the liberty of the theatre in France; are you conversant with the regulations of the drama in France?—Yes, pretty well; I believe very well.

3069. Will you tell us what those regulations are, and what change there has been since the liberty of the theatre has been introduced?—The liberty of the theatre consists in being enabled to represent Molière, or Racine, or Corneille, at any theatre.

3070. That is much the same as what once took place over here?—Almost precisely the same.

3071. Did you see a piece at the *Variétés* last year called "*La Liberté des Théâtres*"?—Yes.

3072. Do you recollect a scene in that piece where they represented a place very similar indeed to a music hall where people were dining at tables, and while the performance is going on upon the stage, one of the actors gets hungry and they hand him up a goose?—No; I did not see that.

3073. Apropos of what was that scene, unless the liberty of the theatre extended beyond what you imagine?—If they did a thing of that kind, they could have no dramatic representation.

3074. You would imagine from that that the license granted by the new law extended to performances in music halls, or, at all events, to places where refreshments are taken in the auditorium, would you not?—They have no costume whatever out of the theatres.

3075. You do not mean to say that a performer at a *café chantant* does not come on dressed?—Only in evening costume; it is contrary to the law.

3076. Did you never see a comic singer come on dressed?—Never in anything but an evening dress; he may put his hat on in any way, or button up his coat awry, or pull up his collar; the ladies sit round on the stage in full evening costume.

3077. But on the Boulevards I thought I had seen comic singers come on dressed?—No; they are more strict now than they were before the liberty of the theatre was granted, and, in fact, they had to stop some of the music halls doing things of that kind; the Liberty of the Theatre Law has defined more strongly the difference between theatres, *cafés chantants*, and music halls; Theresa sings in "*Les Déesses du Bœuf gras*," and in "*La Femme à Barbe*," in evening costume only.

3078. My impression was, that in many of those places some of the comic singers were dressed?—No; they dress in evening costume which they disturb occasionally, but still it is obliged to be evening costume; since the passing of this Act for the liberty of the theatre the thing has been more strictly defined than before.

3079. That is in consequence of the license which has been given to all the theatres?—Yes.

3080. But probably another alteration may take place in France; they have always been very strict with the theatres?—Yes.

3081. Confining each theatre to a particular species of performance?—For many years that has been rather passed over, because the Gymnase has been treading close on to the Théâtre Français with regard to comedy, and has done so for many years.

3082. They could not have acted Molière, for instance, could they?—They never acted Molière; they found their own pieces more profitable; they tried it at the Porte Saint Martin, but they could not represent it; the actors were not up to the work which they had to accomplish; they had not been trained to it.

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

3083. When did they try Molière?—Within 12 months since the liberty of the theatres was granted.

3084. But previous to that they could not have tried it even?—No.

3085. Each theatre was confined to a particular class of performance?—No; they were not strictly confined. The Ambigu, and the Porte Saint Martin found it their interest to give strong *drames*, or pieces of show and spectacle.

3086. Is not it becoming pretty much the same thing now in England?—It is much the same thing with regard to the theatres in both places; I mean with regard to the available talent.

3087. But in Paris they do restrict those music halls, you say?—Out of theatres no costume is allowed.

3088. That does not, however, appear to have improved the condition of the theatres in France?—The condition of the theatres is exceedingly profitable, but they want actors.

3089. But no acting at music halls has been able to degrade the drama in France, and yet there are no actors, you say?—Not of such a high order as there were formerly for plays which require to be represented with completeness and perfection.

3090. But, at all events, in spite of the restriction put upon the music halls, things have fallen off as much in France as you say they have in England?—With respect to the talent.

3091. In one country there are no performances of the stage allowed in music halls, and in the other there are, and yet the result has been precisely the same?—Not precisely the same.

3092. But you say that the available talent has fallen off in both countries?—Yes.

3093. Then that result being the same under different conditions as to the music halls, how can the music halls be having any effect on the matter?—They are taking every chance of future talent away; they may rise in Paris, they may improve in consequence of their strictness, but we shall go the other way.

3094. But that strictness always existed in Paris with regard to music halls, did it not?—No, the great strictness was after the passing of the Act for the liberty of the theatres. You might have seen such a thing as you referred to before the passing of that Act. They attempted to get into "duologues" precisely the same as they do at our music halls, but they were stopped by the Legislature. They said that the public had not theatres enough to go to, and then the Legislature said, "Build theatres, but you must not have theatrical performances out of theatres."

3095. Your great objection is to the eating, drinking, and smoking in those music halls; apart from that, you would have no objection to the Lord Chamberlain licensing performances in any place?—Not with regard to theatres.

3096. You would not object to as many theatres as anybody pleased?—No; you may have as many theatres as you please.

3097. Do you know such a place as the Beaumont Institution, in the Mile End-road?—No.

3098. Do you know the place where Mr. and Mrs. German Reed are in Regent-street?—Yes, the Gallery of Illustration.

3099. Do you see any objection to their giving dramatic performances in places of that description?—No.

3100. The Gallery of Illustration is under the Lord Chamberlain's license, is it not?—Yes, it has the same license that we have.

3101. Do you see any objection to a theatrical license being given to places, such as the Beaumont Institution and St. James's Hall?—Excluding eating, drinking, and smoking, I have no objection.

3102. You think they might act plays anywhere?—Yes, anywhere in a theatre.

3103. Your objections to the eating, drinking, and smoking is that it is too attractive, I suppose?—It is degrading to the art; it is the chief attraction to the people who visit music halls; the other thing is merely an accessory.

3104. But if that accessory was properly regulated and conducted, what is your objection to it?—I object to a theatrical performance in any music hall or place that is not a theatre proper.

3105. Mr. *Du Cane.*] How do you account for the decline of good acting talent in France?—It is not fairly accounted for, they have much more facility for educating actors than we have; they have the Conservatoire for teaching; but there is a dearth of first rate talent. For instance, they have no Talma, and no Samson; but they have very good actors, and, perhaps, taking the whole run of actors, they have a better class than we have.

3106. You would consider that there are a greater number of first rate actors in France than in England?—Yes.

3107. Have you ever personally visited any of the music halls?—I went to the Alhambra once, and once to the Canterbury Hall; that is all I know of them.

3108. What kind of performances did you see there?—On the stage or in the audience part? because in the audience part the performances are rather disgraceful. I saw a ballet on the stage.

3109. Do you consider that the performance which you saw there came under the definition of acting?—It was a stage representation.

3110. In your experience have you ever known any instance of a music hall turning out a good actor?—Never.

3111. You have never known any instance of an actor getting his education as an actor at a music hall?—Certainly not; in fact, they have not existed long enough for that.

3112. You do not regard them in the same light as the "barns"?—No, because barns were confined to theatrical representations, and there were old actors who taught the young actors.

3113. Take the case of Mr. Robson. You consider that he had learned a great deal before he went to the Grecian?—Very likely, I do not know.

3114. At all events, he had to unlearn what he had learnt at the Grecian, you think?—I cannot say that, because I had not seen him; the Grecian was as a theatre when he acted there; it had been a saloon previously.

3115. I suppose it is a great object to you, as a manager, to get a piece that will give you a long run?—Yes.

3116. Should you consider that the long run of a piece acts as a check in any way to the production of dramatic literature?—I think not; it is rather encouraging than otherwise; it holds out such a hope to authors.

3117. Have dramatic authors in the present day, with the existing number of theatres in London, any difficulty in getting their pieces performed?

performed?—I think not, when they are clever, for there is room for them; many clever pieces are not produced in consequence of the want of an opening, no doubt; but that has been the case from time immemorial. In the olden times, to produce one or two pieces at Drury-lane in the course of an entire season was called a great achievement; we are more rapid now. At Bath, which was the most polished school for acting, to produce two pieces in a season was considered a great event.

3118. If an author writes a good piece, it is sure to be put on the stage at one theatre or another, you think?—I should say so. I should say that good pieces are not so numerous that the 26 theatres in London cannot give them all a chance.

3119. You have never, in any way, at the Adelphi, encouraged any performances of a similar character to those that are given at music halls, such as negro singing or acrobatic performances?—No; I have done ballets, of course; that every theatre does.

3120. I suppose that no negro singer or acrobatic performer of the first class ever reaches the salary that you would give a good actor?—I cannot tell. The one I spoke of, who keeps a brougham, is Mr. Mackney; he is entirely a negro singer; he stuck to it, and he has made a large sum of money; and, I believe, if the music halls were to stick to that class of entertainment they would do the same.

3121. Mr. *Locke.*] Did he not give Irish songs?—I believe not; I think he was never seen without a blacked face.

3122. Mr. *Du Cane.*] What sort of audience did you find collected at the Alhambra?—A very mixed audience.

3123. Was it generally inferior to what it is at your own theatre?—Yes.

3124. You have stated already that you are very careful about excluding all immoral characters from your audience?—Yes.

3125. Did you see many women of that class at the Alhambra?—I saw a vast quantity; and a vast quantity of men who are known by the police to be improper characters.

3126. Were they conducting themselves in an orderly manner?—They were not; not on the staircase there.

3127. Do I understand you to say that you exclude immoral women from your theatre, whether they conduct themselves properly or not?—Yes, if we know them. We have detectives; all the theatres I believe have detectives as well as regular police.

3128. Colonel *Sturt.*] I suppose that you and other proprietors of theatres would not have invested capital in your theatres if you had contemplated the law being altered in favour of music halls?—No.

3129. Do you think that that would be an injustice to you now?—Yes. My theatre is my own freehold, and that would be very injurious to my property. I believe Mr. Buckstone will tell you that his second price is so entirely destroyed by the music halls that he is about to withdraw it altogether. I have taken 40 *l.* a night second price at one time when I was playing farces only; I do not think now that he takes 40 *s.* a night.

3130. Have you ever had any occasion to complain of the way in which the Lord Chamberlain has conducted the censorship?—No.

3131. You can suggest no improvement in the present system?—No; it is very good. I have been manager now of the Haymarket and Adelphi Theatres for 30 years, and I have no complaint to make.

3132. You would not wish for any change in that system?—No, I should not. If the music halls were placed under a censorship, it would be to the advantage of the public, the songs particularly, because some of those songs are not fit for modest ears.

3133. You would not object to the music halls being licensed by the Lord Chamberlain if smoking and drinking were done away with?—If they are turned into theatres I have no objection to all the music halls being licensed, provided they exclude drinking, eating, and smoking, and improper characters, as we are bound to do.

3134. Mr. *Locke.*] Not eating and drinking?—No audience in a respectable theatre came for eating and drinking, and not till they are outside of the theatre can people light their cigars; in the Lord Chamberlain's license smoking is expressly excepted.

3135. Colonel *Sturt.*] You say that you saw disorderly conduct going on at the Alhambra or the Canterbury Hall?—Yes; it was a long time ago when I was at the Canterbury Hall.

3136. Did you observe disorderly conduct then?—Not that night.

3137. At some time you observed disorderly conduct on some "staircase," I think you said?—Yes, certainly, in the Alhambra; I should say most disorderly conduct.

3138. Was it an actual row?—No, it was an exhibition of persons that was quite of an *ad libitum* kind.

3139. I thought you meant a fight?—There have been fights there till one o'clock in the morning; I have been told that they have not been reported by the police. The police do not report what takes place at the Oxford, because that is now the musical Tattersall's of London.

3140. Mr. *Locke.*] Women do not bet, do they?—I dare say they do; I have heard that women of easy virtue do so.

3141. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Can you tell me what are the regulations with regard to eating and drinking at the *cafés chantants* in Paris?—I have never seen any eating there.

3142. Nor drinking?—Yes, but it is mostly coffee.

3143. Is it allowed in front of the stage?—It is all in the open air.

3144. But there is a stage on a structure in the open air?—It is in front entirely; it is a sort of garden.

3145. Eating and drinking is allowed in front of the stage, is it not?—I have never seen any eating; it is coffee and beer principally.

3146. But no spirits or wine?—The French do not take much spirits.

3147. But they take beer?—Yes; they take a great deal of beer.

3148. That is allowed?—Yes; and in all the theatres you may get spirits or wine, or anything you please, except for eating.

3149. Of course beer, under certain circumstances, if it is well adulterated, is often just as much intoxicating as spirituous liquors?—Yes.

3150. Mr. *Du Cane.*] It is Strasburg beer, I suppose?—Strasburg beer and Bock-bier, which is not very intoxicating; it is like drinking water mixed with sugar.

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

3151. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] It is the practice, is it not, to supply beer in the theatres, in the body of the house?—Not in the body of the house, but in the saloons they do.

3152. Is it restricted to oranges and ginger-beer?—Nothing is carried round the theatre that I have, nor in any respectable theatre that I know of.

3153. You have no reason to believe that it is done at any theatre at the West-end?—No. I cannot speak with regard to the East-end.

3154. Is there a refreshment bar in the pit at the Adelphi?—Yes, at the back of the pit.

3155. Not in the body of the house?—Not in the body of the house.

3156. At the side, I suppose?—Yes; it is the extra building of the house.

3157. Mr. *Locke.*] Is it just at the back of the seats?—Yes; but it is not within the walls of the theatre.

3158. Mr. *Du Cane.*] To put it short, can those who are at the bar see the performance?—No, they cannot; the door is closed. At times they are all in the dark. There are scenes where we require the lights to be turned down, just as we do on the stage. There are hardly any spirits consumed in the Adelphi; the great articles consumed are ices, coffee, ginger-beer, and lemonade.

3159. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] But neither spirits nor beer?—Not in any considerable proportion.

3160. Beer is consumed, I suppose?—Yes, but they go out for it; the chief part of the audience go out for it.

3161. But still they can get it inside the house?—Yes, ladies cannot go out of the theatre, and when we were not allowed to sell spirits we were continually being informed against. I have every now and then had to bribe persons not to inform, because the refreshment room keeper would sell spirits.

3162. If a lady felt faint in the body of the house could she get a glass of hot brandy and water?—Yes, and so she could, if it were not sold there, from the next tavern.

3163. There is no absolute prohibition against carrying spirits into the body of the theatre, is there?—Not into the private boxes. I should not allow it in the pit or dress circle, because it would interrupt the performance, but private boxes are different; ladies, who are ladies, do not like to go into the saloons or to mix in the body of the audience.

3164. There has been no case of drunkenness that you can remember from that practice?—No, I do not know of any, the person would be immediately turned out by the police, and so they would in any theatre in the East-end.

3165. There has been a good deal said before this Committee about the admission of strangers behind the scenes, is that ever the practice in the theatres?—No, I have been always strongly opposed to that, and I have seen it opposed in every theatre. One Royal Duke said that he would take a private box for the whole of the year if I allowed him a key to go behind the scenes, and I told him that I would not do so if he took the whole theatre.

3166. You know of no such case at the West-end?—I believe that gentlemen are allowed to go behind at the Italian theatres, but they are not associated with us at all.

3167. You mean the Italian Opera?—Yes.

3168. Used that to be the practice in former years?—Not within my knowledge. I have heard that Mr. E. T. Smith admitted gentlemen behind the scenes if they took a stall for the year, but that has never been done by any dramatic manager in my time that I know of, and indeed that is only hearsay.

3169. You have no positive evidence about that?—No.

3170. You do not believe that it is the fact now?—It is not so in any theatre that I have been in.

3171. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] During the great number of years that you have been manager the number of theatrical houses has been very much increased?—Yes.

3172. I think you are about one of the oldest managers that we have?—Yes.

3173. When you first took the management of a theatre there were not then so many theatres open under the license of the Lord Chamberlain as there are now?—No.

3174. There are now 25 theatres, without the Windsor theatre?—Yes.

3175. Do you think that that increase has been an advantage to the higher class of drama, and that it has encouraged it, or do you think it has lowered its character?—I do not think that the absolute opening of more theatres has done so; but I think the freedom given to the theatres has caused a deterioration of the drama.

3176. Now in consequence of the number of theatres which are now open the difficulty is very much increased of giving a play in the manner in which you would like to do it?—Yes.

3177. Especially with regard to the old comedies, or to Shakespear's plays?—Yes.

3178. Take the "School for Scandal," or the "Rivals," or say any of Shakespear's comedies, in consequence of the number of theatres open you cannot get a good company to act all the minor parts, I suppose?—No.

3179. You get two or three good ones, and the rest you are forced to fill up as well as you can?—Yes; because the freedom of the theatres has dispersed the talent. A man that should be playing a walking gentleman at the Haymarket or Drury Lane, can play "Hamlet" at the East-end, and he prefers that, and he gets a larger salary for it.

3180. That, you think, is in consequence of our having free trade in the legitimate drama?—Yes.

3181. Do you find another thing against you, and that is the hours which are now kept in London for dining compared with what you and I can recollect; is not the practice of dining so extremely late, very injurious to your business?—It is not injurious in an audience point of view; the only thing is, that we are forced to commence with the chief attraction later in the evening; now we have a *lever du rideau* which we did not before.

3182. On the French system?—Yes, on the French system.

3183. Do you find that the old plays draw now as much as they used to do?—One of the old plays, a fine tragedy or comedy, would draw as much as ever.

3184. But now a practice has arisen, I believe, for authors to write a play for a particular performer?—That is rather going out; the authors are now taking a better view of the thing, and regarding the *ensemble* of the piece more.

3185. That

3185. That was a bad system, was it not?—Decidedly bad.

3186. You think that is going out?—Yes.

3187. Taking the Adelphi Theatre, which you have rebuilt and made much larger, what should you call a good house; I do not mean quite full; but what do you call a house that you do not lose by?—£. 150 would be a very fair business.

3188. What does it cost you to open the doors without any extraordinary attraction and without the price of the play?—You must include that.

3189. But what are your nightly expenses without the price of the play?—You must include that.

3190. You do not open your doors, I suppose, under 150 *l.* a night?—Yes under 100 *l.* 100 *l.* is about the average.

3191. Now what is the average price that you pay for a good comedy, or a good play to an author like Mr. Tom Taylor, or some of the best of them?—I have paid 600 *l.* down on the reading of a play for a comedy, and had all the risk of its success afterwards.

3192. Does that give you the copyright?—No.

3193. The author retains that?—Yes.

3194. Therefore, I suppose he is entitled to get it acted in any theatre?—Yes.

3195. *Chairman.*] Does the price you pay give you no kind of monopoly?—For the first three years, for that theatre, but if I were to play it in any other theatre, I should have to pay the author.

3196. You have the exclusive privilege for three years?—Yes.

3197. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You have been to Paris and seen the dancing places, and all the other things out in the open air in the *Champs Elysées*, those places appear to fill and yet the theatres appear to fill?—Yes.

3198. The French are a much more theatrical nation than we are?—Yes, they do not drink after dinner.

3199. You do not think that a *café chantant* in St. James's Park would at all damage your receipts, do you?—I do not think it would be injurious.

3200. If Theresa was to come and sing in this country, and the weather was as warm as it is to-day, she would draw very well in the open air, would she not?—She does not sing in the open air now; she sings at the Alcazar; she is in evening costume, not in dramatic costume. I do not object to anything in evening costume, except dramatic representations.

3201. What you wish is to confine theatrical performances to the theatres?—Yes.

3202. And to keep the music and dancing rooms to music and dancing?—Yes.

3203. You do not object to either in their own sphere?—No, I object to ballet being performed there.

3204. You consider ballets stage representations?—Yes, it is part of the attraction of a portion of our seasons.

3205. Now with regard to eating, drinking, and smoking in the music halls; in a theatre of course, the great object is the performance?—Yes.

3206. But persons have to eat and drink?—They do not eat in my house.

3207. There is a practice between the acts, of women going round to offer people refreshments?—That is not done in any respectable theatre; perhaps in no theatre since they are allowed to have a bar; but I am certain with regard to the West-end theatres.

3208. The practice of going round to private boxes and offering drink is quite abandoned, is it?—I do not know whether they do not go and ask between the acts if they wish to take any ice or refreshment in the private boxes, but they do not carry anything.

3209. It has been objected to very much that in the Alhambra music hall, and at other places, persons are allowed to go behind the scenes; that is a practice that is abandoned in your house, and in all theatres, is it not?—Entirely. Since I have been manager, which is now 30 years, I have never permitted such a thing.

3210. In Drury-lane and Covent-garden, in former days, the green-room was a resort where a great many persons came?—They were connected with the theatre; they were part of the committee who had a privilege by right of going in.

3211. But still, in former days, I think the green-room was a room where people did meet in that way; even formerly, members of the Royal Family used to go and see some of the great artists?—Not purposely, I think; if they were in the theatre they might do so.

3212. That is done away with?—Yes.

3213. No persons are admitted behind the scenes, or into the green-rooms, who are not either authors or artists, or persons connected with the house?—Not that I know of.

3214. That I believe is the wish of the principal performers?—Yes, decidedly.

3215. Is it not the fact that the leading artists, both ladies and gentlemen, have a very strong objection to idle people coming in?—Yes, it is an interruption, and it would be impossible to carry on the business of a theatre if that was permitted.

3216. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] When you spoke of free trade in theatres, I suppose you meant free trade subject to certain regulations from the Lord Chamberlain?—No, what I meant was liberty to act the legitimate drama.

3217. Yes, but do you object to the legitimate drama being performed at the music halls if they are subject to the same restrictions as the theatres?—Most decidedly. I object to the drama being performed in any place where eating, drinking, and smoking takes place.

3218. But if the music halls were subject to the same regulations as theatres, smoking, eating, and drinking could not take place in the auditorium?—If that was entirely removed from the auditorium, they may be turned into theatres if they please. I have no objection.

3219. You have no objection to competition, provided that the competition were on similar conditions for all parties?—No; every music hall may be turned into a theatre if you please, supposing the competition is fair, provided the place is a theatre proper.

3220. With regard to supervision, have you considered what class of supervision you desire should be adopted; would you desire to change the present system at all?—No; I think the present power is very good.

3221. Is it sufficient for all purposes?—Yes; and very correctly, and very ably carried out.

3222. You think it is sufficient for the safety of the public?—Yes; there is a regular examination of every theatre, which takes place by a paid surveyor before a license is granted.

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

3223. You think that those powers are sufficient for the protection of the public with regard to the safety of the house, and also with regard to the public safety, in a moral sense?—They have no funds for prosecuting parties infringing the law. I think there ought to be some sum allowed for that purpose, and that the managers should not be brought into the unpleasant position of giving information against those things. The Lord Chamberlain ought to see the drama properly carried out in all its phases without infringement of the law.

3224. You would increase the present powers of the department?—Yes.

3225. Are there now many theatres where high-class pieces are performed?—Yes, they are performed at every theatre. At the Standard "Henry the Fourth" and "King John" are performed in good style.

3226. But I mean new pieces of a high order?—Yes, they are continually bringing out new pieces.

3227. Is there perfect facility for authors who produce good standard pieces to get them represented?—Yes, there is every facility; the only question is whether the terms meet their views.

3228. Taking the class of audiences at the various theatres, and the theatres themselves, you think that they are sufficient to give a fair demand for good standard pieces?—Yes; I have played at the Standard, and a better audience I have never acted to, or a more discreet audience. At the Standard, the City, and Surrey Theatres, I found my audience rather better and more attentive than at the West End; they do not converse during the performance.

3229. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you find the audience at those theatres more appreciative of really good high-class acting than the audiences at the West End?—Not more appreciative, but quite as appreciative.

3230. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Can you inform the Committee, out of the 26 theatres, at how many, in your experience, say for 10 years past, high-class plays have been the rule rather than the exception?—They have been the exception rather than the rule; the legitimate drama is the exception.

3231. Can you tell us any theatre at which it has been the rule?—I do not know of any theatre where it has been the rule.

3232. By the legitimate drama you mean not only stock pieces but new ones?—Yes; new ones taking the form and character of the legitimate drama.

3233. Does that arise from the want of taste on the part of the audiences, or the want of production on the part of the authors?—I think that the taste of the audiences is quite ready to meet such a supply.

3234. You think that it is the supply that is not forthcoming?—The supply is not forthcoming.

3235. Since you took that active part in opening the theatres, you think that acting, as a profession, has not improved?—Yes, the school was lost for it.

3236. With regard to the pieces performed; have you the same opinion with regard to their decay as you have with regard to the decay of good acting?—I think that if the same amount of acting talent existed, we should have finer plays written.

3237. But they are not written now?—No; the difficulty as to the acting is so apparent, that there is not that inducement to the author to devote his time to writing plays.

3238. Have we not had some very good plays written during the last 10 years?—Yes; of course there are exceptions; and perhaps there were not more good plays produced formerly than there are now. Take Drury Lane in Garrick's time, or after it; if they produced two plays in a season at that time it was thought a great thing. I think there are more good plays produced now than in the time of Garrick.

3239. Do you think that on the whole, the productions of the authors have rather improved?—Writers are more numerous now; education has advanced so much.

3240. The Committee heard from Mr. Donne that he had a very decided opinion that authors have very much improved in the style of their pieces compared with 20 years ago?—There is an improvement; but I do not see anything so good as some pieces written 20 or 30 years ago. Take Bulwer's comedy of "Money," or the chief plays by Sheridan Knowles.

3241. Take Mr. Westland Marston's plays?—They are very good, no doubt; but take Douglas Jerrold's "Bubbles of the Day." I do not see anything so good now.

3242. You would confine your opinion, then, to the immediate present day?—That is 20 years ago, or more.

3243. In your management, when you happen to have a long run for a play, does that stop you from considering any good pieces that are sent you in the meantime?—No; it does not stop me from considering them, nor does it stop me from paying for them.

3244. You pay for a piece in anticipation of being able to produce it?—Yes; I have a supply always on hand.

3245. Now, with regard to the Grecian Saloon; do you know that the Grecian Saloon and the Eagle Tavern were separate establishments?—I think it is not called the Grecian Saloon now.

3246. But when we knew the names of the Grecian Saloon and the Eagle Tavern, were they, in fact, separate establishments, or one establishment?—One establishment, but they were detached; the theatre portion did not join the other part.

3247. That part of the building in which the performances took place was, in effect, a theatre?—Yes.

3248. And the saloon, which was quite apart, from the theatre, was the place where eating, drinking, and smoking went on?—Before they obtained a license there was drinking in the auditorium, but they did not have costumes or change of scenes, and they had a piano on the stage.

3249. Is it possible, that, in any of the private boxes at any of the better class of theatres in London, any immorality could go on?—I think not; they are so open to every person on the stage, the carpenters, and everybody else.

3250. Mr. *Walpole.*] I think you have stated that you consider the drama is in a bad state both here and in Paris?—Bad, compared with former times; not positively bad; we have no Kemble or Macready now.

3251. You mean, as compared with the times when Kemble, Macready, Young, Liston, Farren, and Dowton, and so on, were on the stage?—Yes; and Samson and Talma on the French stage.

3252. Can

3252. Can you trace the recent deterioration of the drama, as compared with those times, to any particular causes?—I think that free trade in the legitimate drama is the cause.

3253. On account of the diminution of the number of good actors?—The scattering of the talent.

3254. In other words, when you had only three theatres like Covent Garden, Drury Lane, and the Haymarket for the legitimate drama, you had all the companies concentrated in those three theatres, and, therefore, the talent was not dispersed?—Just so; then we had schools in the country, such as Edinburgh, Dublin, and Bath. Bath was the finishing school. Those actors who were ambitious used to hold on at those theatres until an opening offered, and then they came up to London finished actors, having associated with the best actors in the country schools; they would not go to the minor theatres at all, and, unless they could play the legitimate drama, they would not come to London.

3255. The country theatres were nurseries for the legitimate drama?—Yes. Bath was the polishing school, and that was the stepping-stone to London.

3256. I suppose that something may be attributed to the different tastes of different ages?—No, I think not. If you give a good article to the public the taste is as good as ever it was.

3257. Has not the taste of the people been different at different periods; was not the taste of the public, at the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and the beginning of the reign of James the First, different from that of the time of the Restoration?—The worst time was the beginning of Charles the Second's reign. After the Restoration then a very bad class of libertinism invaded all dramatic literature; and the consequence is that those plays do not survive, and managers now never produce them.

3258. I suppose that was chiefly from imitating French plays and customs?—Yes; many of them were translations from the Spanish and the French.

3259. You have already stated that a fine comedy or a fine tragedy would, even now, attract as much as it formerly did?—Yes; if it were put on the stage with an equal cast.

3260. You think that it is the want of a sufficient amount of talent concentrated in one place, and ready for the effective representation of high-class plays, that has altered the character of the dramas produced in recent times?—Yes. I think that the taste of the public has not altered at all; it is as good as ever it was, and perhaps better, because improved education has made more people capable of appreciation.

3261. You were comparing the present days with those days when Kemble, Macready, and Munden were on the stage; did they not act a greater variety of tragedies and comedies then, in the course of a week, than you do now?—Yes; pieces had not such runs as they have now; but they were mostly old pieces. And then there is another consideration; some of the principal actors in those plays could not stand the fatigue of acting on consecutive nights. In those days they used to play three or four nights a-week, but that was a matter of necessity; it was peremptory on the managers to do so.

3262. If you had the same number of good actors, you think that you would have a supply of pieces of equal merit, and you attribute almost everything in the deterioration of the stage to what you call free trade in the drama, and the diminished number of good actors in the separate companies?—Yes, there are many good actors spoilt; they tried to do the first characters before they are half fit for them, and the consequence is that they get into a bad style.

3263. I understood you to say that you have no objection whatever to a complete competition between different places of public representation, provided they are all licensed as theatres?—Just so.

3264. Still, even that would diminish of course the chance of concentrating the actors in one spot?—That is a fact; that is a past event that we cannot recover; if we could recover that, I should say, do so.

3265. But, in distinguishing between theatres and music halls, you would have perfect free trade and competition, but where they wanted to introduce the drama as a secondary attraction there you would draw a broad line?—Yes, I would allow nothing in the shape of a dramatic performance to be represented anywhere except in a theatre.

3266. Would you apply that to any part of a play?—Yes, to any part or portion of a play in a dramatic form. You may have as many theatres as you please, and have free trade as far as possible; in fact I have always considered that there has been free trade.

3267. Suppose we were to concede, as has been proposed, the right of acting legitimate dramas, or parts of dramas, at music halls, would it not be necessary to make regulations with regard to the structure of those halls?—Yes.

3268. Even if the proposed change were made, you must have a different thing from the mere license now taken out from the magistrates, and different regulations, if the public are to be quite secured with regard to the structure of the building and the means of ingress and egress?—If the music halls are turned into theatres, the Lord Chamberlain would give them a license as theatres, and they must succumb to the rules and regulations of the Lord Chamberlain, which I think would be perfectly correct.

3269. What you really object to is, that those music halls, the principal attractions of which are eating, drinking, and smoking, should be put into unfair competition with a licensed theatre, you, as a theatrical manager, being perfectly willing to encounter any fair competition with theatres?—Yes. The music halls have injured our receipts very much, but we do not mind the number of theatres being increased, because the best performances would, we think, be patronised.

3270. Do you think that eating, drinking, and smoking is at all necessary to encourage the drama?—Quite the reverse. Take Sheridan Knowles, Bulwer, or Mr. Robert Bell, or any other man who prides himself on his language; that cannot be attended to while eating, drinking, and smoking are going on. If a man is quiet himself, his neighbour is noisy.

3271. Even with regard to scenes taken out of a drama, you could not draw a line and allow those scenes to be represented so that you could make a law to distinguish between the theatres and the music halls?—No, I would not allow any portion of a drama to be represented in the music halls; that would create confusion in time. Take, for example, the screen scene in the "School for Scandal"; that is the great point of the piece, and

B. Webster, Esq.

27 April 1866.

and if you allow that to be done in the music halls you take the pith and marrow of our representation away. The music halls would, of course, take the choice bits.

3272. Are you apprehensive, then, that if the music halls were to be allowed to act any part of a play without taking out a license for the performance of the drama, the drama would still further deteriorate as compared with what it is now?—Yes, I think so, and ultimately it would crush the art.

3273. Could you "crush the art" without diminishing the inducement to good authors to write plays?—Of course not.

3274. Mr. *Selwin.*] You say that the music halls would naturally select the best parts of pieces to act?—Yes.

3275. But you said also that good actors, as a body, would not be found acting at those music halls?—Yes; but those good parts would be acted by inferior actors, and that makes all the difference. For example, take the "Screen scene" in the "School for Scandal;" persons who saw it exhibited in an inferior way at a music hall would have a bad opinion of the play, and would not go to see it at a theatre.

3276. Do you think that the same class of persons would frequent both places; I think you have stated that the people who frequented music halls would not be the same class of people as those who went to the theatres?—As a body they would not, but there are many people of the same class who go to music halls as well as theatres.

3277. Are there not a very large number of actors who find a difficulty in getting employment at the theatres?—I do not think so; I do not think there is any actor at all capable of performing who cannot get an engagement.

3278. Mr. Frederick Stanley said, the other day, before this Committee, that the music hall proprietors would be content, as a body, to enact small pieces with only two or three performers; do you consider that that would be a detriment to the theatres?—Yes, I do; I think that anything like a theatrical representation ought not to be presented in any building where there is eating, drinking, and smoking, going on.

3279. In regard to the Lord Chamberlain's censorship over the pieces, it was stated the other day that the number of small pieces and the number of things acted at the music halls would make it very difficult to bring them under a censorship similar to that of the theatres; do you consider that that would be the case?—I do not see why it should be so if there was a law to compel the sending in of everything.

3280. But it was suggested that the rapidity with which they have to put on fresh pieces to fill up gaps was so great that they could not keep them all under the eye of the Lord Chamberlain?—I object to their acting them at all in any shape or form; I am certain that it is an error of judgment.

3281. With regard to the *Cafés Chantants*, as far as regards those in Paris, there are merely stages in the open air?—Yes; they are always attached to the restaurants.

3282. Where people sit with chairs and tables and drink their coffee?—Yes.

3283. The pieces are not acted continually; half an hour or so elapses after one performance before anything else takes place?—Yes; the ladies sit on the stage, and there is an orchestra, and there are tables and chairs beyond in a sort of garden that is attached to the restaurants.

3284. They could hardly be quoted in the same category with our theatres or music halls; could they?—Not at all; they are more like the music halls there, and the music halls are under the same restriction as the *Cafés Chantants.*

3285. You have stated that the amount of remuneration derived from the sale of refreshments in theatres was no inducement whatever to keep the sale of refreshments in existence?—Not to me, certainly.

3286. Would there be any objection if that license for the sale of spirits were done away with?—I should not raise any objection. I have already said that I was often in danger of being informed against, because people would supply spirits, and charge an enormous sum for them.

3287. Could you not by any exercise of power sufficiently check that practice?—It is impossible to check the practice if a person choses to carry it in his pocket.

3288. When you acted in theatres on the other side of the water, were you aware of refreshments being more largely distributed in the auditorium, than in the theatres at the West End?—No, I was not aware of it, and I never experienced any interruption while acting.

3289. Mr. *Powell.*] You have made use of a phrase which we have frequently heard here, namely, "the legitimate drama;" can you define that phrase in other words?—The legitimate drama is the class of plays that Shakespere wrote; the class of plays that Sheridan wrote, and Congreve wrote; it takes its special character from the order of the writing. It used to be considered that it must consist of only five acts; but I conceive the legitimate drama not to consist in the number of the acts, but in the order of writing and the construction, and the style of composition altogether.

3290. Should you consider the burlesques which are now so popular as belonging to the legitimate drama?—Certainly not. I think they are most injurious to the drama, because they turn the serious effects of the drama into ridicule; I think they are the bane of our art.

3291. With regard to the drinking which takes place at your theatre, or other theatres, on this side of the water, you say that it is merely taking ordinary refreshments, such as a person may naturally require during a long performance?—Yes; they do not take it in all the theatres; at the West End of London the people chiefly go out for refreshments; they fancy they get it better outside, and I think they do.

3292. You have spoken of the deterioration of the artistic talent shown on the stage in France?—Yes.

3293. I believe there can be no doubt that there are plays licensed in Paris which would not receive the license of the Lord Chamberlain, which seems to imply a degradation of the public taste. Do you think that degradation of the public taste and the permission to minister to it by the public authorities has had anything to do with the decline of talent on the stage in France?—They have a freer style of drama in France than we have in England.

3294. Do you think that the existence of that freer style of drama (to apply no stronger epithet), has had anything to do with the diminution of talent in France?—Yes, I think so; I think the

"*Biche aux Bois*," the "*Lanterne Magique*," and those things, are very deteriorating.

3295. Reverting to the evidence given before a Committee of this House, in the year 1832, wherein very strong language is used with regard to the effect of throwing open theatres, I find Mr. Charles Matthews said that if the legitimate drama were to be played at other theatres beyond the patent theatres, or the Haymarket, it would brutalise the drama, and be a great injury to it; do you believe that was substantially true?—Yes.

3296. Do you think, since then, you have seen first a deterioration and then an improvement?—I have not seen any improvement in the legitimate drama.

3297. The first effect of throwing open the theatres would be to create a larger demand and an imperfect supply; a falling off in the available talent in comparison with the number of theatres opened?—The class of pieces played at theatres that were then termed minor theatres has vastly improved, but the class of pieces and acting at what were then termed legitimate theatres has not improved.

3298. Do you consider that the minor theatres in London have now become a good school for actors?—They are a very superior class of theatres to what they once were.

3299. Should you apply the same terms to the country theatres, such as Liverpool, Manchester, and those places?—I think they have all deteriorated with regard to acting, and with regard to even the class of pieces which they represent.

3300. Extending your knowledge to the provinces and not London only, do you find that young men of ability, industry, and talent are applying their minds to acting so as to afford hope that there is a rising school of promising performers?—There is no school at all. The variety of pieces that they play continually, except when they have a star there, makes it impossible for a young actor to devote his mind to his profession, because there are so many words to get into his head. I have known 18 pieces played in one week in one theatre, and the actor had to study his 18 parts; the only thing he could do was to scramble through the words in any way.

3301. You have no reason to complain of the way in which the Lord Chamberlain has exercised his authority with regard to theatres?—Not the least.

3302. He has not been slow or vexatious?—No, he has been very accommodating.

3303. Looking at the number of plays written, of course there is a limit to the number of plays which one author can write, is there not?—I do not think so; one man has more facility in the production of a play than another; it depends on the genius of the writer.

3304. Do you think that one or two writers of ability could do much towards supplying your theatre with pieces?—No, not one or two, or half-a-dozen; it would take a dozen good authors, and then perhaps they would not accomplish the feat.

3305. Are there many pieces written now that are fit for the stage, which are not presented?—There may be; that I cannot say.

3306. I speak of those pieces that are laid before the managers?—We have a vast number laid before us as managers which are destitute of composition with regard to plot, though they have fine bursts of language.

3307. I speak of pieces that are thoroughly fit for the stage?—There is always a very fair supply.

3308. Mr. *Clive*.] You said something about the country theatres; how do you account for the almost entire cessation of country theatres?—In every town that I know there are theatres, and more than I ever knew before.

3309. Are you acquainted with the ordinary county towns in England?—Yes.

3310. Will you mention any one of those which has a theatre open?—There is Liverpool, Bath, Exeter, Bristol, and Birmingham.

3311. These are capitals; but take towns of under 50,000 inhabitants?—They amount to hundreds; I cannot speak to them.

3312. Are there not a vast number of theatres closed in county towns?—I think not.

3313. Shrewsbury and Worcester, for example?—The Worcester theatre has been opened this year; it is never a prosperous place, but it has been opened within a month.

3314. Take Gloucester?—That theatre has been opened; Miss Menkin was there not long since, and Mr. Swanborough.

3315. How many nights did Miss Menkin play?—I cannot say.

3316. But are you not aware that that is very exceptional?—No, I do not know that they are. Formerly there were circuits for different companies; there was the York circuit and the Norwich circuit. They went round six weeks to one place and six weeks to another, and so they filled up the year. Those theatres are now opened for longer times together than they were formerly.

3317. Is there not a strong feeling about religion in county towns, which has affected the country theatres a great deal?—I think not.

3318. You have stated that you thought the representation of the screen scene from the "School for Scandal" at a music hall would essentially damage the estimation of that play?—I think so.

3319. Do you not think that the run of a sensation piece for 100 nights does more than that could do to damage the legitimate drama?—Certainly not; it does not injure the theatres, nor does it spoil the public taste.

3320. Do you not think it better that second-rate folks, if they are the class who frequent the music halls, should hear two scenes of a good play than none at all?—Yes, if they could hear it in a theatre, and would go to a theatre.

3321. Do you think that they would go?—All the respectable classes would.

3322. Do you not think that some people's minds may be the better for a little training?—Yes; but I do not think that they can be trained on gin, beer, and tobacco; it is casting pearls before swine. I do not believe in the respectability of the audiences at the music halls.

3323. Do you think that the public taste produces the acting, or the acting the taste?—I think that the public taste guides the actor greatly.

3324. Is that the way you account for the run of those sensation pieces for 100 nights?—Yes.

3325. The bad taste of the public?—I do not think it is bad taste to go and see a piece for 100 nights; sometimes it is good taste.

3326. Take a sensation drama: do you consider that the taste produces the actor, or the actor the taste?—The taste produces the actor.

B. Webster, Esq.
27 April 1866.

Sensation drama is a word which I took from the American dramatic element. But "Macbeth" is a sensation drama, and the "Tempest" is a sensation drama, for they have all sensational effects.

3327. But still you said that Shakespere was legitimate drama?—Yes, it is legitimate drama, because it is high-class acting.

3328. Do you think that the "Ticket of Leave Man" is legitimate drama?—No.

3329. But that play has had a great run, has it not?—Yes.

3330. Upwards of 100 nights?—Yes, it is a good drama and well written, but not a legitimate drama.

3331. But during all that time the public could not have heard, at the Olympic Theatre, any legitimate drama?—They had 25 other theatres to go to.

3332. Were they not all playing the pieces that paid them best?—Yes, no doubt they were trying to do that.

3333. Do not those pieces pay better than the more legitimate plays?—No, not if the latter are properly represented. I think the "Ticket of Leave Man" attained its fame from being so evenly acted and put together; if a play is completely done in all its parts it is pleasing.

3334. You think that this dramatic propriety made the "Ticket of Leave Man" so popular?—Yes, I think the way in which it was acted, down to the lowest part, was one of the charms of the piece, the *ensemble* was so good.

3335. Mr. *Locke.*] You have stated that the number of country theatres has not been diminished?—I think they have increased rather.

3336. Is it within your recollection that there was a theatre at Chelmsford?—I do not know; that was almost a village.

3337. Do you recollect a theatre at Maidstone?—There is one there now, it was built formerly as a chapel; in some places chapels have become theatres.

3338. Is not it an ordinary case that theatres are turned into chapels?—No, it is an extraordinary case. In Kent there is a feeling for turning theatres into chapels, but they have returned the compliment in other places.

3339. Can you mention any place where a chapel has been turned into a theatre?—At Margate it was so, but they have a theatre there again now.

3340. Had they a theatre before?—Yes, and it was turned into a chapel.

3341. Now they have turned it back again?—Not the same place.

3342. But they always had a theatre at Margate years ago, had they not?—Not for one or two seasons.

3343. Maidstone is shut up, is it not?—I do not know.

3344. And Lewes?—I do not know.

3345. The Guildford theatre is shut up also; that theatre now is turned into an upholsterer's shop, so that four places on the Home Circuit have had their theatres shut up?—Not all the year round, I think.

3346. Do you recollect Mr. Barnett's troupe; that is discontinued, is it not?—He is dead.

3347. Has anybody else got it?—Yes, the Reading Theatre is open, and Ryde is open.

3348. Those four theatres I have mentioned are all shut up, are they not?—Probably you know better than I do, but I believe there are theatres in those places open at some time during the year. None of those theatres were ever open above two or three months in the year, in the best of times.

3349. When the circuit went round, they always used to be open during the circuit time?—Yes, for a month or six weeks out of the year.

3350. Colonel *Sturt.*] You say you think that burlesque is the bane of the drama; would a good burlesque like the "Maid and the Magpie" draw better than almost anything else?—Not better.

3351. As well?—No, not as well; I think it is a great injury to the drama. My opinion is, that everything which tends to ridicule the drama must be bad.

3352. But you admit that the public are very fond of burlesques?—I think they have been taught to be fond of burlesques, and that they might be taught to be fond of other things.

3353. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you not consider that burlesques are the creation of almost the last 20 years?—No; the "Critic" and the "Rehearsal" were burlesques.

3354. But are they not a revival of the last 20 years?—There is "Bombastes Furioso," which was played 50 years ago, and the "Critic," a 100 years ago. That is as good a burlesque as ever was written, and of a very high order.

3355. But did not the modern school originate with Mr. Planché's "Fortunio and his Seven Gifted Servants," the "Fair One with the Golden Locks," "Prince Charming," and so on?—Yes.

3356. The style of burlesque has very much deteriorated within the last 20 years, has it not?—Yes.

3357. Do you consider that the music halls have had any effect in bringing about that result?—It is certainly a singular thing that the most attractive parts of those burlesques, the breakdown dances and so on, are taken from the music halls.

3358. *Chairman.*] I mean, as a witness before this Committee who would be able to give the best information with regard to the state of the drama in the provinces, is there any London manager who is especially connected with those provincial theatres; Mr. Buckstone has got a theatre in Bradford, has he not?—Yes; I do not know that you could get better information than from myself and Mr. Buckstone, but, of course, those small places we never go to.

3359. Mr. *Powell.*] Have you ever taken a theatre in Manchester or any of those large towns for a short time?—Yes; I had the Liverpool Theatre Royal.

3360. *Chairman.*] Have you any further evidence to offer to the Committee?—No.

JOHN BALDWIN BUCKSTONE, Esq., called in; and Examined.

J. B. Buckstone, Esq.

3361. Mr. *Locke.*] YOU are proprietor, I believe, of the Haymarket Theatre?—I am lessee.

3362. And manager?—Yes.

3363. Have you been so for a great many years?—This is my fourteenth year.

3364. We have met before on this subject, I believe?—Yes.

3365. Have you seen any cause to alter the opinion that you then expressed with regard to the extension of these privileges to music halls?—No;

No; I objected to the extension of the privileges then to music halls, as I do now.

3366. That is to say, to the privilege of giving performances of the stage?—Yes.

3367. What is your reason for objecting to music halls giving performances of the stage?—In the first place they are not theatres; and smoking, eating, and drinking and improper acts are admitted; therefore, the music halls under the circumstances are not the places for dramatic performances, and to allow dramatic performances at those places would be a great injury and injustice to the theatres.

3368. Is not your principal reason that you do not like competition?—I do not object to legitimate competition.

3369. Then you would call that illegitimate competition?—Yes; unfair competition.

3370. Why?—You would be granting those places privileges belonging to the theatres controlled by the Lord Chamberlain, and which obey his authority by the expulsion of women of the town. We have no drinking or tobacco smoking in the theatres, and why should the music halls be placed on the same level as the theatres that obey all those injunctions of the Lord Chamberlain.

3371. But suppose people like to go to music halls, and to be amused in that way, why should they not do it?—I do not think they would like it.

3372. Then, if they did not like, it would not take place, I suppose?—That would be at the discretion of the manager.

3373. But I suppose that no manager of either a theatre or a music hall would ever put a performance on the stage that would not pay?—I presume not; but at the music halls the chief attraction is what is drunk; they calculate their profits in that way at 50 per cent.

3374. Provided that the people did not eat and drink to excess, and that they conducted themselves with propriety, what objection is there to a man sitting at a table taking his refreshments, and at the same time being amused by the performance on the stage?—He cannot pay proper attention to the performance while he is eating.

3375. What do you call proper attention?—A man with his mouth full cannot pay proper attention to the performance.

3376. He does not eat with his ears?—But eating must interfere with listening.

3377. Suppose his mouth is full, and his ears open, does not he please himself by employing two of his senses instead of one?—Some minds may find enjoyment that way; but I think it is very sensual.

3378. But still eating and drinking is a pleasant thing?—You could not enjoy a dramatic performance at a music hall, while a row was taking place. I remember a case not long ago of a fight at the Alhambra where one of the gentlemen, whose name I have got, was so beaten that he had to be taken to Charing Cross Hospital.

3379. You have read of the O. P. riots, I suppose?—I have heard of them.

3380. They punched one another's heads in an extraordinary way, for a long time, did they not?—Yes; and so they do at the music halls.

3381. This was only one case?—My son went the other night to see Mr. Callcot's scenes; a very fine work of art: he sat with a friend near to the scene, to see its development, and they were very much annoyed by two or three women of the town; the women got fighting, and my son and his friend were so hustled that they were forced to leave the place without seeing the scene.

3382. That should be remedied by the police, should it not?—In a place where there is plenty to eat and drink, it is very easy to make the police not to see.

3383. Do you speak from experience with regard to those music halls?—No; I am not in the habit of going to music halls.

3384. In your theatre you have plenty to eat and drink, I suppose?—Very little.

3385. You have gin and brandy?—In a certain proportion.

3386. With regard to the gin that you have at the Haymarket, is it so watered that it does a man good rather than harm?—I never partook of the gin in the saloon.

3387. But other people do?—Not to any extent; it is chiefly tea and coffee.

3388. But you have a spirit license under the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

3389. The Lord Chamberlain's license carries a spirit and beer license with it?—Yes; but not tobacco.

3390. The distinction then is tobacco; that is the only difference with regard to the license between theatres and music halls?—That is a difference; but in music halls waiters go round for custom; at the Haymarket Theatre we have no basket-women allowed; the basket-women have been abolished for some years in the pit and galleries; they are not now allowed.

3391. Are they not allowed in the galleries?—In the dress boxes they are abolished, and in the galleries too, except between the Acts. There is a table at the back where they can go to.

3392. There is a counter at the back of the gallery?—Yes; something of that sort.

3393. For all sorts of refreshments?—Oranges and apples.

3394. And wine and spirits?—Yes.

3395. Have you a beer engine?—No, we have no beer engine in the Haymarket whatever.

3396. What beer have you?—Only bottled beer.

3397. No draught beer?—None.

3398. Where do the people in the pit get refreshments from?—They can go out into the lobby; they must leave the body of the theatre.

3399. Now, with regard to refreshments, you have reduced it to this; that the distinction between the music halls and the theatres, is that refreshments are taken in the body of the music halls, and there is smoking going on, whereas in the theatres it is not so?—We have no waiters running about for orders while a song or a ballet is going on, as at the music halls.

3400. But the style of performance at your theatre requires silence?—Yes.

3401. But if there were a style of performance that did not require silence, or so much silence, and which people liked to witness, what reason is there why they should not enjoy themselves?—I should restrict them while the performance was going on; I should not allow the popping of corks or the mixing of grog.

3402. That interferes with your actors, you think?—Yes, and with singers too.

3403. But so long as it does not interfere with the audience, and the actors choose to perform there,

J. B. Buckstone, Esq.

27 April 1866.

there, why should you prevent people enjoying themselves?—The great body of the audience do not care about the song or the actor; they care for what they can eat and drink; they go for a lounge.

3404. They have the two things at those music halls?—Yes, but their profits are derived from the sale of wines and spirits.

3405. What difference can it make to the theatres, seeing that you have got 3,000,000 of people in London, that there should be a place of amusement provided to the taste of everybody who chooses to enjoy it?—It is placing the theatres in an unfair position, because a great many people prefer tobacco and spirits to any intellectual entertainment.

3406. But still tobacco and spirits taken in moderation are not forbidden by the law of the land?—I would not allow anybody to have those things in a public place of entertainment.

3407. For what reason is it, because it is unfair to the theatres?—Yes, it is unfair to the theatres and degrading to the drama, if dramatic performances are allowed to take place while eating, drinking, and smoking goes on.

3408. But do you not think that, if the acting is good, the drama can take care of itself?—The music halls have been a great injury to the theatres, especially to the half prices. Before the music halls began, the half price was worth taking, but the music halls carried away that class of young men; so that the half price is hardly worth taking at all.

3409. When I was a young man, I recollect the Haymarket half price pretty well?—Yes, they used to take 30 *l.* or 40 *l.* a night.

3410. At that time the company was not quite select?—No; women of the town were admitted: but that has not been so for many years.

3411. Do you admit that the music halls are better conducted than the Haymarket was then?—I entirely deny that.

3412. But women of the town went there?—We have none now.

3413. But you used to have?—Yes, it used to be much about the same as the music halls, with exception of smoking and drinking.

3414. At the half price?—Yes; at that time the Haymarket saloon used to present much about the same appearance as the music halls do now.

3415. With this difference, that the ladies were very much *décolletées*; I mean at the Haymarket and Drury Lane saloons?—Yes.

3416. Whereas they are all dressed up to the throat now at the music halls?—Possibly.

3417. There is nothing to be seen now but their faces?—I was at a music hall some time ago, when I was followed about by some women of the town, and one of them said, "If you would let us go to your theatre, Mr. Buckstone, we would not come to a place like this."

3418. She took an interest in you; probably she knew you?—Very likely she did.

3419. But there is elbow room at the music halls; there is room for everybody?—So it appears.

3420. If a play is properly conducted, those ladies at the music halls, dressed as they are in the most decent way, cannot be an inconvenience to anybody, and probably they may be an attraction to some?—No gentleman would take his wife and family there. I saw one day, in reading Mr. Strange's examination, that the number of women of the town who went to the Alhambra did not exceed three per cent. of the audience. Take them as his own words. He confesses to accommodate 3,000 people nightly; three per cent. of ladies of the town gives you 90 of them, and that, I think, is a very fair sprinkling of temptation.

3421. But they do not ply their calling there?—They do ply their calling there; they go there for appointments and assignations; and then there is the canteen.

3422. No ladies are allowed there?—The ladies of the ballet are. Do you consider it proper that they should be brought down to associate with gentlemen under the stage where beer and champagne are being drunk, and when those gentlemen go down on purpose to get acquainted with the ladies of the ballet?

3423. Have you ever been there?—Never.

3424. You cannot say how extremely well conducted it is?—Several of my friends have been there.

3425. Your objection is really pretty much the same as Mr. Webster's?—Yes.

3426. The fact is that those music halls interfere with you?—Yes.

3427. It is a case of every one for himself?—No, I am not entirely for myself; I am for the interests of the pure drama. I think these music halls would vulgarise and injure the drama, or, to make use of the same expression as the elder Mathews did, brutalise the drama.

3428. You knew the late Mr. Robson, I suppose?—Yes.

3429. He performed at the Grecian, did he not?—I never saw him there, but I believe he did.

3430. He performed at the Grecian for a good many years?—That was 15 or 16 years ago, I think.

3431. Mr. Webster has stated that at the Grecian Theatre, at the time Mr. Robson performed there, there were no refreshments supplied in the auditorium?—I believe there was a sort of bench where you could put your glass. Mr. Rouse was the proprietor.

3432. At that time it was arranged much in the same way that the music halls are now, and the Lord Chamberlain afterwards gave his license to that place. It was formerly called the "Eagle Tavern," and then it became the Grecian, and then the tables and chairs, and so forth, to accommodate persons that took refreshments, were removed?—Yes; they were put outside the theatre.

3433. That is to say, they had tables and chairs, and so on, just outside of this place?—Yes.

3434. And persons walked in and out just as they liked?—I do not know; they have not for years had refreshments in the body of the theatre.

3435. But when Mr. Robson performed there they had?—Yes; they had refreshments when Mr. Robson performed there; but the Lord Chamberlain removed that.

3436. Can you say how long Mr. Robson performed there during the time that they had those refreshments in a similar way to the music halls?—My impression is that it was not very long; perhaps a couple of years. Mr. Robson went from there to the Dublin Theatre Royal, where he improved in his profession, and where the elder

Mr.

Mr. William Farren engaged him for the Olympic when Mr. Farren was lessee.

3437. But, however, he commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon?—He commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon and various other little places.

3438. Places of that description?—Yes; places of that description.

3439. At all events that did not prevent him from being a very eminent actor?—Yes; but that was an exception.

3440. But exceptions prove the rule sometimes?—No; this exception proves that there cannot be any rule.

3441. There being no rule, why not let people do as they like?—Not to the degradation of the drama; why should they do so?

3442. But Mr. Robson went there, and he did not degrade the drama?—But you must understand that he did not obtain his reputation at the Grecian; he was obliged to leave and go to a theatre, and at that theatre he earned a reputation which brought him to London.

3443. Now at those theatres in Dublin they smoke, do they not?—No.

3444. At some of them they smoke?—Not at the Theatre Royal.

3445. They are rather noisy there, are they not?—At the Theatre Royal I never found them so, and I was there three weeks last autumn. I had a very aristocratic audience every night, and there was no disturbance.

3446. What is the name of the other theatre in Dublin?—There is a minor theatre called The Queen's.

3447. Do they smoke there?—I never went there except once, about seven or eight years ago.

3448. Was the Theatre Royal the only place where Mr. Robson went?—No, he went to the Queen's Theatre after he had made his reputation in London.

3449. That was later on?—Yes.

3450. With regard to the country theatres, you are the manager of a country theatre, are you not?—I am one of the lessees.

3451. Which theatre is that?—The Bradford Theatre; it is a new theatre; I am one of the shareholders and one of the lessees.

3452. Was there a theatre at Bradford before?—Yes, an old theatre; there was always one, but the gentry did not go there.

3453. Do they go to the new one?—Yes.

3454. There is a large population there, is there not?—Not a large population, but if there is any attraction at this new Alexandra Theatre, the boxes are filled by the first people in Bradford and the surrounding districts.

3455. That is when the stars shine there?—Yes.

3456. Not otherwise?—Pretty well.

3457. For what period of the year is that theatre open?—It opened with the Haymarket company, the beginning of last August, and it is open now.

3458. Has it been closed at all since it was opened?—Not at all.

3459. It is a great success, I suppose?—It is a moderate success, not a great one. There are times when the entertainment is not so good, and there is not enough money taken to pay the current expenses, but there are other times when sufficient money is taken to make up for that.

3460. Is your experience great with regard to the country theatres?—I have been to a great many of them.

3461. Has your attention been called to the fact whether or not their number has increased or diminished?—They have increased in the large towns, but they have diminished in the small towns. There was at one time but two theatres in Manchester, and now there are four.

3462. The population of Manchester has increased greatly, has it not?—Yes; there is also a music-hall there; a very large one, close to the Theatre Royal.

3463. How is that licensed?—By the justices, I think. In Bradford there used to be one small insignificant theatre; there is now a handsome theatre, the Alexandra Theatre, open; the old theatre is still in existence, and also open; the justices have given a dramatic license to St. George's Hall, and it frequently happens that all those three places are giving a representation at the same time.

3464. There the competition does good?—No, not competition to that extent; when St. George's Hall and the other two theatres are open at the same time, the result is unfavourable to all.

3465. You think that the taste for the theatre in Bradford has increased in consequence of having this new theatre?—Yes.

3466. Do you recollect Barnett's troupe?—Yes, I played with them once at Reading.

3467. Do you recollect the Chelmsford Theatre?—No.

3468. Do you remember the Guildford Theatre?—No.

3469. Do you recollect the Maidstone Theatre or Lewes Theatre; are you aware that all those four theatres are closed?—I have not heard of a theatre at Maidstone for a long time; when I was young, I acted at Faversham, Hastings, and Folkestone, and, at Hastings, there is a theatre still, and there is one at Faversham; it was called then "Dowton's Circuit."

3470. The theatre at Hastings is very seldom opened is it not?—I think it is opened about four months in the year; when I played there it was in a sort of a barn, a mile and a-half up a hill, close to a public-house called the "Fox and Hounds," where I played with the elder Kean and Elliston.

3471. Has that been removed?—No; it is now a sort of stable and coal cellar.

3472. Where is the theatre now?—In the body of the town, I believe.

3473. But they do not often perform at Hastings; the Hastings people are a serious class of people, are they not?—A man of the name of Montague has the theatre, and he keeps it open three or four months in the year.

3474. The Brighton Theatre is very flourishing, is it not?—Yes.

3475. That is open great part of the year?—Yes, I was there about a year ago.

3476. Can you recollect any other small towns where the theatre has been discontinued?—No I cannot; in a great many small towns they are building theatres where they were never known before; Great Grimsby and places of that kind.

3477. But there is nothing now like the circuits which used to exist generally when the patent theatres were in full vogue?—You may attribute that to railway communication; people can come to London to see a play and get back so soon that they prefer to come to London to see good acting.

3478. That is the case with regard to other things

J. B. Buckstone, Esq.

27 April 1866.

things as well as with regard to theatres; the people get the best article, and they come to London for it?—Yes; at the Haymarket I can always tell when a quantity of people have come from the surrounding districts; at a certain hour you can see them moving away to catch the trains to go home.

3479. Do you think it diminishes the number of theatres in small places, when people can easily come to a London theatre and go back by the last train?—Yes; the last train to Croydon from the City is a quarter past twelve at night.

3480. That would hardly apply to places at a great distance from London; say to the North of England?—They come up from Manchester and Liverpool, not purposely to go to the theatre, but if business calls them to London, many of those gentlemen do visit the theatres.

3481. They come more frequently to London than they used to do in former days?—Yes.

3482. The same necessity for theatres in their own localities does not exist?—At Manchester they have two more theatres than they used to have.

3483. Have they a theatre at Bath?— Yes, a new one; the old one was burnt down.

3484. That used to be a great theatre for rising talent?—Yes; most of the old actors used to earn their reputation at Bath.

3485. Munden came from Bath, did he not?—No; from York, I think.

3486. He commenced his career in a country theatre?—Most of the actors of great eminence have commenced their career in country theatres.

3487. They act better business, as it is called; pieces more nearly approaching the legitimate drama than the pieces performed at many of the theatres in London; for instance, they perform Sheridan's plays at the country theatres now, do they not?—Very rarely; the public would not attend; but if the Haymarket company goes to Bradford, Manchester, or Liverpool with legitimate drama, the theatre is thronged every night.

3488. But has the style of performance at country theatres altered from what it used to be?—Yes; I should say that it has, from the want of capacity in the companies, and proper discipline on the part of the management.

3489. They have not a sufficient number of actors, you think, to put the old comedies on the stage?—Not fit for the purpose.

3490. That, I believe, is a deficiency now felt throughout all the theatres; there are not enough good actors?—I cannot say that with regard to London; at the Haymarket we can play anything; we are now playing a legitimate drama, a play which requires first-class talent, "The Favourite of Fortune," by Mr. Westland Marston; it is drawing all London, and you cannot get a place without you apply a week beforehand; that shows there is no decline in the legitimate drama, if you can represent it efficiently.

3491. But you have a sufficient number of performers to play each part well?—We can play the "School for Scandal" better than most of the theatres in London.

3492. But your theatre is an exception, is it not?—It is a legitimate house; it is one of the old patent theatres; and my idea is always to sustain the character given to it by Mr. Webster, George Colman, and Foote, before him.

3493. Generally speaking, you could not find a sufficient number of actors to perform the legitimate drama at the two other patent theatres, namely, Covent Garden and Drury Lane, in the way it was formerly done, could you?—No, I think not; not enough to give the public such companies as they used to have 40 or 50 years ago.

3494. Has the taste of the public changed?—No, I think not; the quality of the performers is not good enough.

3495. How do you account for that?—There is no school for the education of actors and actresses.

3496. But was it not the taste of the public which created the school; was not it a question of supply and demand; there was a demand for that kind of acting, and the consequence was that actors were found?—The public will not go to a bad entertainment; that is clear.

3497. Then why are there not good ones?—Because you cannot get actors.

3498. Do you think that the human race has deteriorated?—No; I think the race of actors has deteriorated.

3499. At all events the human race has deteriorated in such a way that they are not fit to be actors?—Nowadays, when a young man can sing a song he will not wait to see if he can get a footing on the stage, but he goes to a music hall, and then he is not worth admitting into a theatre; his style becomes vulgar, and he is unfit for the drama.

3500. Are there any instances of that?—I have only heard so.

3501. Your experience is probably as great as anyone's in these matters, and you do not know of an instance yourself?—No; I cannot recall to mind any instance, but I daresay if I were to refer to some of the books and records of dramatic performances of late years, I could offer that evidence.

3502. But, at the present moment, you have no recollection of any instance of that kind?—No.

3503. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do I understand you to say that you never heard of any other actor besides Mr. Robson who ever rose into eminence in the profession commencing at a music hall?—No, I do not know of any; I know many who have commenced in barns.

3504. You say that the business of a music hall performance is very easily learnt and picked up?—Yes; if a man can sing a comic song he can get admission to a music hall, but that would be no recommendation to a theatre.

3505. What is the average time that a clever young man, with a natural talent for acting, would take to get to any certain position in his profession?—It is almost as bad as the bar; you get grey first; I should say about 12 years, but it depends a good deal on natural talent.

3506. Do you agree with Mr Webster, that the taste for the legitimate drama has not declined of late years?—Yes. I have lived on the legitimate drama for years—Shakespere, Sheridan, Sheridan Knowles, Morton, George Colman, Farquhar, Goldsmith, and many other legitimate writers of the past and also of the present day.

3507. But the talent for the legitimate drama has declined; do you find it more difficult to put a legitimate drama on the stage with a good cast. When vacancies occur you find a difficulty in filling them up?—Not at all at the Haymarket. Mrs. Wilkins was a very fine woman, who performed parts such as Mrs. Glover used to perform, and she went

went away to America. She was a very good actress indeed, but I looked about and found another and a finer woman to fill her place.

3508. At what time in the evening do you put your principal piece on the stage?—About eight o'clock.

3509. That is rather later than formerly, is it not?—Yes; that is on account of the dinner hour of the gentry.

3510. May not the alteration of the hour for putting the principal piece on the stage account for the falling off in the half-price?—No; because I frequently put on a great attraction at seven o'clock, and the half-price is not altered in any way. We lately played a piece that is always very attractive, Mr. Tom Taylor's "Overland Route;" that was put on at seven o'clock, but it did not improve the half-price.

3511. Have you ever tried the difference between commencing such a piece as the "Overland Route" or the "Unequal Marriage," at seven or eight o'clock?—I have commenced the "Overland Route" and "Unequal Marriage" at a quarter to eight; it depends on the weather; in the summer-time, when the evenings are warm, it is always to our advantage to play a light piece at seven o'clock. In the winter-time we play the principal piece at seven; in the summer evenings we play a short piece first, and then we perform the novelty; you must not begin the evening with it, because people have not settled into their seats.

3512. But having brought the commencement of your principal piece nearer to the half-price hour, you do not think that it has had any effect in making your half-price less attractive?—No.

3513. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You were mentioning that the country theatres have increased in large towns, but have rather diminished in small towns?—Yes.

3514. You mean large towns like Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and so on?—Yes.

3515. Do you not think that the reason they have diminished so in small towns has been the railroad bringing parties up to London?—Yes.

3516. Do you think that those parties who come to London come to your theatre, or do you think they come for the Italian operas?—Both.

3517. But do you not also think that the fact of two Italian operas being now opened is very damaging to the national drama?—It does not interfere with the Haymarket at all. With regard to the two Italian operas, I think it is one too many. I consider one is necessary, but one is sufficient.

3518. But there being two Italian operas, you must think, I suppose, that it has been damaging to the interests of the English theatres?—Individually I have not experienced it, and, indeed, with regard to Her Majesty's Theatre, that is of service to the Haymarket; people who want a change go across the road and come back again, and *vice versâ*.

3519. We have had no French plays lately; that is rather in your favour, is it not?—French plays were never profitable in London. Mr. Mitchell never could make anything by them.

3520. The French theatre in the days of Rachel used to be opened, and very full, but since she died there has been no regular French play, I believe?—No; Mr. Mitchell has not found it profitable.

3521. My learned friend the Member for Southwark has alluded to the Irish theatres?—Yes.

3522. I understood you to say that you have acted at Dublin?—Yes.

3523. Did you ever act at Cork?—Never.

3524. There is a constant conversation which goes on between the pit and the gallery and the boxes; a sort of running conversation which makes it very disorderly. Have you ever found that to be the case in the Irish theatres generally?—No; but the only theatres I have played in have been Dublin and Belfast.

3525. You would not consider an Irish audience the most attentive one, would you?—I have always found it so.

3526. Have they not interlarded the entertainment with their jokes?—I have never heard any conversation going on.

3527. You have acted in Scotland, I suppose?—Yes, in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

3528. Is it not generally thought that the Scotch audiences are most attentive?—Yes, very.

3529. The Edinburgh audience is thought to be a very difficult audience to play before, is it not?—Yes, it is a very critical audience.

3530. With regard to the attractions at the Haymarket Theatre, of which you have been some years manager, I believe the greatest attraction lately, by which I am happy to hear that you have made a great deal of money, has been the representation of Lord Dundreary by Mr. Sothern?—Yes.

3531. Do you not find that the taste of the public is more in favour of one great actor who creates a character and draws a crowd than in favour of an old-fashioned, well-acted play?—No, I do not see that. We are now acting a play where all the characters are principal characters; they are all acted in a first-rate manner. Mr. Sothern's character is scarcely the leading character. The public prefer at the Haymarket a well-acted play, with every part well sustained.

3532. But, still, the quaintness of Mr. Sothern's acting as "Lord Dundreary" drew the public?—Yes, for some time; but it died out.

3533. The other character, "Lord Dundreary Married and Settled," has not drawn so much?—No; but that was a mere farce.

3534. How many nights was "Lord Dundreary" played?—About 300.

3535. When did he first play it?—It was before Christmas 1861. We played it for about 60 or 70 nights, with but moderate attraction. People talked of it, and that was all. I persuaded him to go away until the pantomimes were over. He objected at first, but afterwards he took my advice. When he returned, "Punch" had taken up "Lord Dundreary," and, with Leech's sketches, the public had begun to talk about it. He reappeared, and then came the Great Exhibition year, when the Haymarket was overcrowded for many months with people trying to get in to see it. But, as I said before, it did not attract to any extent at first.

3536. Is that very often the case, that a play does not all at once become very popular?—Yes, it is very frequently the case with plays. "Black-Eyed Susan" was not an attraction for the first three or four weeks. Mr. Elliston placed it at half-price, and he found the audience so increasing that he put it back again; it ran for the whole season, and he made a handsome fortune by Jerrold's "Black-Eyed Susan."

3537. But still I believe Mr. Sothern has been more

J. B. Buckstone, Esq.

27 April 1866.

more highly paid by you than any artist for many years?—Yes; he has been paid on this principle, that if he did not attract he would not get much pay. Mr. Sothern divides a certain sum after I have taken an amount towards paying the expenses of the theatre. I take a certain sum, and whatever the balance may be is divided between Mr. Sothern and me. You may judge of the attraction of Mr. Sothern at this moment, when I tell you that his share, after my share and taking a very large sum for expenses, comes to between 220 *l.* and 250 *l.* a week. I should not pay him so much at a fixed salary, but that is a share.

3538. But may not the attraction of one favourite actor be much more than a well-acted play?—No, I think not. I will give you an instance to the contrary. In the play which we are now acting, Mr. Sothern is the principal actor, certainly, but there are other parts quite as good.

3539. But that great attraction must show you that the love for the old legitimate drama has very much diminished?—No; I opened with the "School for Scandal" this season, and played that alone to quite as good receipts as we now perform Mr. Westland Marston's comedy to.

3540. I asked Mr. Webster just now whether the practice did not still exist of writing for particular performers?—I may sometimes say, "I should prefer to have Mr. So-and-so in my piece."

3541. The play of "Lord Dundreary" was not written for Mr. Sothern, was it?—No; it was written for an American actor engaged by Mr. Webster; for a Mr. Silsby. Lord Dundreary was a secondary part in it; Mr. Sothern went to America and was cast for it, and played it on condition that he might do as he liked with it, and he created the part.

3542. He is a Birmingham man, is he not?—No; he is a Liverpool man.

3543. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Has there been any falling off in the attendance in your pits and galleries of late years, or does the taste of those kind of people seem to be as it used to be?—In the galleries there is a great falling off.

3544. Since when?—Since the music halls have had so many privileges given them.

3545. When you have any of those attracting pieces are they not full?—I can only keep on the Haymarket as a legitimate comedy theatre; and that class of entertainment is not so suited to the galleries; our pit is full, and our boxes are full, but the galleries and slips are not so full when we have high class comedy; with Mr. Macready, or some great tragedian, the galleries will fill.

3546. The music halls do not interfere so much, then, with theatres like yours?—Yes, they interfere with the half price, and with the galleries.

3547. That is the cause of your opposition, then?—No; I have already said that it is not the cause of my opposition. I do not object to music halls, provided they are kept to their own legitimate entertainments, selections from operas, songs, and duets, but no costume, no scenery, and no ballet, because whatever people may say, those things are entertainments of the stage; and I think their persistent violations of the law have been treated with great leniency.

3548. You would prevent such places as the Alhambra from having any scenery or costume?—Yes, I would restrict them to musical entertainments.

3549. But you would not allow them to have a ballet of any kind?—No, not of any sort; it is an entertainment of the stage; there is costume, action, scenery, and story.

3550. You go (so to speak) the whole hog in opposing their case?—Yes, the whole hog.

3551. Mr. *Powell.*] With regard to your Bradford Theatre, the plays you perform there are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, I suppose?—Yes.

3552. And the house is licensed by the justices?—Yes.

3553. Have you found any difficulty in Bradford from that divided jurisdiction, the stage performances being licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and the house being licensed by the magistrates?—No; I see no difficulty in that; when that theatre was built, I was one of the original shareholders, and I am now a lessee; when the lesseeship was offered to me, there was a slight opposition to the license from the puritanical party, but the mayor not only granted me the license immediately, but paid me a very high compliment besides.

3554. Have you ever considered, from your experience in that Bradford theatre, there is any probability of a difficulty arising from having those two jurisdictions in the same theatre, namely, that of the Lord Chamberlain with regard to plays, and that of magistrates with reference to the house?—No; I should not object to the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction all over England; he behaves in a very indulgent way.

3555. I suppose you have been lessee of theatres during some few months in different towns in England?—No, not lessee; and I am only part lessee in Bradford.

3556. Have you ever had the management of a country theatre during some months?—No; but I have acted in country theatres often.

3557. Are you aware that in Bradford the theatre which was existing before your theatre was built, it is now proposed to convert into a Joint Stock Company's Theatre, with a new building?—I have heard that there is a movement on foot for shareholders to build another theatre in place of the old theatre, but I think that that movement has fallen through.

3558. There were some remarks made a year or two ago about the admission of gentlemen behind the scenes at the theatre, and you wrote a letter denying the existence of such things?—Yes.

3559. And you now repeat your denial?—Yes. At the Haymarket Theatre, during my predecessor's 16 years' management, and during my 14 years' management, we never had a stranger behind the scenes; hardly a friend, indeed. I once had a clergyman who asked me to let him go behind the scenes. I said, "There is nothing particular to be seen." He said, "I should like to have a peep." I took him behind the scenes; he found nothing going on in the way he expected to see, and he said, "I shall go now." I said, "You see there is nothing to be seen;" and he said, "Oh, I expected to see a sort of saturnalia here."

3560. Mr. *Locke.*] He went away disappointed?—Yes, he went away disappointed.

3561. *Chairman.*] You have written a good many plays, and are a successful dramatic author as well as actor?—Yes.

3562. Have you ever found any trouble with the

the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain?—No, never.

3563. You think that it operates pretty fairly?—Yes, very fairly.

3564. Do you think that a different class of pieces would be written to what there are now if there was not that censorship?—A very different class and a very personal class, attacking public characters in politics, or the Church, or any other position.

3565. They might put public men on the stage, you think?—Yes; there was once a piece in rehearsal at the Adelphi where the House of Commons was to be represented. I was to be dressed up as Lord John Russell. The Lord Chamberlain's license was refused for that play, and it was never acted.

3566. In what year was that?—It was in Mr. Yates's time, at the Adelphi, about 20 years ago.

3567. Are you aware that the elder Mathews once represented O'Connell?—Yes.

3568. That was allowed by the Lord Chamberlain, was it not?—Yes; it was allowed by the Lord Chamberlain, because it is so exceedingly funny. I believe it was not in a play, but in one of his "At Homes."

3569. Did he see the fun before he gave his license to it?—I do not know.

3570. You think that, on the whole, the licensing of theatres operates pretty well with the Lord Chamberlain's censorship?—I should be very sorry to see a theatre without the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain.

3571. Not only as an actor but as a dramatic author, would you say that the Lord Chamberlain's supervision interferes with the freedom of authorship?—Not at all.

3572. Have you ever had pieces cut out of your plays?—Yes, I have had pieces cut out; anything that may approach profanity, or the mention of any public name, is cut out.

3573. You think that plays would be more likely to be profane and personal if they were not submitted to the Lord Chamberlain?—I am sure of it.

3574. How would the public like it?—The public who go to the music halls would perhaps like it.

3575. Do you think that the pieces acted at those music halls should be put under the supervision of his authority?—Of course they ought; but what I say is this, that they should not have any right to act any pieces of a dramatic character of any kind.

3576. You spoke of the privileges of the theatre; what did you mean by that?—I meant the privilege to represent plays—the legitimate drama.

3577. Do you think that belongs of right to the theatres?—Yes.

3578. But those rights were taken away from you when the other theatres were thrown open?—That right was not taken away exactly, for the public expect to see much the same class of entertainment at those patent theatres even now.

3579. If the music hall proprietors were allowed to give small pieces at the music halls, do you think that they would interfere with the theatres?—Yes.

3580. I mean if they were to act good small pieces?—Yes, if they acted any pieces at all; they could not act good pieces, for they could not get good actors to perform in them.

Monday, 30th April 1866.

PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Locke.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Goschen.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Taverner John Miller.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

WILLIAM BODHAM DONNE, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

W. B. Donne, Esq.

30 April 1866.

3581. *Chairman.*] YOU wish to explain your Answer to Question 2324?—I find that, in my answer on Friday last, to that Question I have given my attention solely to what the practice is; and, by inference, I have given my opinion as to what the meaning of the Interpretation Clause was. But I spoke to what was the usage only. Upon examining the Interpretation Clause further, I am inclined to think that duologue comes under that clause. I now wish to correct my answer. I consider duologue, and other titles of stage-plays, also, viz., comediettas, burlesques, extravaganzas, even the term drama itself, although not mentioned specifically in that clause, are included under the words, "or other entertainments of the stage." I should properly have given my former answer in two parts, one with regard to the practice, and the other, which I now give, with regard to the Interpretation Clause.

3582. Mr. *Powell.*] Can you explain how it happens that the Lord Chamberlain's license, after having been refused to the Alhambra for evening performances, was granted for morning performances? — To meet the Act, 25th of George the Second, which was never repealed, prohibiting concerts before five o'clock in the afternoon.

3583. But the license for evening performances was refused on the ground of the want of safety in the building?—The license was given to meet a difficulty of the moment, arising out of that Act. It was found that under its provisions the Hanover-square Rooms and others, could not legally give concerts before that hour. The Hanover-square Rooms and Willis's Rooms were all in it at the same time.

3584. Mr. *Locke.*] And now there could be no difficulty. If Mr. Strange chose he could act King Richard the Third, could he not?—No, because the Lord Chamberlain only corroborates the magistrates' license, and the magistrates' license cannot, in the metropolitan boroughs, give permission for the performance of stage plays.

3585. Can you tell the Committee exactly what the Lord Chamberlain gave Mr. Strange? —The license of the Lord Chamberlain is entirely subordinate to the magistrates' license; the Lord Chamberlain has not given a theatrical license, he has merely, for the occasion, subscribed to the magistrates' license.

3586. It is not a license to sell beer, I suppose? —To whatever extent the magistrates' license goes, the Lord Chamberlain's license, in this case, also goes, and no further.

3587. But what sort of license is that. I thought the Lord Chamberlain's power to license theatres was under the 6th & 7th Victoria?—Yes, it is so.

3588. He cannot license anything else, can he? You will find that what I say is perfectly correct; the Lord Chamberlain's license is a sort of codicil to the magistrates' license.

3589. Then what are the words; what has it got on the face of it?—I cannot give you the exact words. It did not pass through my hands, but you will find it is merely supplementary.

3590. Mr. *Powell.*] We have it in evidence that the license to the Alhambra was refused because the building was in some way or other not thought safe?—Yes; but that was several years ago.

3591. That being the reason why the license for evening performances was refused, what change of circumstance was there with regard to the safety of the building which made the Lord Chamberlain give a morning license?—There was no change whatever; it was simply that a clause of the Act 25 Geo. 2, which puts certain places in danger, had never been repealed, and in order to secure them from informers, until some new arrangement were made, this temporary license was granted by the Lord Chamberlain, with the concurrence of the magistrates.

3592. Are you aware whether there was any understanding or arrangement with Mr. Strange, that the galleries which were originally thought unsafe should be closed during the morning performances?—No, I am not aware of anything of the kind.

3593. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Was the license for a morning performance a music and dancing license, or for the performance of stage plays?—The Lord Chamberlain's temporary license went no further than the magistrates' license went; and it certainly did not permit the performance of stage-plays.

3594. *Chairman.*] This part of the licensing system is not in your department, is it?—No, it is not in my department at all.

EDWARD TYRRELL SMITH, Esq., called in; and Examined.

3595. *Chairman.*] YOU are at present lessee of Astley's Theatre, are you not?—Yes.

3596. And you have been lessee of Drury-lane Theatre?—Yes.

3597. With what other theatres have you been connected?—With Her Majesty's Theatre and the Haymarket Theatre.

3598. And with Cremorne Gardens?—And with Cremorne Gardens.

3599. Are there any other places of entertainment that you have been connected with?—Yes, there is the Alhamhra; I purchased that building.

3600. Did you precede Mr. Strange?—Mr. Strange followed after me; he followed Mr. Wyld, I believe.

3601. The Committee would be glad to hear your views with regard to the licensing of theatres; do you think that the present system works well?—I do.

3602. Do you consider that the music halls suffer from the present arrangement?—No, I do not think that the music halls suffer at all; on the contrary; I think the theatres suffer from the indiscriminate granting of licenses to places that are not fit for them.

3603. In what respect are they unfit?—With respect to their supervision, in the first place, and with regard to convenience in the second place; there are exceptions, as a matter of course: now, the Alhambra is an exception, and there are other places that are convenient and suitable for the public, but where there are confined places, where there is eating, drinking, and smoking goes on, which the lessees of theatres could not do with decency, they have, of course, the music halls to oppose them.

3604. Does the taste of the public run more on music halls than on theatres?—I believe that the taste of the public is more with music halls.

3605. How do you account for that?—Because a man can sit down and drink his glass of grog, and blow his pipe, and enjoy himself there, not caring for anybody.

3606. Do you think if that is the taste of the people at present, that Parliament ought to check it?—I think certainly that there should be a check on the part of the Government, or some person appointed by them to supervise some of the music halls. But there are some of those music halls that are highly respectable; there is Mr. Strange's at the Alhambra, which is a very respectable hall; the Canterbury Hall and the Oxford Music Hall are also highly respectable, but there are exceptions, where having no supervisor like the Lord Chamberlain to license them, they are not respectable. The songs, some of them, are a disgrace to any person to put on the stage. It requires some person there as an inspector to look over those things.

3607. The Committee have been told that there are no places where questionable songs are sung now?—There is one that was fined in the papers last week for some offence of that kind. Perhaps a man comes on the stage, and he has a clock under his arm, and he says, "This is the way I wind the old woman up on Saturday nights," and all kinds of allusions and bestialities in a mild way. Sometimes they have an organ, and make the same remarks.

3608. Is there any power of interfering with that?—No; there is no power of interfering except that the police could report that to the Commissioner of Police, and then it would go to the magistrates on the licensing day. *E. T. Smith, Esq.* 30 April 1866.

3609. And the only punishment would be that their license for selling spirits would be stopped, would it not?—Their license for music and dancing would be stopped.

3610. It has been given in evidence before this Committee that improprieties generally would be hissed off the stage; and that, therefore, there is no occasion for such a supervision; is that your opinion?—The fact is, that it depends entirely on the company that associates in those places; obscene songs in public would meet the views of a certain class of people who go there expressly to get drunk.

3611. To go back to the respectable music halls, are you against the performance of theatrical pieces at music halls?—Certainly, if the people are allowed to smoke and drink in the place.

3612. Would it not be better that good small pieces should be acted there, though there is smoking, eating, and drinking going on, than that there should be bad songs or things of that description?—My personal feeling and opinion, independently of my being in the profession, is that I should say you are opening a field for most disgraceful things, and to lower the drama, and to drive all respectable persons away.

3613. I am supposing that you gave permission to act pieces licensed by the Lord Chamberlain at the music halls; do you object to that?—Certainly not, so long as they have the Lord Chamberlain's license.

3614. You do not object to the drama being performed in the presence of smoking, eating, and drinking, then?—I do indeed.

3615. Even if it is a respectable piece that is performed?—If it is a respectable piece I think it would be a disgrace for smoking, eating, and drinking to be going on at the same time.

3616. Do you think it is better for the public interest that a ballet should be performed to people who smoke, eat, and drink, or that they should see a good play?—It depends entirely on taste; would you like to go to a place where there is smoking, eating, and drinking, with a ballet, and take your wife and family, if you have them?

3617. Most people would prefer to see a good play, would they not?—Yes, but not with smoking, eating, and drinking going on.

3618. You object to the drama being performed simultaneously with smoking, eating, and drinking?—Certainly, I do; it would be a disgrace to the profession.

3619. Is not that rather your view as belonging to the profession?—No, not at all; if you had a respectable play you could not get respectable actors; you would have to put up with anybody that thought proper to play in a music hall, and that would be a disgrace to the drama and drive away the public.

3620. If that were so, the people would cease to go there, would they not?—You cannot help young clerks and others leaving their places of business,

E. T. Smith, Esq.

30 April 1866.

business, and going and enjoying those things; but the respectable people would not do it.

3621. But if they go there to smoke and drink, is it not best that they should have as good an entertainment given them as possible?—You may have a good entertainment, but you may encourage drunkenness, which, I believe, it is now the opinion of everybody you ought to do away with; you bring the drama down to a pot-house.

3622. Then is it your opinion that the public would go more to such places if there were dramatic entertainments allowed there?—If there is no drinking allowed at those places, and no pot before them or glasses, they would go out and take a little refreshment between the acts; they would not be sipping altogether during the whole of the evening.

3623. Do you think that a supervision over the performances at music halls by some authority is desirable?—Most certainly.

3624. Would you extend the censorship to the songs and pieces performed at the music halls?—Certainly; they should be revised by some person, and it would be a great benefit to society if that were done.

3625. But you would not accompany that censorship with greater liberty to act other pieces, such as dialogues and small plays, under the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain?—I should object to it where there is smoking, eating, and drinking; they should have their license for music and dancing, and keep to that.

3626. What do you give at Cremorne Gardens?—We have a theatre licensed by the magistrates; it is out of the Lord Chamberlain's district.

3627. Do they smoke and drink in the theatre?—No.

3628. But they smoke and drink outside, do they not?—Yes.

3629. But that encourages drinking as much as if they were to drink inside, does it not?—So it would outside a music hall.

3630. But you do give plays at Cremorne Gardens?—I have never given a play; I have given a musical entertainment and a ballet.

3631. Have you given performances at Cremorne Gardens that would come under the name of stage plays if they were given in London?—Certainly.

3632. That very kind of entertainment that you think the music halls in London should not be allowed to give is an entertainment which you give at Cremorne Gardens?—I should have no objection to music and a song or two; the only one that I have given was a thing that was written by Mr. Tully; that was a musical entertainment, which lasted for about an hour; we only give one hour's entertainment.

3633. Would you object to that kind of entertainment being given at the "Alhambra"?—Certainly not.

3634. But at present they would be prevented by the state of the law from doing that at the "Alhambra," would they not?—No, they might have music.

3635. But this entertainment at Cremorne was more like an opera, was it not?—Yes, a slight opera.

3636. Mr. *Locke.*] Are they in costume?—Yes, they are in costume.

3637. *Chairman.*] They would not be able to perform in costume at the "Alhambra"?—No, but this was licensed as a theatre.

3638. Would you disapprove of a change in the law that would permit a performance of such a piece as that at the "Alhambra." At present, the "Alhambra" not having a theatrical license, could not perform such an opera as that; would you be inclined to permit that?—I should have no objection so long as there was no stage dress.

3369. You would object to a change in the law if they were permitted to wear costumes?—Yes.

3640. But they wear costumes at Cremorne Gardens?—Yes, but it is licensed.

3641. If they were licensed at the "Alhambra" you would not object?—No, certainly not.

3642. Then you would recommend a change of system which would permit the licensing of the "Alhambra" for the performance of such pieces?—Yes.

3643. Then if a piece like that were performed at the "Alhambra," it would be a musical play?—Yes; I should have no objection to their performing "Richard the Third," if they liked, so long as there was no smoking and drinking.

3644. You would not give a license to the "Alhambra" in that case?—Not for smoking, eating, and drinking.

3645. But surely that would not interfere with the performance of a light opera, such as you have at Cremorne Gardens?—It all depends on the taste of the public.

3646. If there were no smoking would you object to drinking?—I should object to drinking in front of the stage. I think it is encouraging every description of wrong doing.

3647. Colonel *Sturt.*] Would you allow drinking between the acts?—No, not at all, between the acts.

3648. *Chairman.*] You do not object to a ballet while they are smoking, but you do object to a musical play while they are smoking?—I consider that while any performance is going on upon the stage, smoking, eating, and drinking is bad.

3649. Even while a ballet is going on?—Even while a ballet is going on.

3650. Do you object to smoking, eating, and drinking at the "Alhambra," even under the present state of the law?—Yes, I do indeed.

3651. Now, with regard to the plays, do you think that the present system of censorship, all the plays being submitted to the Lord Chamberlain before they are performed, satisfactory?—Yes; if it was not so, I am satisfied that it would be a second step towards the same thing as smoking, eating and drinking, and we should have some of the minor theatres playing pieces that would be a disgrace to the stage.

3652. You are in favour of maintaining the present system of censorship?—Certainly.

3653. Have you ever found it work inconveniently?—Not at all. On the contrary, my plays are sent in with the fee, and are read and returned immediately; if there is anything put in by the author about our Saviour or God, it is cut out.

3654. Have you found dramatic authors object to the censorship?—Never; I had one piece which perhaps was very properly objected to, founded on *La Dame aux Camelias.* The Lord Chamberlain objected to license that, and I bowed to that decision, of course.

3655. Taking English dramatic authors, do you think that the present law of censorship hinders them in their composition?—Certainly not, because I should think that the dramatic authors, as a body,

a body, are gentlemen who would not write a thing that would be improper at all.

3656. But if the censorship was removed, do you think that a questionable kind of plays would be performed to a greater extent than they are now?—Yes, certainly.

3657. You do not think that the public feeling and taste, are a sufficient guarantee without some supervision?—There must be some supervision or you would have things like the murder of the other day put on the stage; there was Thurtell and Weir's gig put on the stage; but all those things are suppressed immediately.

3658. Mr. *Locke.*] They had the original gig on the stage for a long time?—Yes; the man was little Williams, of the ham and beef shop in the Old Bailey.

3659. How many weeks did they draw that across the stage at the Surrey Theatre?—I do not know, but it was stopped at last.

3660. *Chairman.*] You think that the dramatic art would suffer from a change in the present law as to the licensing of music halls?—Certainly, most seriously.

3661. But would it not create a greater demand for plays?—It might create a greater demand for plays, because, as a matter of course, they would have to get pieces of some kind to perform.

3662. I do not know whether you heard the evidence given at the last sitting of the Committee, with regard to the number of pieces performed at the theatres in the course of a year?—No.

3363. Some of your pieces, no doubt, have had a great run?—Yes, some of the pieces have had a great run.

3664. During that time there was no demand on the part of the public for any novelties?—No, but some of the pieces have a very short run.

3665. Could you say how many new pieces you have performed at Drury Lane in the course of a year?—No; it is impossible to tell you now.

3666. Was it 20, do you think?—My friend Mr. Boucicault performed in one, and he had a great run. I let the theatre to him.

3667. But supposing that at four or five of the principal theatres, some pieces have a great run, then there is no demand for new plays at that time, is there?—No, but still the managers would buy them. I am ready to buy a new play now; I was asking Mr. Boucicault, and he says that he has five or six in stock.

3668. But if the music halls were allowed to perform plays, do you not think there would be a greater competition for plays, and greater inducement for dramatic authors to write them?—Plays and trash.

3669. A greater competition for trash?—Plays *and* trash, both together.

3670. Has the price for dramatic pieces risen or fallen, generally?—It has risen, I think.

3671. A dramatic author, for a good play, has at least the same price as formerly, you think?—He has more, I should say.

3672. No doubt, throwing open the theatres generally, and not confining the legitimate drama to the two patent theatres, has greatly increased the demand for theatrical literature?—Exactly, and in consequence of the two patent theatres being thrown open, the profession has fallen off, so far as actors and actresses go; there is no school now for the drama.

3673. What was the school formerly?—Some years back persons used to have a circuit for themselves, and you would find young men who wished to join the profession going to that circuit; they would select them from there, and send them up to Drury Lane or Covent Garden.

3674. What stopped those circuits?—I think myself it has been the large theatres not succeeding, and the little theatre in the Haymarket; they did not succeed. For instance, the rent of Drury Lane used to be 14,000 *l.* a year; I paid 4,000 *l.* a year, and in consequence of that persons have not found the drama very profitable. I had Mr. Charles Kean there for six weeks, and I lost 3,000 *l.* by him, and I lost 3,500 *l.* by Mr. G. V. Brooke in another six weeks.

3675. What do you attribute those losses to?—Sometimes it is the taste of the public, but Mr. Kean would bring his own actors and actresses with him; parties that could not what we call cry him down in their voices. I was forced to submit to these things, and the other parties were not so good. G. V. Brooke was not so much in favour as when he first came to me.

3676. But do you not think that those misfortunes were in consequence of a change in the public taste, and not in consequence of the monopoly having broken down?—Look at the bills of the theatres 30 years ago; you had then got all the talent that you could possibly have.

3677. Do you think if Drury Lane had been the only place open, that people would have gone to hear G. V. Brooke?—No; I am not talking of Drury Lane only, but people of first-rate education would not like to go and see a fourth-rate actor in plays where Kean and Kemble had acted.

3678. But you think that if the two patent theatres only had been kept up, the drama would have been in a better state?—Most certainly.

3679. But fewer people would have been able to enjoy it?—Yes; but still they would have gone to different parts of the house; the pit was originally 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, and I reduced it to 2 *s.*

3680. Have you not done good service then by enabling more people to enjoy good plays?—I have done great service to the public, but I have not obtained my return for it.

3681. Is it not to the advantage of the public that there should be 10 or 15 theatres rather than two?—I feel pecuniarily on that point; there is a certain number of people who go to the theatres every night, and it is most extraordinary that there is never any more, and if there are 13 or 14 theatres they get divided.

3682. You think there are more theatres than there is demand for theatres?—Yes.

3683. But still the managers do not close in consequence?—No, but still we hear of failures.

3684. Mr. Stanley said that if the music halls obtained the power of acting pieces they would change themselves into theatres and ruin themselves; do you agree with that evidence?—I have no doubt that it would seriously affect them; he is connected with the Canterbury Hall; I do not know that he knows sufficient about the profession to say that; but it stands to reason that if there are 20 instead of five it must hurt them.

3685. But still new theatres are built?—New theatres are built. The Lord Chamberlain told me that he should have no objection to li-

E. T. Smith, Esq.

30 April 1866.

cense any theatre if there were proper entrances and exits.

3686. Do you think that it is a mistake to build new theatres?—It is like every other trade; a man must abide by it. When they gave a large sum of money for Pettigrew's patent for Drury Lane, the King would not grant it to any other place; but when it was granted and carried out they then lost a large sum of money.

3687. Are you in favour of granting licenses to as many places as apply for them, or not?—You may have a theatre wherever you like.

3688. What is your definition of a theatre, as distinguished from a music hall?—A theatre is a place where there is scenery and performance in costume, and so on, and where there is no drinking, and it is under proper censorship.

3689. Then the theatres abroad, where people smoke, are not real theatres, you think?—I do not recollect one, except in the Palais Royal; they take refreshments in the boxes, I know, because I have had it there myself.

3690. Mr. *Locke.*] In private boxes?—No, in public boxes; but not spirits, nor wine.

3691. *Chairman.*] Have the salaries of good actors increased or decreased lately?—A good actor can always get an excellent salary.

3692. There is as great a demand for good actors as ever, I suppose?—Yes, if you can get them.

3693. In fact, there are not enough of them for the demand?—There are not any, except for comedy; the only person left on the stage of any consequence is Mr. Phelps; we had no one to follow Edmund Kean.

3694. To what do you attribute that?—Because there is no encouragement to them.

3695. But you say that the salaries are as high as ever?—Yes, but the actors are fewer.

3696. But does not the attraction of a high salary held out to actors lead to people embracing the profession?—No; take the case of Mr. Charles Matthews; I gave him 100*l.* a week at Drury Lane; when he goes I do not know of anybody that will take his place in that line. Mr. Buckstone has got a very fine company, and the comedies that he plays require it; he has got the best of them. But with regard to the other theatres, where will you find a good actor?

3697. But to what do you attribute there being no good actors if there are plenty of theatres and high salaries?—I consider that the profession is not now in the state that it was formerly; people were brought up to it, and went into it with the idea of having a dramatic education to receive and to appear at the large theatres; now there is scarcely any chance of appearing at a large theatre; it is the taste of the public. Sometimes the taste of the public may be for the legitimate drama, and sometimes it may be for nonsense. I brought out a little farce with Mr. Charles Matthews with only two persons in it, and it had a very very great run; that was in opposition to the Wizard of the North, at Covent Garden; the receipts were enormous; it filled the house every night, and the piece was on "A Woman's Green Bonnet."

3698. There were only two people in it?—There were only two people in it.

3699. It was a trifle?—Yes.

3700. Would you have objected to that piece being performed at the Alhambra?—Certainly not, provided there were no smoking, eating, or drinking.

3701. Though there are plenty of theatres, and though the salaries are high, actors are not forthcoming, you say?—No, I think not.

3702. Do you think that there is a less tendency on the part of educated men to enter the profession than there was?—Certainly.

3703. There are not so many educated actors who enter the profession?—There is not so much talent, but they have very good education.

3704. Do you think that the writing of plays is equal to what it used to be?—Yes; Mr. Robson, when Kean performed every night that he could come there, used to come and see him, and he said, "I ought to have been a tragedian."

3705. But do you think that the dramatic literature of the present day is equal to former dramatic literature?—Certainly.

3706. That the pieces written now are as good?—Yes, certainly; but it is of a different class; in the present day you must have a sensation scene; something of an inventive genius of my friend Boucicault, or something of that kind. There is one thing which I want to call the attention of the Committee to: I read in the "Era" that my friend Mr. Webster said I let boxes to gentlemen who had a key to go behind the stage; I am afraid that Mr. Webster mistook it for one of those music halls. I never did anything of the kind.

3707. Have you ever permitted gentlemen to go behind the scenes in the theatres under your charge?—Certainly not; I object to it entirely; we have got 150 girls now at Astley's Theatre, and if we had gentlemen behind the scenes we should never get on at all.

3708. Colonel *Sturt.*] But people may go behind the scenes without wishing to talk to the girls?—Yes, if people come on business; I reserve to myself the right to ask any one to go behind the scenes.

3709. Mr. *Locke.*] They do it, do they not?—There were five or six gentlemen from Scotland the other day who wanted to go behind the scenes, and I said they might if they pleased.

3710. Colonel *Sturt.*] There is no reproach in going behind the scenes?—None whatever.

3711. *Chairman.*] But you object to it while business is going on?—Yes; the girls might forget their cue, and the stage would be waiting.

3712. Mr. *Locke.*] You mean if people were admitted on the stage?—Yes.

3713. But have you a room distinct from the stage?—No; my room is entirely in front of the house.

3714. There is no large room behind the scenes at Astley's?—No.

3715. Nothing but the theatre and dressing room?—No; I had at Drury-lane a room on the stage.

3716. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] It was in answer to Question 3168, which was put to Mr. Webster by me, that he said what you have referred to. He was asked, "Used that to be the practice in former years"?—and he answered, "Not within my knowledge. I have heard that Mr. E. T. Smith admitted gentlemen behind the scenes if they took a stall for the year, but that has never been done by any dramatic manager in my time that I know of, and indeed that is only hearsay."

3717. *Chairman.*] Did you ever do that?—No, certainly not.

3718. Mr. *Locke.*] He goes on to say it is only hearsay. "You have no positive evidence about that?

that? No."—Just so; no manager would do it.

3719. *Chairman.*] Are there some managers who are more strict than others?—They are all alike; they would not allow anything of the kind.

3720. Except the person wanted to speak on business?—Except they wanted to speak on business.

3721. Colonel *Sturt.*] All managers would feel at liberty to admit a personal friend behind the scenes?—Yes; I should be very happy to see every Member of the Committee behind the scenes.

3722. Mr. *Locke.*] Then where is the distinction between that and the Alhambra, except that at Astley's the only place where they could go to would be on the stage itself?—The only thing about the Alhambra (and that is hearsay, and Mr. Strange is a respectable man), is that gentlemen are said to go behind and drink champagne, and so forth.

3723. But that is not on the stage?—No, in a room behind.

3724. That room is not level with the stage, is it?—I have never been in the canteen.

3725. You are not aware that the canteen is distinct from the stage altogether?—No, I am not aware; there was no canteen when I was there.

3726. You are not aware that it is below the stage, and not connected with it in any way?—I do not know.

3727. Now a word or two about Cremorne; will you tell us what performances there are?—I open to-night.

3728. What do you start with?—Whitebait dinners.

3729. And breakfasts?—You can have breakfast if you come at two o'clock in the afternoon.

3730. At what time does the garden open?—About four in the afternoon.

3731. Those are favoured individuals, who have breakfast at two, are they?—No; we have the hotel open at two, but not the gardens.

3732. Then you may have what you please after two, until when?—Until 11 o'clock on Sunday night, 12 on Saturdays, and one o'clock on every other day; that is according to the magistrates' license.

3733. What performances do you start with to-night?—None at all until Wednesday.

3734. Has Cremorne been closed during the winter?—Yes, all the winter; it is only open for four months.

3735. It is not worth while to keep open the tavern part during the winter?—No, it is not.

3736. You have not quite arranged what the performances are to be, perhaps?—Yes; it is to be a ballet of 150 ladies.

3737. Which part of the garden is it that you perform that ballet in?—In the theatre.

3738. Is the theatre on the right-hand side?—It is on the left-hand side as you go in.

3739. Is it a very large room?—Yes.

3740. That large room forms one side of the place where they dance, does it?—It is detached.

3741. First of all, on the left-hand side, is the bowling alley?—As you go in, the bowling alley is on the left-hand side.

3742. Then you go beyond that, and then you come to this large room, and then you come to the circular place with walks round it, and with the rooms above?—Yes; there are three entrances.

3743. I am supposing that you go in at the entrance in King's-road; principal entrance?—Yes.

3744. Then there is a circular sort of rotunda?—Yes, the orchestra.

3745. And the part boarded round it is for dancing?—Yes.

3746. The theatre is close to it?—Yes.

3747. Just outside the theatre there are tables and chairs, and people can have any drink they like?—Exactly.

3748. The difference between this theatre at Cremorne and the music halls is this, that there is a shorter performance at Cremorne, and you have so much space that they can walk into your theatre for about an hour, and walk out again if they like; they can sit down at a table and enjoy themselves as they please, and just walk in and out again?—Yes.

3749. That could not be very conveniently done at a music hall, could it?—No, but they could go next door.

3750. But it becomes necessary at the music halls that they should take refreshments in the same place where the theatrical performance is going on?—They could do the same as they do at the Grecian and Lanes, and Rouse's.

3751. The Grecian has a large garden round it?—Yes, the Lord Chamberlain will not allow smoking inside the building.

3752. At the Grecian there is, however, a garden round it, as I say?—Yes.

3753. That is much the same thing as at Cremorne gardens, only it is not so extensive?—Just the same as Cremorne, only not so extensive.

3754. The same as the gardens in Germany; you have never been there, perhaps?—No.

3755. And much the same thing as the gardens in France?—Yes.

3756. There is this drinking, smoking, and eating at Cremorne?—Yes.

3757. There is probably no place in the world where people smoke more cigars than at Cremorne. You have got an antagonism to smoking, eating, and drinking; but you do not find that the smoke at all interferes with you there, do you?—Not outside, but it is prohibited inside.

3758. They are only inside for a very short time?—They are only inside for a very short time; at the music halls they can go out to a public house.

3759. Of course every man in a free country can go into the street, we know, but if he walks out of the music halls there is no amusement for him in the street?—No, and he has to pay if he returns.

3760. If he walks out of the theatre at Cremorne and walks into another part of the garden, there is something going on, for the amusements rush on pretty quickly from one place to another?—Yes.

3761. You have horsemanship there?—Yes, we have horsemanship, but there is no smoking, eating, and drinking allowed there.

3762. There is no smoking, eating, and drinking allowed in any of those particular places?—In none of them.

3763. But can you smoke, eat, and drink as much as you like in the other parts?—Yes.

3764. There are private rooms round the place where they dance?—Yes.

3765. And ladies and gentlemen go into those boxes?—Yes, there are boxes.

3766. They are up too high for people to see into them, are they not?—No, you can see into them.

E. T. Smith, Esq.

30 April 1866.

them. I took great care of that when I had them built.

3767. Where must you go to see into those boxes?—As you pass below, they are open, and no immorality can take place there.

3768. There is a row of boxes all round for refreshments, and you can see into them, you say?—Yes.

3769. What height are they from the ground?—About eight feet.

3770. They are rather more, are they not?—No.

3771. Eight to the bottom of the boxes?—Yes, eight feet to the bottom of the boxes.

3772. First of all, there are boxes on the ground?—Yes.

3773. What is the height of those boxes on the ground with tables in them?—From the ground to the roof about eight feet.

3774. Above those there are other boxes, are there not?—Yes, dinner boxes and supper boxes.

3775. They are like little rooms?—Yes, like little rooms.

3776. Something very much like the *cabinets* in Paris?—I have never been in them.

3777. Not in the Champs Elysées?—No, I have not been there.

3778. They are very much in the same style as the rooms at Cremorne; they are little rooms?—Our rooms are entirely thrown open; when I had them built, I had them built so that everybody could see into them, and so that the magistrates could see that there was nothing immoral possible that the police could not see.

3779. There are some boxes above the other boxes, you say?—Yes, there are 14 rooms, just for four persons to sit in; that is all.

3780. Where you can have any refreshment you like?—No, you cannot go up there to have a bottle of wine without you dine or sup; we do not let them out for drinking purposes.

3781. You could dine in them?—Yes; we have some of the first noblemen in the land who dine in them.

3782. Or sup in them?—Yes, or sup in them; the moment it is dusk they are lighted up inside.

3783. You have said that there is going to be a ballet; are you going to have a play this year?—No, it will be a kind of pantomime.

3784. But there will be talking in it, I suppose?—Not this year.

3785. You have had talking, I suppose?—We have had singing, no talking.

3786. Does not your opera go through the recitative and all that sort of thing?—It is merely a sort of transformation scene, and songs and duets, and so on.

3787. In an opera you must have a recitative or something, or else it would be all nonsense?—It was merely a tale written by Mr. Tully, with a few songs put together.

3788. But who tells the tale?—It is only in the singing, and from the description of the piece.

3789. There is no dialogue?—No, there is no dialogue in that piece; I dare say I shall have dialogue during the next season, and I dare say that I may play a farce.

3790. Were you ever at Amsterdam?—No, never.

3791. You seem to be shocked at smoking; are you aware that at Amsterdam there is a place precisely similar to the music halls here, only not so large, where they have smoking and take refreshments, and there is French *vauderville* performed there, in fact, they perform three pieces every night?—I was not aware of that.

3792. Everything is conducted with the greatest propriety, and the most respectable persons in Amsterdam go there?—I know they are fond of their pipes there.

3793. A good many people are fond of their pipes in England?—Yes.

3794. If that suits Dutchmen, why should it not suit Englishmen who have Dutch tastes?—It depends entirely upon whether it is English or Dutch taste.

3795. Why should not an Englishman with a Dutch taste indulge it if he does not interfere with anybody?—Well, it is you who have got to legislate, and you will be responsible.

3796. But should not the tendency of legislation be to let people do pretty much as they please, if they do not interfere with others?—But they do interfere with others.

3797. How?—If your wife and family wanted to see a piece at Drury Lane, and just under her nose there were 50 or 60 people blowing their clouds, you would say that was disgraceful.

3798. But the people would not do that at Drury Lane, would they?—They would if you threw it open.

3799. You think that the people could not get on without smoking, eating, and drinking?—No; you would ruin the theatres, and make the theatres a disgrace to society.

3800. You think that because they do it at one place they must necessarily do it at all other places?—Yes, of course.

3801. *Chairman.*] Would not a higher price of admission check that?—The theatres would never be able to compete with the music halls.

3802. Mr. *Locke.*] You think that there should be legislation to prevent smoking?—In theatres, I do.

3803. It would not do to leave it for the proprietors of theatres to say no smoking is allowed, you think?—No, certainly not; it is a matter of the very greatest difficulty even now; a gentleman would feel annoyed if he lit his cigar in the lobby to be told of it.

3804. You put the drama at a very low ebb indeed if it cannot stand against a cigar, supposing there is a very good performance?—But why should it be at low ebb? Mr. Strange, or Mr. Jones, or Mr. Brown would go and give more for an actor than a theatre could afford to give, because he gets 50 per cent. out of what he sells, and the theatres can only get their profit out of the admission money.

3805. But take a tragedy; a person would not want to go and see a tragedy at a music hall, where there was smoking, eating, and drinking going on?—Yes, they would; they go now to see a tragedy, if they have been out dining, and so would the lower orders of society. Look at the Bower Saloon, that place is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain; the gentlemen of the Committee ought to go and see these places.

3806. But they do not smoke there, do they?—They have to go through a public house to it, the same as one or two of the other theatres.

3807. They have got the Lord Chamberlain's license?—Yes, the Lord Chamberlain's license restricts immediately any smoking, eating, or drinking in the place. In my boxes, the refreshments are entirely detached from the auditorium, and the place in the pit is entirely detached.

3808. Where

3808. Where have you got your refreshment bar in the pit?—Right at the back; it is partitioned off.

3809. You cannot see the counter from the pit?—I do not think you can.

3810. *Chairman.*] Can you see the performance from the bar?—No.

3811. Mr. *Locke.*] When you are sitting in boxes, you can see that bar; can you not?—No, our pit is very large; it holds 1,200 people.

3812. But the pit comes under the boxes?—Yes, therefore you cannot see it.

3813. But cannot you see it from one of the front boxes close to the stage?—No, certainly not.

3814. But it is in the pit, is it not?—No, it is detached; it is partitioned off.

3815. *Chairman.*] There is a screen behind it, I suppose?—It is a little shut up partition, enclosed.

3816. Mr. *Locke.*] They sell wine and spirits, and so on, at that bar, do they not?—Yes, they have a license from the Inland Revenue.

3817. And that is a very valuable thing, is it not?—No, I find that the greater proportion of men like to go round to the public houses, just to meet their comrades, rather than have it there; they charge more for it in the theatres, and give a better article.

3818. How much do you let that for?—I let the three saloons for 10 *l.* a week; the boxes, pit, and gallery.

3819. Are they each of them 10 *l.* a week?—No, 10 *l.* for the lot; for that they sell the bills, and the books, and take care of the ladies' bonnets, retiring rooms, and gentlemen's coats and umbrellas on wet nights.

3820. They make what profits they can?—They make what profits you like to give them.

3821. But have they the sale of spirits for that?—They can do what they like for that.

3822. *Chairman.*] That amounts to 500 *l.* a year?—No, because the theatre is only open seven months in the year; it is about 250 *l.*

3823. Mr. *Locke.*] They pay you 10 *l.* a week, and furnish all those persons about the theatre who perform necessary duties, and whom you yourself would have to pay if they did not?—No, because the parties pay themselves from what they can get for the bills; if you wanted anything or the children wanted to go anywhere, you gave them 3 *d.* or 2 *d.* to take the children to the retiring room.

3824. Colonel *Sturt.*] The boxkeepers pay themselves, do they not?—The boxkeepers pay themselves.

3825. Mr. *Locke.*] How many persons do you suppose those people employ in the theatre?—About six; two to each part; they are generally old women.

3826. But you have got some waiters, have you not?—No.

3827. Who are the people who draw all the beer?—The daughter of a very respectable man indeed, Mr. Drysdale, who has been at Her Majesty's Theatre, and so on; she does it.

3828. She cannot do it all over the house?—There is no beer drawn except in the pit.

3829. Is there not a beer engine in the gallery?—No.

3830. Only in the pit?—Only the pit. I believe they supply those people up stairs from the pit.

3831. Now about the stage falling off; you attribute that to the three patent theatres being deprived of their former privilege. Did you ever see the Report of the Dramatic Literature Committee, which was moved for by the late Mr. Duncombe, which was printed on the 2d of August 1832?—Yes.

3832. You said that you thought the actors very much deteriorated in the style of their performances?—Not in the style of their performances.

3833. But the character of their performances?—Yes; the character of their performances; there have been some very good things written.

3834. You have stated that Mr. Phelps is the only good actor?—Yes, the only good actor compared with former days.

3835. Are you aware that John Kemble introduced elephants on to the stage when those three were patent theatres?—Yes; and so did Yates at the Adelphi.

3836. But the Adelphi was not a patent theatre, and he might introduce any animal he liked on the stage?—Yes; Her Majesty used to witness Van Amburg, and go and see the lions fed.

3837. But that was at a patent theatre, before the alteration took place in 1832?—I think not. Van Amburg was since that.

3838. But was it not a charge against the patent theatres, that the object for which they had their patent, namely, the legitimate drama, had been forgotten by them, and that the very species of performance that there was at the minor theatres was introduced on to the stage of the major theatres?—First of all, with regard to the actors, I do not think we have anybody on the stage who has ever drawn at the patent theatres since Edmund Kean's death. It is, of course, a large place to fill, and a very expensive place.

3839. But I am asking you, when they were patent theatres, and when they had exclusive privileges, whether the charge against them was not, that they were performing pieces which, it was supposed, the minor theatres alone performed; that they introduced on to the stage horses and other animals, and that therefore they had no right to complain if the same privilege which they had were extended to all the theatres?—I cannot speak to 30 years ago, but you will find Mr. Kemble's evidence and other people's evidence, to show you the falling off of the drama.

3840. At that time?—Yes, and it has been falling off ever since.

3841. It was falling off before 1832, but at the present time there are more theatres, and they are better filled, is not that so?—You may think so, but it is the managers who find things out; they keep the treasury.

3842. Do you mean that they keep the theatres open at their own expense?—If you take a house for seven, 14, or 21 years, you must pay the rent.

3843. The theatres have filled lately, have they not?—Mr. Boucicault had an excellent piece at the Princess's; the Princess's has filled exceedingly well. The pantomimes always fill a theatre, but after 12 weeks run of a pantomime, I think it is a very dangerous game for any manager to go to expense unless he has got plays that would really take the run of the town.

3844. You look upon yourself as a sort of public benefactor then. You have had many theatres, Drury Lane and Astley's, for instance, and

E. T. Smith, Esq.
30 April 1866.

and you are now keeping Astley's open for the public good, I suppose?—I am just like a barrister who likes to take his fee for his brief. The theatres do not pay now so well as they did; there are only three months in the year, during the pantomime, that a manager can be certain of his house paying, unless he has plays written by Mr. Boucicault, or some one who understands the public taste.

3845. But you get such a piece every now and then?—Very seldom.

3846. Setting off the good plays against the bad ones, I will ask you whether the theatres ever answered better than they do now?—I think they have answered better than they do now; I am not at liberty to mention names, but they have answered a great deal better than many that I know lately.

3847. Are the rents higher or lower than they were?—Drury Lane when I took it was 4,000 *l.*, it used to be 4,500 *l.*; I pay the same rent at Astley's as I did before; I paid 6,000 *l.* at Her Majesty's; I think Mr. Fechter pays a little less rent at the Lyceum than he did before.

3848. *Chairman.*] The rent was once 14,000 *l.* at Drury Lane, was it not?—Yes, I think so; 12,000 *l.* or 14,000 *l.*, but that was at a time when there was a lot of noblemen and gentlemen on the committee who managed the theatre themselves; Mr. Bunn paid 12,000 *l.*

3849. *Chairman.*] Did Mr. Bunn make it answer?—No, and Mr. Polhill lost 60,000 *l.* at Drury Lane.

3850. Colonel *Sturt.*] Mr. Bunn had Covent Garden too, had he not?—Yes.

3851. *Chairman.*] But the other theatres have answered lately, have they not?—No, but I do not wish to go into the private affairs of my brother managers.

3852. Mr. *Du Cane.*] What was the style of performance which you gave at the Alhambra, when it was under your management?—Acrobats and dancing; that was all.

3853. Pretty much the same as it is now?—Pretty much the same as it is now, only we had no scenery.

3854. Had you no ballet?—Yes, I think I had a ballet there.

3855. Have you visited the Alhambra after, under Mr. Strange's management?—No, I have not had time.

3856. But have you visited it?—Yes, once or twice.

3857. Is it, in your opinion, conducted in an orderly manner?—Yes.

3858. Do you consider the audience respectable?—Yes; as respectable as all public audiences are.

3859. Quite as respectable as a theatre audience?—Just the same as a theatre audience, I should say.

3860. Did you notice any great proportion of women of a certain class at the Alhambra?—Perhaps I should not know them.

3861. At all events you did not observe them? No; I did not *wish* to observe them.

3862. Do you agree with the opinion given here by Mr. Buckstone, that the facilities with which a young man with a good voice, or a turn for dancing, can get an engagement at the music halls now tends to create a dearth of rising young actors?—I do agree with that opinion in one respect; it would make you laugh to see the number of letters I receive; 8 or 10 a day sometimes, from persons who wish to be actors and actresses and singers. It is "I have got a good baritone voice, or a good tenor voice." They want to be singers, more particularly comic singers. A man can go and get 6 *l.* a week from a music hall, and he will sing over the water, or he will keep his brougham and go up to the Oxford, and then he will go to another music hall again; he will go and get his four or five turns a night, and earn 20 *l.* or 30 *l.* a week.

3863. When you were manager of Drury-lane Theatre, or other theatres, can you call to recollection your having engaged any talented young actor from a music hall?—Yes, I engaged Mr. Parkinson; I had Drury-lane and Her Majesty's Theatre, and the Alhambra at one time; I engaged Mr. Parkinson and another young man also to appear at either place.

3864. Do you consider that there is any falling off in the public taste for legitimate drama at the present time?—I could answer the question, but I would rather not. I do not consider that the drama has answered at Drury-lane, although they have played it. Looking to the position of the lessees at the present moment, I do not consider that it has sufficiently answered.

3865. Is that in consequence of the public taste having changed, or is it from the difficulty of finding a sufficient staff of actors to put a high class play on the stage?—That is one reason; and the other reason is the manner in which authors very properly proceed. My friend Mr. Boucicault travels a good deal; he goes to Paris: he is very clever, and he gets ideas and puts them together; and he brings out a sensation drama. Now, for a person to bring out a merely talking drama, without any action in it, or sensational effects, is useless; the people will not go to that theatre; they will go where there is scenic effect, and mechanical effects to please the eye.

3866. Do you give any burlesque performances at Cremorne Gardens?—No.

3867. Do you consider that burlesques are a very paying style of performance now?—It is the style that most things are written in; for instance, when I was playing "Mazeppa" at Astley's, they brought a burlesque out at the Victoria, and I understand it is very well done indeed.

3868. Did it draw a large house?—Yes; persons who went to see one would go to see the other. Some persons think that deteriorates the drama; on the contrary, I think it does a great deal of good. The people who have seen one say, "Let us go and see the other."

3869. You do not share in the opinion that the performance of burlesque tends to turn the public taste from the legitimate drama?—No, certainly not; if it is a piquant burlesque, gentlemen can amuse themselves, and laugh at the wit; and there is nothing at all immoral or obscene in it.

3870. You think that it rather induces people to go and see the performance that is burlesqued?—Exactly.

3871. Do you think that if the music halls were allowed to give theatrical performances, the proprietors of those establishments could afford to give as high a sum for a first-class actor as the managers of theatres can?—Certainly not; not for first-class actors. The only boon that it would be to the music hall proprietor would be the profit

that

that he would obtain on his grogs, and his beer, and his cigars.

3872. Do you agree with the evidence that has been given, that music halls would employ inferior actors, and in that way the public taste would be degraded?—Yes, I do.

3873. Mr. Strange said in his evidence that it would not pay him to have any sort of high-class theatrical entertainment, even if he could legally do it?—Mr. Strange is a very clever fellow; but he might alter his mind when he obtained his licence.

3874. Colonel *Sturt.*] You have mentioned that there are some immoral songs sung at some of those music halls; do you consider that the performances at the music halls are lower in their moral character than the performances at regularly licensed theatres?—Certainly; highly respectable authors write for the stage who would not write for music halls.

3875. What do you think of the performances at music halls as a matter of fact?—At some of the music halls the songs are not immoral; but I was told yesterday by a friend of mine that he saw in the paper that one of them was fined last week.

3876. You have stated that you thought music halls tended to encourage drunkenness; did you find it so when you were proprietor of the Alhambra?—I have no doubt of it, when a man can have his grog always before him; they lose their place if they go out.

3877. The more men go to music halls the less they would go to public-houses, I suppose?—I suppose so, because it is a public-house that the man is in.

3878. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You have had some experience both of music halls and theatres, have you not?—Yes.

3879. Is it the habit of the managers to have detectives at music halls as well as theatres to look after improper characters?—No.

3880. Mr. Webster stated that at the theatres it is so?—I have no detective; I have a constable attending every night at the door, and in case of disturbance he is sent for from the door.

3881. You never had any detectives there when you were lessee of the Alhambra?—No.

3882. Do you have them at Astley's?—I shall have some to look after the bars.

3883. When you were manager of Drury Lane Theatre you never had detectives at all?—No.

3884. Do you think it would be possible so to define a light piece to be performed where there was smoking, eating, and drinking, as not to interfere with the legitimate drama?—How can you do it? I think it would be utterly impossible.

3885. You would object to any such performance at the music halls as even that given by Mr. and Mrs. German Reed?—Go and look at the music halls! Would you go and grant a license indiscriminately to a person who has got a room half the size of this to go and put up "Penny Gaff," such as you might once see in the New Cut, where people used to go and pledge and steal things on purpose to go and belong to the corps there? But I should not object to the Alhambra being a theatre; I should like to see it a theatre; I think it would be a very paying concern.

3886. You think that it is utterly impossible to define "light plays" for the purpose I mentioned?—Yes.

3887. Are smoking, eating, and drinking allowed in the body of the building in any of the places which have the Lord Chamberlain's license, such as the Bower Operetta House, in Stangate?—That theatre is in a public-house; the passage is in the public-house, and you open a door, and there is the theatre.

3888. Take the Cabinet Theatre at King's Cross, and the City of London in Norton Folgate?—The Cabinet is only a little amateur place.

3889. Are smoking, eating, and drinking allowed there?—I have not been there.

3890. Do you know the Effingham and Marylebone Theatres?—The Marylebone is a highly respectable theatre; Mr. Cave would not allow any smoking, eating, or drinking there.

3891. Mr. *Clay.*] I understood you to say that theatres, as a speculation, have been less remunerative during the last 10 years than they were at some previous period?—Yes.

3892. At what period would you say they were more remunerative than they have been during the last 10 years?—I was speaking of the time when there were actors and actresses that people would run after; Mr. Webster is a very nice fellow, and a brother manager, but he is getting very old, and Mr. Buckstone is getting very deaf; all the favourites of the public are falling off.

3893. If more money was made at the time when there were better actors, can you tell me what manager made it? Going back 10 years, what managers ever made as much money as has been made in theatres lately?—Mr. Davidge, at the Surrey, made about 25,000*l.*; Mr. Ducrow made 60,000*l.*, and Mr. Greenwood, at Sadler's Wells, made money.

3894. Is not the run of a piece a pretty good test of its paying character?—It may be so.

3895. Managers do not continue to run pieces generally after they have ceased to pay, do they?—Sometimes they do. "Never Too Late to Mend" was not a great success at first; but Mr. Wigan felt annoyed at some persons writing down his piece, and he ran it on, and afterwards he was amply remunerated for it.

3896. But you will allow, will you not, that the run of a piece is a fair test of the money that it brings in?—Yes, and it depends on the actors and actresses. Mr. Buckstone is particularly lucky; he has got Mr. Sothern, and people run after him.

3897. Just so; but when a piece runs for 150 nights it is a pretty fair test that it brings money in, is it not?—Yes.

3898. Is it, then, within your recollection that previously to the last 10 years there had ever been in any theatres in London such an extraordinary run of pieces as there has been during the last 10 years. Take "Lord Dundreary," or the "Ticket of Leave Man," "The Colleen Bawn," "The Streets of London," the "Octoroon," and a great many others that I do not recollect, and tell me if it is within your recollection that previously to the last 10 years there were in any theatres in London pieces which had anything like such long runs?—I cannot bring them to my recollection at this moment.

3899. Then it is surely a fair inference that the theatres take more money than they did before?—No. We have a better class of authors; sensation dramas draw now.

3900. But I am speaking only of the money that is made; is it not your opinion that, as a general rule, the managers of theatres have made much better speculations during the last 10 years than

E. T. Smith, Esq.
30 April 1866.

than they did in the 10 years before that time?—I am not at liberty to say. I know that Covent Garden has not, but I cannot speak of the treasuries of my brother managers.

3901. You say that a sensation drama will pretty generally draw, but you think that what you call a "talking drama" does not; is there not a piece which has been acted lately for a great many nights, called "Society"?—I believe there is.

3902. Are you aware that that is as entirely a "talking drama" as you can possibly put together?—I have never seen it.

3903. That there is not a sensation scene from beginning to end, and that that piece has drawn for a great many nights?—I have never seen it, but I am aware that it has been running.

3904. The legitimate drama, in your belief, has fallen off from the deterioration and want of actors?—Exactly.

3905. Do you not think that there are other causes that may readily account for the facts. I presume you would consider that the legitimate drama was most likely to be supported by the highest and best educated classes of society?—Yes, certainly.

3906. Do you not think that the great change that has taken place in the habits of society, such as the late hour of dining, and the immense competition of all other kinds of amusement; the fact that whereas 50 years ago where there was one ball where there are now 20; do you not, I say, consider that those causes, much more than any deterioration in English actors, may have caused what you call the "degradation" of the legitimate drama?—They may add to it, certainly; but, take Mr. Jefferson at the Adelphi, and Mr. Sothern at the Haymarket, they are Americans.

3907. Mr. Sothern is an Englishman, is he not?—He is from America, I think; he looks like an American; and Mr. Jefferson is an American, I believe. But with regard to the legitimate drama, you must bear in mind that you have got as good "sensation" in Richard the Third and Macbeth as you have in any sensation drama of modern date, but where are the men to play them.

3908. But can you conceive any reason why there should be a less dramatic talent among Englishmen now than there was in the days of Kemble or Kean, or at any other time?—I suppose it is that a gentleman who has received a good education can get more money by following some other occupation than if he were an actor.

3909. Do you not conceive it to be a more likely reason that there is less demand for actors of a high class?—You cannot get an actor of a high class; can you tell me of any one yourself? I should like to know where to get one.

3910. For many years past, owing to the causes I have mentioned, is it not the fact that there has not been a demand for that kind of acting?—No, and for the best of all reasons, that you have not had pieces written for actors of that class, nor could you find actors of that class if you wanted them.

3911. But do you not suppose that if London was now filled with theatres beginning to give the Shakesperian drama, and those theatres were crammed, actors would spring up to meet the demand?—No; where are they?

3912. You think, in fact, that there has been a material alteration in the genius and talent of England?—Certainly there has in dramatic talent; not in Englishmen generally, I suppose.

3913. You consider that there has been an entire change in the dramatic genius and talent of England?—Yes.

3914. Can you conceive any reason for such a change?—No, except that I do not think they expect now to receive a sufficient reward for their labour.

3915. You say that the cause of the absence of dramatic talent is that people do not expect to be rewarded?—Yes; you are speaking of the legitimate drama. Think of the number of years that Drury Lane was closed; and I did not expect even myself that it would answer, nor has it answered since, I understand. What gentleman could look forward for success with legitimate acting at any of the principal theatres? Is there any encouragement for him to study it?

3916. There is, therefore, no falling off in the dramatic genius of the country, but there has ceased to be a demand for this particular kind of entertainment; is that not so?—I do not know about ceasing to be a demand; an actor can always take his turn through the country; for instance, if Mr. Fechter, in "Hamlet," was to take a turn round right through the provinces, he would make a very ample fortune; the theatres would all be open to receive him; but with regard to having a proper cast, such as we used to have at the patent theatres, it is utterly impossible.

3917. But the provinces are not a test of what I say, because in the provinces there is not that competition of other amusements, is there?—Yes, in Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham there is. At Birmingham there are two theatres belonging to Mr. Copeland.

3918. But there is not that immense competition from concerts, music halls, and so on, as there is in London, is there?—Yes, there is Italian opera; Giuglini and Piccolomini I took down twice in the season. The cause of that is this, that in provincial towns, such as Manchester, the time when these concerts take place, or the opera takes place, is the time when society meets together all round the neighbourhood.

3919. If you were sure that you could cram your theatre by the representation of what is called legitimate drama, should you doubt that by going through the provinces, and selecting such genius as you could find there, and then adding all such genius as there is still in London (which is a good deal), you could even now produce an excellent performance of that kind?—Certainly, if you could get a staff, but you cannot get it; every manager in London knows that an actor must come out of the country first; then he is "written up," and the cry is "secure him," but you cannot get him.

3920. But having found the man, do you think you could not make a great deal of money by legitimate drama, or is it that you think that you could not find that man?—I could make the money if I could find the man.

3921. There is one theatre, is there not, where they have performed the legitimate drama for many years past, and that is Sadler's Wells?—Yes.

3922. Has that theatre paid?—I believe so; Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Phelps had it; Mr. Phelps did a great deal for the drama at Sadler's Wells.

3923. And he was paid for it?—Yes.

3924. Do you not think that in London there is an audience to be found for all sorts of amusement, from the highest legitimate drama down to the

the lowest order of decent entertainment?—I think not.

3925. Mr. Phelps appealed to one kind of audience, and the music halls appeal to another?—Mr. Phelps was lessee of the theatre; he had no salary to pay his principal, and his partner was the treasurer in the theatre, so those two made it pay very well, and realised something handsome; but Mr. Phelps transferred his services to Drury Lane.

3926. But still the legitimate drama has paid the manager of any theatre who stuck to it, and music halls pay also. What objection should you make, then, to such a law as this, that all places of dramatic entertainment should have the right of playing precisely what they pleased, consulting as they best could the tastes of their audiences, subject to no legislation whatever except such police regulations as were necessary for preserving decency in the audience, and decency in the performances?—I have no objection if it is in a proper building, and it is put on the same competition as the theatres; so long as there is neither smoking, eating, or drinking.

3927. But smoking, eating, and drinking you would exclude from what you call a legitimate theatre?—Most certainly; I should not like anybody in my drawing room, with ladies singing, to come and sit down with a pipe.

3928. Did you ever go to Mr. Lewis's to hear the Moray Minstrels?—No.

3929. You are not aware that there is a great deal of pipe smoking there?—I do not know.

2930. And that it does not interfere with the music?—They must require something to wash it down before the next song, I should say.

3931. Mr. *Selwin.*] When you were at the Alhambra, was the size and shape of the building the same as it is now?—Yes.

3932. It has not been increased since?—No.

3933. In your theatre, you say the profit from refreshment is very trifling?—The profits are about 10 *l.* a week on an average.

3934. That includes fees for use of cloak room, sale of play bills, and so on?—Yes.

3935. But at the music halls, the managers depend to a certain extent, if not to a great extent, on the sale of those refreshments, do they not?—I cannot say that. The Alhambra will hold 3,000 people, and if they pay 1 *s.* a piece that is 150 *l.* I suppose the refreshments would be about two-thirds, or about 8 *d.*, and if he gets 4 *d.* profit that is pretty good.

3936. You have said with regard to the character of the audience during your management at the Alhambra, that you think it was very much the same as the audiences at theatres generally are?—So they are generally.

3937. But Mr. Strange has said, that the average attendance of ladies of the town is about 90 every night?—Yes.

3938. Was that the case when you were manager?—Mr. Strange appears to know more about them than I do; I never counted them.

3939. But those women are found there?—Yes, and you cannot keep them out of the theatres.

3940. Mr. Webster's evidence was that they have detectives at the doors to prevent that class of women going in?—It is the first time I ever heard of there being detectives at the doors of theatres.

3941. *Chairman.*] Mr. Webster stated that the money of such visitors was not taken at the doors?—I should not refuse their money if they came in, not for all the detectives in London. It is nonsense; it must be wrong; I cannot think it.

3942. Colonel *Sturt.*] You do not care who comes, provided they behave themselves with propriety?—I do not care who comes, so long as they pay.

3943. Mr. *Selwin.*] You have said that you could not put in a defined shape the objection to plays being acted in music halls?—No; I should like to see them all theatres, provided they did not smoke.

3944. But, apart from that, at the music halls, would you see any objection to small pieces being acted, provided the number of the actors were limited?—I object to small pieces being acted, if they smoke, eat, and drink.

3945. Even with that limitation of the number of the performers?—Certainly. If you were to do such a thing, I should immediately try to let what interest I had in theatres, or else I should try to do more than any one else, by putting up a large bill, "Gin, 1½ *d.* a glass; elsewhere, 2 *d.*"; that is what it would come to.

3946. You think that the simple acting of a scene in costume at a music hall, would injure the theatres?—Yes, I think it would be a disgrace to the drama.

3947. Mr. *Powell.*] How many does the theatre at Cremorne hold?—One of them holds about 1,500 persons.

3948. Have you two theatres?—Yes, I have another, which is a circus.

3949. How many does that hold?—About 2,000; that is for equestrian performances, and I am going to do a ballet there.

3950. Is there a separate charge for admission to each performance?—Yes.

3951. How long does the performance last?—It lasts for an hour at the theatre. The theatre is open to the public in the auditorium portion; but the stalls are paid for, and at the circus they pay 6 *d.* and 1 *s.*

3952. Do you find that the audience remain during the whole hour of the performances?—Yes, and they would remain longer, but it would not suit my purpose.

3953. Are there any refreshment stalls within the walls of those theatres?—At the circus there is none whatever, but at the ball-rooms, there is a bar the same as there is at a theatre.

3954. Is there much liquor consumed at that bar?—No, nothing during the performance.

3955. You consider this theatre at Cremorne as thoroughly a theatre as Astley's?—Yes.

3956. Wholly and completely a theatre?—Yes; I had to give security to the magistrates for it.

3957. Was that security with regard to the propriety of the performances?—Yes, with regard to the propriety of the performances connected with the theatre.

3958. Should you object to the music halls having the same kind of performances that you have at Cremorne?—Certainly, if there is smoking, eating, and drinking.

3959. The music hall proprietors, by Mr. Stanley, have expressed their wish as follows: "The proprietors therefore desire the right to perform small pieces, limiting the number of performers, say to five or six persons; say operas, operettas, pantomimes, burlesques, interludes, farces, ballets, or by whatever name they may be called."

E. T. Smith, Esq.

30 April 1866.

called." Would you give the music hall proprietors the license described in those words?—Certainly not; because six persons they could double or treble to 18; and they could have different dresses, and all sorts of things.

3960. Take Shakespere's plays, not as they are now performed, at a period of great love for spectacle, but restricting the performance within more narrow limits, would it not be possible to act many of those plays without more than five or six performers?—Yes, they would reduce it to one act, and cut it down anyway they liked.

3961. But take a piece of Shakespere's, from beginning to end; could they act it without more than five or six performers?—Or take any other drama; they would take the first act out of the drama, and cut it down and have it done with six performers.

3962. The effect of that would be to bring the music halls to very much the condition of some of the opera houses abroad, where you have not only one opera performed, but a series of scenes from different operas, would it not?—Yes, they do that now; there is no objection to that. At Weston's Music Hall, they have different scenes from different operas, but not in costume.

3963. You have no objection to that?—No, if they have no costume.

3964. *Chairman.*] You have an objection to scenery?—Yes.

3965. And costume?—Just so; that is a theatre; scenery and costume compose a theatre.

3966. Mr. *Powell.*] Would you let a person sing a song in character?—There is no objection to that at all; I have seen a drunken cobbler sing all sorts of nonsense; a singer comes on to the stage, and appears to be beastly drunk.

3967. You would allow nigger singers to appear as niggers?—Certainly; if that is their taste.

3968. How do you account for the long run of pieces at the theatres at the present time?—I think a good deal of it is to be attributed to the talent of my friend Mr. Boucicault.

3969. But there are other theatres that have had a long run with their pieces; there is the Haymarket and the Olympic?—Some people run after the scenic artists, and some run after the authors; if you find an author that will produce you an excellent drama, he will have his terms, and sometimes it will have a long run.

3970. Can you give any other reason for that length of run in pieces, which is characteristic of the present day?—No, I cannot; it is just the taste of the public; it is partly the advertising; people take Holloway's pills when they do not want them, and they are no good.

3971. Do you think that it arises in any degree from the great number of persons who now visit London every year by railway?—The railway adds to it, no doubt; I try to get my theatre over by 11 o'clock; people come up to town on purpose, and they can go back by the 11 o'clock train.

3972. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] What did you mean by the expression "school" for the drama?—When the patent theatres were in a flourishing state, a gentleman who had had an education would say, "I will take up this profession and study it;" and he had a chance, while those theatres were in their zenith, of appearing there, and in three years, by subscribing to the Fund, he obtained perhaps 200*l.* a year for three consecutive seasons. But it is a difficult thing now to keep open a large theatre.

3973. But you did not mean that there was any actual school for dramatic instruction?—No, there ought to be; that is what I tried for the year I brought out the Dramatic Fund.

3974. You meant merely that under those conditions actors had good opportunities of training themselves in their profession?—Yes.

3975. Mr. *Powell.*] You have a good burlesque company at Astley's, have you not?—Yes.

3976. Do you intend to take that company down to Cremorne?—No, I shall take the ballet.

3977. But not the other part of the company?—No; but I should be very happy indeed to do so if I thought it would take there.

3978. You do not propose to play at Cremorne this season such a piece as would give exercise to the burlesque company at Astley's?—If I thought it would take I should, because I have got a license.

3979. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] How long have you been manager at Astley's?—For three years.

3980. Before that you were for some time lessee of Drury Lane theatre, were you not?—Yes.

3981. For how long?—For 10 years.

3982. Did you leave Drury Lane to go to Astley's, because you thought you had a better chance there?—No; I left Drury Lane because Mr. Falconer thought he could do better than I did, and he gave me 5,000*l.* to go out with my property, scenery, and leases.

3983. And then you went to Astley's?—Yes, some time afterwards.

3984. Is Astley's Theatre your own, or are you lessee?—I am lessee.

3985. To whom does it belong?—To Mr. Batty.

3986. There is no representative of Mr. Astley now living?—No.

3987. Now I believe that as soon as you went to Astley's the whole form of performance was completely changed?—Yes.

3988. In former days there was nothing but horsemanship; did you change it because you found that horsemanship did not pay?—I did not change it, my friend Mr. Boucicault changed that for me; he put seats into the pit, and I have never removed them, although I wish he had made them so that they could be taken up, and then I would have had horsemanship if he had.

3989. Was not that done in consequence of horsemanship declining in interest?—I think it was so; I should be very sorry to pass any remarks on persons who were there before me; but I think they were too niggardly in rewarding talent for horsemanship; for instance, we had horsemanship at the Alhambra, by an American company, and the place used to be crammed twice a day.

3990. Do you not think that it was by the exhibition of wild beasts that Astley's degenerated when that man was killed?—It would be a capital draw if there was a man killed every night.

3991. There is no horsemanship in London now; there is no hippodrome, is there?—No; there will be horsemanship at Cremorne.

3992. Ever since Mr. Boucicault came, and you succeeded him, your performances have been chiefly good operas; Miss Pyne has sung there, has she not?—Yes.

3993. And

3993. And it has drawn very well, has it?—I am sorry to say that it has not.

3994. You have had "Der Freischutz;" does that draw?—No.

3995. What answers the best; is it pantomime?—Yes.

3996. And Miss Menken as "Mazeppa?"—Yes; a little taste in that way suits the public sometimes.

3997. You do not think there is a great increase of musical taste in that part of London?—I am satisfied that there is no musical taste on the Surrey side.

3998. Have you a half-price?—None at all.

3999. Is not half-price very much discontinued in most theatres?—I think it is discontinued in most of them. I discontinued mine for this reason: we have several gentlemen in this House, and others, who come over to Astley's; they dine so late that they do not get over there until nine o'clock, and I would rather have full price. The prices are, 4 *s.*, 2 *s.*, 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, and 1 *s.*

4000. Those are very much lower than the prices you and I remember in former days, when you were lessee at Drury Lane for so many years. What were the prices then?—When I went there the prices were, 7 *s.* boxes, 3 *s.* 6 *d.* pit, and 2 *s.* and 1 *s.* galleries. I reduced the price of the boxes, with the consent of the committee, to 4 *s.*, the pit to 2 *s.*, and the galleries to 1 *s.* and 6 *d.*

4001. Did you find that answer?—Yes.

4002. But you would not recommend any further reduction?—No; the rent is very high, and it requires a double set of persons to fill that large stage, and double the quantity of paint to put on the scenes; and I should not recommend any further reduction, although I am perfectly satisfied it would do if there was a further reduction.

4003. Now with regard to the stalls and private boxes, you remember that many years ago there was no such thing?—Just so; from the commencement you will find it laid down that the private boxes were not to exceed so many. Miss Burdett Coutts had a box, which she has now; there is a box also belonging to the Duke of Bedford, and also a box above the Duke of Bedford's; that makes three boxes; then there is the committee box; so there are four in all.

4004. You remember, or you have read of the O. P. riots?—Yes.

4005. Those riots arose in a great measure from the increase of private boxes, did they not?—No, I think not.

4006. I think it did arise from that, and also the increase of prices; do you not think that the number of private boxes being increased, and stalls being invented, has rather injured than done good to the theatres?—I am perfectly satisfied of the contrary. When parties send to me they say, "Smith, will you keep me a private box?" they never send for one place or a stall. If a man wants to take his family, or even to go by himself, he can go without change of dress. Gentlemen have dined in the City, perhaps, and then they say, "We are not dressed; let us have a private box at the theatre."

4007. You do not think that it at all follows that a man, if he cannot afford a private box, will not go at all?—No, not at all.

4008. You do not think that stalls are injurious?—No; Mr. Boucicault, at Astley's, made a balcony similar to the American theatres, which is much preferable to a private box, because I think that private boxes now are not placed in the position where they should be. I think where persons have to pay two or three guineas for a box it should be in the centre of the theatre, so that you can see everything, whereas now they can only see one side of the theatre. I recollect the time at Drury Lane when there were behind always little boxes for two in the centre of the theatre, at the back of the auditorium part, and where there were blinds, and you could see everything and not be seen.

4009. Those boxes you did away with?—Yes.

4010. Those boxes used to hold four, did they not?—No, only two.

4011. Why did you do away with them?—Because I enlarged the dress circle.

4012. But you think that private boxes have done no mischief?—No, certainly not.

4013. And the same remark applies to the stalls?—Just so.

4014. They generally fill at Astley's, do they not?—Yes.

4015. Are you aware that Madame Vestris would never allow stalls in the theatre, because she said she thought it made an aristocratic division, which rather damaged her than otherwise?—She was wrong there, I think; she was a very clever woman, but I differ from her there; I think a gentleman or a nobleman would rather sit with his back to the pit and gallery, than be stared at.

4016. Have you ever heard that Madame Vestris had that objection?—No.

4017. I believe that was when she was getting rather on the decline, and did not like being stared at herself, perhaps; have you ever heard any other manager state that?—No, never.

4018. In Mr. Webster's examination, allusion was made to curtains in private boxes, but they are never drawn right across, are they?—No.

4019. You never saw such a thing in Drury Lane?—No; perhaps Mr. Webster might have done it himself.

4020. Such a thing would not be tolerated, would it?—No; it is a mistaken notion altogether.

4021. It is what you have never seen done in any respectable audience at Drury Lane, or anywhere else?—No.

4022. *Chairman.*] Have you any further remarks to address to the Committee?—I think not.

DION BOUCICAULT, Esq., called in; and Examined.

4023. Mr. *Locke.*] I BELIEVE that at present you are not manager of any theatre?—I am not at present manager of any theatre.

4024. What theatres have you been manager of in London?—I have been manager of Drury Lane for a short period, and of the Adelphi in connection with Mr. Webster, and I have also shared the profits in other theatres without being titular manager, in consequence of my always charging in that way for my pieces; I receive one half of the net profits.

4025. *Chairman.*] As an author, I presume?—Yes, as an author.

4026. Mr. *Locke.*] You are a dramatic author?—Yes.

4027. You have written plays which have been

D. Boucicault, Esq.

30 April 1866.

accepted at most of the theatres?—Yes, at nearly all the theatres.

4028. Will you state the names of the theatres which have taken your plays?—Old Covent Garden, before it was destroyed, when it was a theatre; Drury Lane, the Adelphi, the Lyceum, the Haymarket, the Princess's, and St. James's Theatres.

4029. How many pieces have you written already?—Between 180 and 200.

4030. You are likewise an actor?—Yes.

4031. At what theatres have you performed in London?—At Drury Lane, the Adelphi, and at the Princess's Theatres.

4032. Therefore you have experience in every branch of the profession?—Yes, in every branch.

4033. As a manager of theatres, as a dramatic author, and as an actor?—Yes, and as a builder of theatres.

4034. Which are the theatres that you have built?—I reconstructed Astley's entirely; I gutted it from the roof down to the foundations, and I have also built three theatres in America.

4035. I believe that you have also been a good deal in Paris?—Yes.

4036. Have you written plays for the French?—Yes, and I am now producing a piece at the Gaiétés in Paris.

4037. In French?—Yes.

4038. *Chairman.*] A piece you have written?—Yes, and it is now in rehearsal.

4039. Mr. *Locke.*] When will that piece be brought out?—In about a fortnight; I came over here to attend the Committee from the rehearsal.

4040. What is the name of that piece?—It is a translation of "Arrah-na-Pogue" adapted to the French stage, reconstructed; it is entitled *Jean la Poste, ou les Noces Irlandaises.*

4041. First of all, with regard to the Lord Chamberlain's supervision, what is your opinion with regard to the propriety of the Lord Chamberlain being continued as licenser of plays?—I think that the office of licenser of plays is very foreign to the remainder of his functions; I think he is a very improper person for many reasons to be the licenser of plays.

4042. Will you state those reasons?—In the first place, the office is changeable with the Ministry, and one Lord Chamberlain differs from another in his views; we have been greatly disturbed in consequence of the Lord Chamberlains having different opinions on the same subject, both with regard to plays and with regard to theatres. Some plays have been licensed, and have been withdrawn after eight or ten years; others have been refused, and then a license has been granted after 10 or 13 years; we do not know when a piece will be refused, or on what grounds it will be refused.

4043. *Chairman.*] How many times has it happened that a license has been withdrawn after 10 years?—It happened in the case of "Jack Sheppard."

4044. Are there any others?—There were two or three, I think, of a similar description, which took place about that time.

4045. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think if there were no officer to license plays, that there would be any inconvenience from improper pieces being produced?—I do not think there is any objection to a licenser, with a power of appeal from his decision, so as not to make him an arbitrary officer; but I have been in countries where the standard of the drama is very high, and where there is no licensing for plays or theatres.

4046. Will you mention to the Committee which countries those are?—In the United States, for instance, where I think the standard of the drama is very much higher than it is in this country.

4047. In what respect is it higher?—The pieces produced are of a better character, and the legitimate drama is more generally patronised; there are theatres almost in every city where the legitimate drama is generally played; both tragedies and comedies have long runs, and have had for the last 10 or 12 years. Those theatres pay best that play the higher class of entertainment.

4048. What new modern pieces have been introduced in America?—All those pieces that I have produced during the last six years, with the exception of "Arrah-na-Pogue," have been produced in America. "The Colleen Bawn" and "The Octoroon" were originally produced in America.

4049. But you made some alterations in "The Octoroon," I suppose?—None whatever.

4050. In what part of America was "The Octoroon" played?—All over it, north and south.

4051. Was it ever played in New York?—Yes, it was produced in New York.

4052. Was not there a strong objection taken to it?—None whatever; they considered it a very fair picture of manners.

4053. One would suppose that it would offend a great many people?—No, it was not offensive; it was looked on as a reproduction of fact.

4054. Those pieces you brought out first of all in America?—Yes.

4055. And afterwards you brought them out here?—Yes, they were afterwards brought out here.

4056. Can you mention any other pieces that have been performed here, which have first been performed in America?—Yes; "Lord Dundreary" was originally performed in America: Tom Taylor was the author; and "Rip Van Winkle" was first acted in America.

4057. And those pieces were written for American audiences?—Yes, they were; I have never known a piece in America of any kind that was of an objectionable character.

4058. There is no licenser of plays in America?—None whatever.

4059. Now, supposing that the licensing of plays were abolished in England, what do you think would be a sufficient check to prevent any improper pieces being produced on the stage?—I think the public themselves are the principal check; there are very many things that the licenser passes that the public does not pass; we very often have pieces performed containing things which the licenser has passed, and which even the actors themselves have passed (though they are more sensitive than the licenser, because of course, they do not want to be hissed), but what escapes them does not escape the public.

4060. Can you give us an instance of that?—Yes; take my comedy called "Old Heads and Young Hearts," produced at the Haymarket in 1844, when the licensing was stricter than it is now; there was a love scene at the end, where the gentleman (played by Charles Mathews) had to say to the lady, "I came to scoff, but I remained to pray," he being on his knees; that expression, out of Goldsmith, the audience mistook; they thought it came out of the Bible, and they hissed it.

4061. Can you mention any other instance?—Yes,

—Yes, lately, at the Princess's Theatre, in Mr. Charles Reade's piece, of "Never Too Late to Mend;" that was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, but it created a great disturbance in the house the first night.

4062. Was that the prison scene with the crank?—Yes.

4063. That was not discontinued, was it?—Yes, after a short time they cut it out; it was modified by degrees, and at last they left it out altogether; it is left out now.

4064. Colonel *Sturt.*] It was not modified for a long time, was it?—The crank was taken out after two or three nights; and the scene was omitted after about 20 or 30 nights more.

4065. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] The play goes on, does it not?—It went on for about 120 nights.

4066. Mr. *Locke.*] But that other scene, where a boy was put against the wall, continued, I believe, all through?—Yes.

4067. Did the public object to that at all?—They did, very strongly.

4068. You think that the public are the best check?—Yes.

4069. And that their taste is quite sufficient to prevent any impropriety on the stage?—I do; but I do not object, speaking as a dramatic author, to the licensing system, provided the officer is put himself under some sort of check, so that he shall not have arbitrary power, and be able to make a capricious use of it.

4070. Who do you think should be the referee, or the person to decide whether the licenser had acted properly?—I think that a simple case of words, or a situation, struck out might be put in very small compass, and submitted to the Home Secretary.

4071. You propose that he should be the check over the licenser?—Yes.

4072. Do you think that the Lord Chamberlain should be the licenser?—Certainly not; there should be a special officer, to be paid by fees from the theatres, or the various places which he licenses, precisely as it is in France.

4073. That is to say, that he should perform his own duties only?—Yes; that he should perform his own duties only, and be responsible for them himself.

4074. Colonel *Sturt.*] And be a permanent officer?—Yes, and be a permanent officer.

4075. Mr. *Locke.*] Would you have that officer simply for licensing plays, or would you have him entrusted with the other duties with which the Lord Chamberlain is entrusted?—Certainly not; he should have no other duties.

4076. He should be responsible for what he did, and not appoint any one under him?—Yes.

4077. But if an author objected to his decision, he should have an opportunity of appealing to the Home Secretary?—Just so; he should have an opportunity of appealing to the Home Secretary.

4078. Have you any further observation to make with regard to the licensing of plays?—No, none whatever.

4079. Now, with regard to the licensing of the building itself, what is your view with regard to that?—That the person should be a separate officer; he should be an architect, or a person having some special knowledge of the matter; the Lord Chamberlain has naturally no knowledge of it.

4080. What should be the instruction to the person licensing theatres with regard to the course he should pursue; what should be his duty?—There should be a schedule attached to the Bill, laying down a certain number of matters which he should be obliged to enforce, such as the width of the entrances, the width of the corridors and passages in the centre of the pit. Where a large block of people are assembled together, as in the gallery, or in the pit, where you have 700 or 800 people in a mass, it is necessary that in the centre of the mass there should be an ample passage kept clear, and never occupied under any circumstances. There should be an access to the middle of the mass, so that people could go in and out easily.

4081. But should the officer have any option whether a theatre should be licensed or not?—Never.

4082. Any place that was fit for a theatre should be licensed, as a matter of course?—Yes.

4083. The only ground of refusal should be that the building was not adapted for that purpose?—Yes.

4084. Therefore the licenser of theatres should be an architect, and a person authorised to inspect the building, and to report on it, and if in his opinion it was calculated for that purpose, the license should follow as a matter of course?—Yes, as a matter of course.

4085. That would be something approaching free trade in theatres?—Yes, as it now exists in France and America.

4086. How does it exist in France with regard to that one point of licensing theatres?—The licensing of theatres is simply a matter of police regulation; antecedently to two years ago there was regular licensing as we have in England, and it amounted to a monopoly, such as there now is in London, where managers can sell the leases of theatres for a very large premium; the lease of Drury Lane Theatre in Mr. E. T. Smith's time was 4,500 *l.* a year, and he sold it four years ago for a premium of 6,000 *l.*, I believe about a year or so after he had signed the lease. In Paris there was the same thing, what were called privileges of the theatre, which were sold, but about two years ago the Emperor abolished the privilege altogether, and now they have what they call "la Liberté des Théâtres;" you may build a theatre where you like, provided you conform to the police regulations.

4087. And act what you like, I suppose?—And act what you like.

4088. What were the restrictions of theatres in France before the liberty of the theatres took place; were they similar to what existed in England previously to the passing of the 6th and 7th Victoria?—They were something similar to that.

4089. The Théâtre Français was the only theatre, except the Odéon, that could perform the legitimate drama?—Yes.

4090. Then there is the Académie for operas?—Those two theatres receive subventions, and so does the Imperial Academy.

4091. They do legitimate drama?—Yes.

4092. But previously to two years ago were there not more than those two theatres which received subventions?—The number of theatres that received subventions were, the Grand Opera, the Comic Opera, the Théâtre Français, the Odéon, and the Lyrique. No other theatre ever received any.

4093. None of the others?—No.

4094. The Porte St. Martin, the Gymnase, the Gaiétés?—None of them ever did.

4095. *Chairman.*] Do those theatres receive subventions still?—Yes, and more than that.

D. *Boucicault*, Esq.

30 April 1866.

The Government comes forward regularly every year and pays the debts of two of the theatres, if they do get into debt, which they always do; those are the Théâtre Français and the Académie.

4096. Mr. *Locke.*] What is the object of the French Government in doing that?—To maintain the school. In the Théâtre Français they maintain a school for declamation in the French language; in the Académie it is for music, to which is attached the Conservatoire.

4097. The Odéon is a sort of second Théâtre Français?—The Odéon is a kind of second Théâtre Français.

4098. But it is in another part of the town, is it not?—Yes, it is on the other side of the water; it is like our Surrey Theatre.

4099. In the Quartier Latin?—Yes.

4100. Then there is the Lyrique?—The composers of France found that they had not a sufficient stage in the Opera Comique, and they petitioned the Government for another opera, and for a wider market, and then the privilege was granted to the Lyrique; they also asked for a similar subvention, and they obtained it.

4101. That is five theatres?—That is five theatres; two theatres for drama, and three for opera.

4102. Do you think that that answers?—It does not answer as a commercial speculation, but I think it does answer for the support of a certain kind of school.

4103. Take the Théâtre Français; do you think that in consequence of that subvention, French declamation is kept up at its proper standard?—I think it is kept up at the highest standard.

4104. Do you think that the performers at the Théâtre Français are superior to those at other theatres?—Yes, very much.

4105. Their style is better, and more chaste?—Yes; their style is better, more chaste, and purer.

4106. Do those performers begin at the Théâtre Français, or do they come to the Théâtre Français from other theatres?—The Théâtre Français has a right of claiming performers from those other theatres; a right to go to other theatres and claim an actor or actress, if he or she is willing to come; a claim on the part of the Théâtre Français immediately voids the engagement, if the performer is willing.

4107. What is the result with regard to salaries?—That is a matter of arrangement between the individuals themselves and the Théâtre Français.

4108. Suppose a person is receiving 20 *l.* a week at another theatre?—He is not obliged to come, but the others are forced to let him go.

4109. Then it rests with the actor?—Yes.

4110. And the Théâtre Français?—Yes.

4111. Do you know many instances where that has been done?—Yes, several performers have been taken from the Gymnase to the Théâtre Français in that manner; Bressent went six years ago to the Théâtre Français.

4112. The other theatres are quite aware of that regulation when they enter on an engagement?—Quite.

4113. Is there a similar rule with regard to the singers at the Académie?—I believe not.

4114. I believe the Académie educate their own singers?—Yes, they have got a school attached.

4115. Is M. Faure one?—I do not know.

4116. He is at the Académie, is he not?—Yes, but I do not know whether he is a pupil of the Académie.

4117. Do they have other singers at the Académie than those who are pupils?—Yes, they have them from anywhere.

4118. You say that this liberty of the theatres was established two years ago, but no alteration was made, I suppose, with regard to the Théâtre Français doing this?—There was no alteration with regard to that theatre. It was a general liberty to build theatres wherever they pleased.

4119. And to perform in them what they liked?—Yes.

4120. Any species of performance?—Yes.

4121. Molière, Racine, or Corneille?—Yes.

4122. And operas?—Yes, if they pleased.

4123. There was no restriction whatever, either with regard to tragedy, comedy, farce or opera?—Nothing.

4124. The time has not yet been long enough to make any great difference, I suppose?—None whatever. At the time that the liberty of the theatre was granted by the Emperor, there was a piece brought out at the Variétés, entitled *La Liberté des Théâtres*, for the purpose of showing what the results would be. One of the scenes was a music hall, with persons eating, drinking, and smoking in front, while the performance was going on; but although there is a great number of music halls in Paris, none of them have been able to avail themselves of the drama up to this moment.

4125. Are they restricted from doing so?—No, not at all.

4126. Mr. Webster distinctly said that no music hall in France could have any performance on the stage whatever, and that nobody could appear on the stage of a music hall in costume?—That is a mistake of Mr. Webster's; I believe that to be an error.

4127. Can you mention that *café chantant*, where La Theresa sings?—The Alcazar.

4128. That is on the Boulevards, is it not?—Yes; in the Boulevard Sebastopol.

4129. She never sings in costume, does she?—I have seen her once; she was not in costume.

4130. She sings at the Champs Elysées in the summer months, does she not?—Yes.

4131. She does not sing in costume, does she?—No.

4132. But have you seen other singers at the Alcaza in costume?—No; the Alcazar could not, by possibility, give theatrical performances; it is a mere platform, that comes out into the auditorium.

4133. Can you mention any of the *cafés chantants* where you have seen plays performed?—No.

4134. But you do know that there is no restriction?—I know it from the Society of Dramatic Authors in France, of which I am a member.

4135. Has that freedom existed since the liberty of the theatres was decreed?—It is the meaning of that liberty.

4136. Have they taken any advantage of it?—No; they have not altered their performances.

4137. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Have you got a copy of that law?—It was not a law, it was an edict published in the "Moniteur."

4138. Mr. *Locke.*] Are there any other regulations of the theatres that you can speak of in France,

France, as different from ours?—I do not think there is any other.

4139. There is a censorship there, is there not?—Yes, a very strict one.

4140. Now what is the course pursued in France?—The manuscript is sent in to the censor's office, to a separate office, there is a special officer for that; I think there are three persons employed as censors of the stage, and they can immediately cut from the piece anything that is objectionable, or forbid the piece altogether. I was told the other day they thought it very probable that the "Conseil de Guerre," the trial scene in "Arrah-na-Pogue," would be forbidden, as bringing military tribunals into ridicule.

4141. That would be considered objectionable on political grounds, I suppose?—Yes.

4142. They are very strict in France on political questions, are they not?—Very strict.

4143. You have said that in England the taste of the public would be a sufficient check with regard to morality, and no doubt it would; what do you think it would be with regard to politics; do you think if politics were introduced on to the stage that the audience, so far from objecting to it, would be delighted with it by way of change?—No; I have tried political allusions occasionally, and I have seen them tried, but they did not answer.

4144. But suppose you went a step further, and, as was suggested the other day, Mr. Buckstone was to act Lord Russell?—I think the public would stop it; I feel sure of that.

4145. You think there being two parties in the country the public would not allow it?—I think the public would form one party on that subject, and say that it was bad taste.

4146. They would not allow it?—They would not allow it.

4147. With regard to religion, do you think that the Lord Chamberlain has been any check with regard to introducing that on the stage?—No, I think he has acted rather capriciously; he has forbidden "Moses in Egypt," and he allowed a parable of Our Saviour to be put on the stage; "The parable of the Prodigal Son."

4148. With regard to the Lord Chamberlain licensing plays, is there any uniformity of action or any rule laid down, or does one Lord Chamberlain decide one way and another another?—Yes, just so; one Lord Chamberlain, I believe it was Lord Delawarre, stated that he thought there were theatres enough in London, and that he would refuse to license any more; the next Lord Chamberlain says there are not enough, and that he may license more if they are properly built.

4149. Is there any difficulty in obtaining a license now under Lord Sydney?—I am hardly aware of that; I have never gone so far as to apply for a license, but when I was about to apply for a license I was told that there would be a difficulty about it, and I thought it very unfair; I was told that the other managers would be called together in the West End, to say what reasons they could allege for my not having a license; I think it is unfair if a person wishes to go into an enterprise that those persons who are in competition with him in the same enterprise are to be brought together and to be asked if they object.

4150. If it was a fit building and properly conducted, you think that any man should be allowed to open a theatre just like a shop, or anything else?—Yes, certainly.

4151. Which "Moses in Egypt" are you speaking of, as that which was forbidden?—I think it was the piece at Drury Lane; the *Mose in Egitto*.

4152. Do you recollect the "Moses in Egypt," produced some years ago at Covent Garden with splendid scenery, where they introduced the Plagues of Egypt?—I do not recollect that, but there was such a thing.

4153. That piece was performed for sometime?—Yes.

4154. Has Rossini's opera ever been performed here?—That was forbidden, I believe, but it was performed in another form with another title.

4155. That opera was brought out in Paris two seasons ago?—Yes.

4156. Take "Ruy Blas" again?—That was forbidden about 20 years ago; the alleged reason then was that there was a queen in it. The queen was in love with Ruy Blas, but they changed the queen into a princess, and then they admitted it.

4157. Was it on the principle, *Ne touchez pas à la Reine*?—I suppose so.

4158. You say that any person, when a proper theatre is built, should have a license as a matter of course; would you have it carry the wine and spirit license, as the Lord Chamberlain's license does now?—Decidedly, I should not; it should be the drama pure and simple.

4159. Without any license for wine and spirits?—Just so.

4160. Then with regard to refreshments in theatres, how would you have that managed?—I would have the manager of the theatre, if he wished it, go to the licensing magistrates, just like a public-house keeper, or any one else, and get a license accordingly.

4161. Would you have any restriction with regard to the mode in which they sold their refreshments?—No, none whatever.

4162. Would you leave it to the manager to sell those things in the auditorium just as he pleased?—Yes, just as he pleased.

4163. Do you agree with the evidence that has been given by many of the witnesses here, that if it were left to the option of the manager to sell his wine and spirits in the theatre as he liked, the result would be that all the theatres would be turned into music halls, and carried on precisely as the music halls are now, and that the present state of the theatres would be entirely done away with?—No, I am sure it would not. I have seen that tried in America. In that country they may smoke, or drink, or do what they please in the theatres, there is no kind of restriction of any kind; and yet, not only is the theatre maintained at a higher level than here, so far as the nature of the performances goes, but the actors themselves are a better class.

4164. Is there smoking, eating, and drinking, in all the theatres in America?—There may be, but there is not.

4165. How do you account for that?—The audience go to the theatre for a specific thing: for an intellectual not a sensual enjoyment; you cannot carry on the two together; you might reduce the intellectual enjoyment to a level which addresses itself to the eye or the ear, and that can be enjoyed at the same time as smoking, eating, and drinking; but if you attempt to enjoy a purely intellectual entertainment, such as the drama, the concentration of the mind required for it to be enjoyed thoroughly is such that it is impossible to combine the two together.

D. Boucicault, Esq.

30 April 1866.

4166. Do you suppose that all persons would feel that?—Yes, they do feel it throughout the United States. I have lived there for seven years. There are plenty of music halls, exactly on our own system, side by side with the theatres; and they might play the drama there, but they do not, because they cannot do it to the same perfection.

4167. But is there any restriction laid down in the theatres in the United States with regard to smoking?—None whatever. There was a theatre in New York where there was smoking, eating, and drinking, called Niblo's Gardens; a very large handsome theatre. By degrees they imported the drama; the drama abolished smoking, eating, and drinking; it was decreased, and gradually discontinued altogether.

4168. They may have their refreshments in any way they please; but there is the same distinction there between the theatres and music halls as there is in this country, is there not?—Yes, precisely.

4169. In the one they never have refreshments in the auditorium, and in the other they do?—Just so.

4170. People take their choice where they will go to, and without any law whatever that distinction is kept up?—That is practically the result.

4171. You have a very large pecuniary interest in the drama, have you not?—Yes, I think I have the largest.

4172. Will you explain in what way that arises?—I produce certain works in London at one or more of the theatres, on which I share the profits of the theatre while the work is being played. I can send a piece into the country sometimes, with one or two actors employed for the purpose of the principal parts; and then that drama going round the country acts as a star; and I receive a clear half of the net profits in all those theatres, by which means it sometimes appears in five or six theatres at the same moment.

4173. On the very same night?—Yes.

4174. Now, how many theatres are there in London in which you have an interest in the performance now going on?—Only one now; there were two.

4175. Which is that?—The Princess's Theatre.

4176. What piece is being played there?—"The Streets of London."

4177. Are you the author of it?—I am the author.

4178. There is no other piece now of your's going on in London besides that?—No. I am the author of "Rip Van Winkle," and I received a share of the profits on that piece also.

4179. Now, do you think that the present system of restriction is detrimental to your interest and the interests of other dramatic authors?—The restriction of the number of theatres? Yes, decidedly; I am suffering under that now.

4180. Will you explain to the Committee in what way you are suffering now?—Last year for 14 months I monopolised two of the theatres, with two pieces, "Arrah-na-Pogue" and "The Streets of London," which ran for 14 months at the Princess's, and I monopolised to a great extent the Adelphi. It is very disagreeable for an author who has any kind feeling for his fellow authors, to be occupying a very large portion of the market in that way; the consequence was that, although I could go on, and was pressed to do so, I retired about seven months ago for the purpose of leaving the space free for a year; therefore I am deprived of the market that I am entitled to, and would have, if there were more theatres in London, and if there were plenty of room for all.

4181. If there were more theatres in London you could bring out more pieces?—Yes, indeed I could.

4182. Are all the theatres full; have they each a piece that is running?—Yes.

4183. Each of them?—Yes.

4184. There is no room for anybody else?—No; a great many deserving authors are kept out entirely because there is no room for them.

4185. Do you know of anybody who is anxious to build a theatre?—Yes, I know of two or three.

4186. Are they prevented from doing so?—Only in this way; the impression abroad is that there is a difficulty in getting a license; capitalists will not go into a thing when they fear that at the last moment they may be arbitrarily deprived of the chance of going on.

4187. But suppose a company or a capitalist is desirous of building a theatre, and plans are submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, would he refuse the license?—We do not know whether he would or not; he retains the privilege to the last.

4188. Does he retain that privilege when the theatre is built?—He can do so.

4189. Of course, nobody would choose to build a theatre on the mere speculation of its being possibly licensed and possibly not?—Just so.

4190. But is it not possible to obtain a license from the Lord Chamberlain for a theatre if he approves of the plans sent in to him, and security is given that the theatre shall be finished and built in a particular way?—No; the present Lord Chamberlain may, for instance, say to the party who is now building the theatre in Holborn, which will be ready in two months, "I approve of the plans as far as they go;" the person builds the theatre, but in two months' time another Ministry may be in, and another Lord Chamberlain may take another view; he may take Lord Delawarre's view, and say that he is not bound by the acts of his predecessor.

4191. Can you give any instances where the Lord Chamberlain has not confirmed the acts of his predecessor?—That has been frequently the case with regard to plays, but he has not had an opportunity very well with regard to theatres, because no new theatre has been built in the West End for 25 years.

4192. Among the other dramatic authors, you signed that petition to the House?—I did.

4193. I believe that that petition states the views of dramatic authors on the subject?—Yes.

4194. Will you be kind enough to explain to the Committee what the objection on the part of dramatic authors is with regard to the present system?—Their objection is to the monopoly that is enjoyed by a few of the West End theatres; they practically enjoy a monopoly; they wish every encouragement to be given by the withdrawal of restrictions of every kind to the employment of capital in building more theatres and theatres of a better description.

4195. Now, do you think that you could supply all the present theatres at the west end of London with pieces to perform there yourself?—Yes, easily.

4196. The whole of them?—Yes.

4197. You

4197. You say that you have desisted for a year from writing pieces?—From producing them.

4198. Do you think that more theatres would be built if the law was altered and it was left to anyone to open a theatre if he pleased, provided it was properly built and afforded proper accommodation?—Yes, undoubtedly.

4199. The Committee have had some question raised to-day with regard to the rents of theatres; have those rents increased or diminished lately?—They have increased beyond measure within the last 10 years.

4200. But the rents of Drury Lane and Covent Garden had diminished very much previously to the last 10 years, had they not?—Yes.

4201. Can you speak as to what the rents are now?—Yes.

4202. Take Drury Lane?—The rent of Drury Lane I cannot speak of, for the present lessee has gone out, and his lease has lapsed into the hands of the committee. They are now calling for tenders, and I have no doubt that they will get 7,000 *l.* for it.

4203. What was Drury Lane let at before?—4,500 *l.*

4204. With regard to Covent Garden, what can you say?—That is an Italian Opera house.

4205. A new theatre, and this is the first time it has been let?—Yes.

4206. Now with regard to Mr. Fechter's theatre, the Lyceum, what is the rent of that?—The rent of the Lyceum theatre has increased about 60 per cent. within the last 10 years

4207. What is the rent of the Haymarket?—I do not know. I know what the rent was, but I do not know what the rate of increase is.

4208. *Chairman.*] You had Drury Lane, had you not?—I had it in 1862, and I paid 7,800 *l.* a-year for it.

4209. Mr. *Walpole.*] Do you know what the rent of Drury-lane theatre was 10 years ago?—It was very low to Mr. Smith. I think it was about 4,000 *l.*

4210. Mr. *Locke.*] Has it ever been as high as 14,000 *l.*?—Not during the last 30 years.

4211. Mr. *Walpole.*] When Mr. Edmund Kean acted there, do you know what Drury Lane was let for?—£. 14,000 or 15,000 *l.* a-year.

4212. Mr. *Locke.*] The prices of admission were higher then than they are now?—They were double what they are now.

4213. You say that your opinion is, that it should be left entirely free with regard to the description of performance that theatres or music halls, or any other place, choose to give?—Yes.

4214. And you know from your experience in America that the taste of the public is sufficient to regulate the matter entirely?—Yes.

4215. And no inconvenience has resulted from it?—None whatever.

4216. The same thing has occurred in France?—Yes, and Germany and Belgium.

4217. Do you think it would be practicable, supposing the music halls and the theatres were all placed under one officer to draw a distinction with regard to the pieces which they should perform at each place?—It would be utterly impossible; there is such a slight difference between the different shades of pieces, *vaudevilles*, comedies, comediettas, petite comedies, burlettas, burlesques, extravaganzas, and so on.

4218. What is the exact definition of a *vaudeville*?—A *vaudeville* is a small comedy in which a portion of the dialogue is sung; the song must not be introduced as an impertinence to the piece, but a portion of the dialogue itself is turned into a song; that constitutes a *vaudeville*.

4219. That would likewise be the case with an opera, would it not?—No, an opera is a work in which the music is the thing, and the drama is subordinate to that.

4220. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you call the "Loan of a Lover" a *vaudeville*?—Yes.

4221. And the "Sentinel"?—Yes.

4222. Mr. *Locke.*] But in this country, some few years ago, Mr. Braham introduced "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace Bled" into any operas he liked?—That is an impertinence.

4223. Is not it a rule with operas that the songs that are introduced ought to tell part of the story?—They ought to tell part of the story, but they may not do so. Generally speaking, the songs in operas, and particularly in comic operas, are abstractions from the story; it must be a small comedy, and a portion of the dialogue turned into a song to make a *vaudeville*.

4224. Mr. *Du Cane.*] The song must continue the action of the play?—Yes.

4225. Mr. *Locke.*] But should not every song in an opera do the same?—No, it may be mere reflection or soliloquy.

4226. Take "Love in a Village," how is it there?—That is what we call here a comic opera, which is very different from a comic opera in France; ours is simply comedy with songs introduced, but that is not the case in France.

4227. Your description of a *vaudeville* is contra-distinguished from the French comic opera?—Entirely.

4228. But not contra-distinguished from the English comic opera, because you have speaking and singing in both?—In nearly all French comic operas in France the dialogue and music belong to each other, they belong to the piece, but in England they need not; you might cut out every song of "Love in a Village," and play it as a comedy, and never miss them.

4229. Would not that be the case in a *vaudeville* too?—No, there you would be cutting out a piece of the action.

4230. The singing would be part of the dialogue which carried on the story?—The singing would be part of the dialogue which carried on the story.

4231. That is the distinction, is it, which makes a *vaudeville*?—That is the distinction.

4232. Now, what is the distinction between ballet and pantomime; it would be difficult to define it, would it not?—No, because they are kinds of the drama, and when once you define the drama itself, you can define the different kinds of drama, of course.

4233. But it would be impossible to lay down any specific rule, unless you defined the particular thing itself, would it not?—If you lay down any specific rule, who is to determine whether the piece in question is of that kind or not?

4234. You might say that Shakespeare or Sheridan Knowles's plays should not be acted, or you might select the whole of the classical and legitimate dramas and say that those pieces should not be acted, naming them?—If you defined them by name, of course you could do it.

4235. But if you merely depended on the description of the piece, of course it could not be done?—Certainly not.

D. Boucicault, Esq.

30 April 1866.

4236. The description would be interminable?—Yes.

4237. Do you think that the performances at music halls have, upon the whole, been beneficial or not?—Greatly beneficial to the theatres.

4238. Will you be kind enough to explain how that is?—Twenty-five years ago the amusement-seeking public, so to speak, were divided into two classes; the upper classes which went to theatres exclusively, and the lower classes which attended public houses and tea gardens and things of that kind; the music hall was the stepping stone between the two things. The artisan who used to go alone to the public house was induced by his wife, I presume, to go rather to the music hall, where he has something of the public house mixed with a little intellectual entertainment; I know that for a fact, for I have studied the question pretty closely, and that the large sums of money which have been made by managers in pits and galleries of theatres lately, has been principally due to the pits and galleries of the theatres being recruited from the music halls.

4239. Do you recollect Mr. Robson coming out at the "Grecian"?—Yes.

4240. Did he come out there originally?—Yes; he was a waiter there.

4241. He performed there, did he not?—He learnt his art there.

4242. It is not correct to say he learnt his art in Dublin, is it?—He did not; he was a great actor before he went there; I recommended Mr. Charles Kean to take him before he went there, or certainly during his first season.

4243. Can you mention the name of any other actor who commenced his career in the "Grecian" or a similar place?—No, I cannot; with regard to the music halls, I may state that the performers get such very large salaries, and so much more than the theatres will pay them, that they do not feel inclined to leave the music halls for the theatres.

4244. Do you think that the objections which the theatres make to music halls being established are well founded?—No, I think it a mistake; I think the more the music halls are encouraged the better the theatres will succeed.

4245. What is your reason for saying so?—Because I believe it is necessary to have a stepping stone from the sensual enjoyments of the people to the intellectual enjoyments of the people; they will not go straight from one to the other.

4246. You have been to the Alhambra Music Hall, and different places of the kind, I suppose?—Yes.

4247. Have you discovered any impropriety there of any sort?—No, I never saw any more impropriety there than you may see in any very large assemblage of that description.

4248. If properly regulated, do you think that music halls are an advantage rather than otherwise?—Yes, I do; I think they are a very great advantage.

Friday, 4th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Locke.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Du Cane.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Goschen.	

The RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

DION BOUCICAULT, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

D. Boucicault, Esq. 4 May 1866.

4249. Mr. *Locke.*] YOU are desirous of making some correction in your evidence, I believe?—Yes. Since my examination, on Monday, I sent to Paris, and obtained a copy of the edict of the Emperor, to which I referred, of the date of the 7th of January 1864, taken from the "Moniteur Universel" ("the Decree," I see it is called), concerning the liberty of the theatres; and I wish to make some remarks with regard to that.

4250. Will you kindly put that document in?—Yes. (*Vide* Appendix.) It begins by abolishing all preceding laws with regard to theatres and places of entertainment. Article 1 gives a right to any individual to build a theatre where he pleases, without a license; but he must give notice to the Minister of the Imperial Household and to the Prefect of Police, both at Paris and in the departments, the Minister of the Imperial Household being also the Minister for Fine Arts. Article 2 is to the effect that builders of theatres must conform to the decrees and regulations made from time to time for their security, and for the health of the public. Article 4 abolishes all monopoly on the part of the legitimate theatres, all privileges, in fact; it is virtually the same as the Act called by us theatrical people, Bulwer's and Talfourd's Act, which abolished patent rights in England. Article 6 (to which I wish particularly to call attention, as it relates to the point on which I was in error) leaves such public entertainments as are not theatres, properly so called, to the regulations of the police authorities of the district where the theatres may be. The legal effect of this is to vest in each prefecture a separate jurisdiction, to be exercised at its own discretion, leaving the nature of the buildings to be determined in each prefecture. I have been given to understand (but that is mere hearsay) that, under this clause, theatrical representations have been permitted by the police in certain places.

4251. *Chairman.*] I see in the "Moniteur" it says that the *cafés chantants,* and so on, remain subject to the same regulations as existed before; that is in Article 6?—I read the word *règlements* as meaning police regulations.

4252. That is your interpretation of it?—No; I am aware of the fact; that is the intrepretation I get from there.

4253. Mr. *Locke.*] Are you aware of any *cafés chantants* giving performances of the stage?—I could only be aware by having seen them; I have never seen any performance of the stage at a *café chantant;* I very rarely go to the *cafés chantants.*

4254. You have not been there since that decree?—I have been there once since it was passed; but I do not suppose that I have been to more than two of those *cafés chantants* in my life.

4255. But you are told, in fact, that an alteration has taken place, and that performances of the stage are now permitted at *cafés chantants?*—Yes, at *cafés chantants.*

4256. *Chairman.*] Have you obtained it from authority that performances of the stage are permitted at *cafés chantants;* it is contrary to other evidence that we have had before us, I think?—I can only speak from what I hear from my agents in Paris, who are persons connected with theatres. I put in also *Extrait de l'Ordonnance* of July 1864, concerning theatres; this was issued by the prefect of police.

4257. Mr. *Powell.*] Was that published in the "Moniteur"?—I presume it was; it is signed "Boittelle," prefect of police, and the secretary general, "G. Jarry:" it is a Government document, and not a copy.

4258. Mr. *Locke.*] What does it contain?—It contains all the rules and regulations with regard to the theatres.

4259. Have you anything further to add?—No, nothing.

4260. Mr. *Du Cane.*] I think you stated, in your evidence on a former occasion, that there is no licensing system or supervision of theatres in America?—None.

4261. Are there many American dramatic authors?—No, very few.

4262. I mean, of course, Americans bred and born?—No; there are very few persons living in America who write plays; they take them from our stage, where they get them for nothing.

4263. Are there many good actors who are Americans?—Very good; those actors who have made any great hit here during the last five years have all come from America, Mr. Sothern, Mr. Jefferson, and Miss Bateman.

4264. Mr. Sothern is an Englishman, is he not?—Yes, he is an Englishman, but he left this

D. Boucicault, Esq.

May 1866.

country 12 or 14 years ago; then he occupied a very subordinate position in a country theatre here; he created himself on the American stage.

4265. Is Mr. Jefferson an American?—Mr. Jefferson is an American born.

4266. Is there any law of copyright in America?—Yes, a law of copyright whereby the printed book and the play are preserved to the author. There is also a law that I was instrumental in passing through Congress in 1856, which gave dramatic authors a right in the representation of their pieces, which is a much more stringent law than exists here.

4267. But the great bulk of plays performed in America are English plays, which have undergone the censorship in England?—Yes, certainly.

4268. Have you ever seen a piece performed in the United States which would be rejected in England on the score of immorality or any objection that might be taken to the piece by our Lord Chamberlain?—Never on the score of immorality; I cannot tell what objections there might be taken politically.

4269. Have you ever seen a piece with any strong political allusions in it?—Yes, a play called "Jack Cade," that might have been objected to in England on the score of political allusions, though they were not so strong as those in "Arrah-na-Pogue," I think.

4270. Did not the "Octoroon" excite some feeling?—Not on the part of the audience; but there were outsiders and a certain portion of the press that made remarks with regard to it.

4271. With regard to the number of theatres in America under the American system, do you think there are a greater number of theatres in New York and other large towns in proportion to the population, than there are in London?—I never made a calculation, but it seems to me that the number of theatres in the West-end of London is small, in comparison to the number of persons who come to the centre of amusement in London, which is generally the West-end.

4272. Are the American theatres generally larger and more comfortable than the English theatres?—Yes, very much more comfortable and larger, and better ventilated; they are better in every respect; they have wider entrances, and so on.

4273. Do you attribute that to there being free trade in theatres?—I should hardly attribute it to that exactly; the American theatre altogether is more airy. I suppose they began with a better model.

4274. Do you agree with what has been said by other theatrical managers about the dearth of young and rising actors on the English stage?—There is a dearth of young and rising actors, but I do not attribute it to the same cause as those other managers appear to do.

4275. But you admit that there is a dearth?—Yes.

4276. To what cause do you attribute that dearth?—I attribute it to the same cause as the decline of the drama, and the decline of the fine arts generally, and literature itself, both in France, England, and America; that is to say, the lower classes during the last 30 years have received great intellectual development, and the consequence has been, that they are greater consumers of thought, and thinkers have condescended to supply the market; so that in that way literature has descended, and the theatres have reduced their prices to meet the demand. All kind of literature has reduced its price, even standard literature has been issued in penny editions; every possible means has been resorted to for the purpose of supplying this enormous demand, from the rising of the lower classes of people into a better intellectual condition, and the result is, that the drama itself, in all its forms, has equally gone down.

4277. You say that the drama, dramatic authors, and actors generally, have stooped to the lower classes, rather than that the lower classes have risen?—The lower classes cannot rise, but we can stoop; that is, the lower classes cannot at once rise to a high standard of the drama, but we can stoop and raise them gradually.

4278. But if the music halls were allowed to give dramatic representations (pursuing the same argument), would not a further degradation of public taste take place?—I am rather inclined to think that if the music halls were allowed to give (and already all their entertainments are illegal every night) a better class of performance, it would raise the taste of those persons, as it has already done, to a certain extent, and the theatres themselves would be benefitted by it. All the large fortunes that have been made by theatrical managers during the last ten years in London and the principal provincial towns, have been mainly owing to the music halls that have catered for them.

4279. Mr. *Clive.*] They have fed them?—Yes, they have fed them; they have caused a want on the part of the lower classes for a certain amount of intellectual entertainment.

4280. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you think that if the music halls were allowed to give dramatic representations, you would have a wider scope for your talent as an author?—I do not know that I should have it in the music halls, perhaps, themselves, because I do not write the class of drama that would do for them; but they would relieve the theatres of some young authors, who would go to the music halls in preference, if the level of the music halls were a little elevated; and so I should have more room.

4281. You cannot say that you think the public taste would rise so far that the proprietors of music halls would be likely to ask for that class of play that you would take pleasure in writing?—They could not play it; it is physically impossible; they could do burlesques, ballets, and things of that character, where the eye is more addressed than the ear, but if the entertainment was of such intellectual order that the mind of the audience must be concentrated on it to enjoy it, it could not take place in a music hall, where there is constant movement among the people.

4282. I need hardly ask you whether, supposing they could not profitably perform such pieces, it would pay them to engage such actors as yourself?—No, they could not afford it.

4283. Colonel *Sturt.*] I think you have said that you are not aware of any piece being played in America that had been refused by the Lord Chamberlain in this country?—I do not, of course, know what has been refused.

4284. But I mean a piece that would be likely to be refused on the ground of immorality?—I do not go fully to that extent, but I say that I have seen no piece performed in America that the Lord Chamberlain would be justified, on the ground of immorality, in refusing.

4285. I have been assured that the same version of the "Dame aux Camelias," which the Lord

Lord Chamberlain refused to license for Mr. E. T. Smith, was given for a long time in America?—And the same version was given here.

4286. It was refused a license, was it not?—But it was given here at the Lyceum Theatre; they changed the title of the piece, but I understand it was the same piece that was played in America, and was played here by the lady who made so great a sensation in America in the part.

4287. Do you know the difference between the piece that was sanctioned by the Lord Chamberlain and the piece that was refused?—No, I am not aware. As it was given in America, there was nothing in the piece that might not have been very fairly licensed here.

4288. Mr. *Miller.*] I believe that the Americans have neither licenses nor supervision: supposing that a play was performed in a theatre of a very flagitious character, how would it be stopped, or would it be stopped at all?—It could be stopped in two ways: in the first place, it would be stopped by the audience if they chose to exercise their right, which they generally do, under those circumstances; and it would be stopped at common law, in the same way that you can stop the publication and sale of any immoral book.

4289. Whose duty would it be to originate proceedings at common law?—I believe they call him the State officer; the Attorney General.

4290. To that extent there is supervision over plays?—Only to the same extent that there is with regard to all evil actions here. I believe that if anything indecent were to be done on the stage, either by gesture or otherwise, it could be stopped by common law, as *contra bonos mores* in this country.

4291. Mr. *Selwin.*] You said just now that you thought the music halls would not be able to perform any dramatic pieces; that they could not perform them in their houses, and that it would not answer their purpose to do so?—Not dramatic pieces of a certain class; they could do ballets and burlesques, and pieces that address themselves more to the eye than the ear.

4292. Then how do you account for the great desire of the music halls to do away with the present restrictions?—The music hall proprietors only want to perform those very small pieces; they wish to draw a line which I think is impracticable.

4293. According to those ideas which were submitted to us with regard to the framing of a Bill for them, they wanted permission to act pieces with only five or six characters in costume; that would be a dramatic performance, would it not?—Undoubtedly a burlesque is a dramatic performance; small operas they might play very well.

4294. You think that they would not perform parts of plays on the stage?—I do not think that they would find it to their interest to do so.

4295. Mr. *Powell.*] With regard to the licensing by the Lord Chamberlain, do you see anything in the present constitution of the Lord Chamberlain's office which should make him free from the control of public opinion, which must, whatever be your officer, be the court of ultimate appeal?—I think (though I do not speak of the present Lord Chamberlaim, but of the office at large), that within my experience of the stage, which is about 25 years, the Lord Chamberlain has shown a certain amount of caprice and unsteadiness in the discharge of his office, and his deeds seldom reach public opinion.

4296. But why should the deeds of any other officer who might be substituted for him be more within the control of public opinion?—Because I would have an appeal from that person to the Home Secretary, because the Home Secretary is the head of the department in which such an officer must be. A special case, where there is a doubt, should be submitted to the Home Secretary, who is always amenable to the House of Commons.

4297. But is not this one of those points of a strictly executive character, involving a large amount of discretion, with which the Legislature has always been very slow to interfere?—Undoubtedly.

4298. Do you know how many plays Shakspeare wrote?—As well as I can recollect from 32 to 36.

4299. Do you think that the average of dramatic writers have the wonderful power which has enabled you already (though not passed the prime of life) to write 200 pieces, or do you think that the ordinary class of dramatic writers attain only to the power of producing 36 or 37 pieces like Shakspeare?—I think there are very few men who have adopted the course that I have done. I commenced as a dramatic author at 18, and I have never quitted it up to my present age, which is 43. I have never done or attempted anything else.

4300. You consider yours an exceptional case?—Yes, not a very exceptional case; there are persons who could do it; but I have got a certain facility.

4301. I presume that there have been cases where pieces of yours have not been produced owing to the failure of some negotiations between yourself and managers in London?—Rarely.

4302. But there have been such cases, I suppose?—One or two.

4303. Your pieces have been performed in America and Australia, and different parts of the world, have they not?—They have.

4304. In that edict from the "Moniteur," to which you have made a reference, is there anything abolishing the laws previously existing?—Yes.

4305. Will you point out the passage which does that?—There is one very important clause abolishing the theatres where children were the actors.

4306. Will you kindly read that article?—It is Article 5: "Les Théâtres d'acteurs enfants continuent d'être interdits." There was a theatre in the Passage Choiseul, in which children were taught to be actors. Pieces were expressly written for children, and it appears that those theatres are now entirely suppressed.

4307. Does that passage prove that all previous laws relating to theatres are abolished?—The articles of this decree are preceded by the recital of several previous decrees and ordinances:—*Vu les décrets du* 8 *Juin* 1806 *et* 29 *Juillet* 1807. *Vu l'ordonnance du* 8 *Décembre* 1824. *Vu l'article* 3, *titre XI. de la loi des* 16 *et* 24 *Août* 1790. *Vu les arrêtés du Gouvernement des* 25 *Pluviose, et* 11 *Germinal an* 4, 1^er^ *Germinal an* 7, *et* 12 *Messidor an* 8. *Vu les ordonnances de police des* 12 *Fevrier* 1828 *et* 9 *Juin* 1829. *Vu la loi du* 7 *Frimaire, an* 5 *et le décret du* 9 *Décembre* 1809, *sur la redevance établie au profit*

D. Boucicault, Esq.

4 May 1866.

profit des pauvres ou des hospices. Vu le décret du 30 *Décembre* 1852; and then follow the articles of the present decree.

4308. But which is the passage which abolishes those previous laws; will you kindly point out that abolishing clause?—One of the abolishing clauses is the remainder of Article 6, the first abolishing clause; the decree first recites previous decrees, and then they are abolished in detail by the articles. Article 1 abolishes one of them, with a saving clause at the end for the subvention theatres.

4309. You have stated, in answer to a previous question, that the previous laws were abolished?—Yes, those articles in detail abolish those laws that are recalled here at the commencement of the decree.

4310. Certain articles abolish certain laws?—Yes, those are recalled here for the purpose of being abolished in the articles that follow, as I understand it. Of course I have not got those laws; I merely refer to them as I am instructed.

4311. As you are instructed by whom?—As I am instructed by my agents in Paris, from whom I have just received this document.

4312. You do adhere to the previous answer, that all the previous laws were abolished by this edict?—The laws recited here are abolished by this edict.

4313. They are abolished, so far as appears by the statute itself?—So far as appears by the statute itself.

4314. But there are not necessarily any further laws entirely abolished than appears in the edict?—The decrees that are abolished are cited for that purpose.

4315. That is so, in your judgment, according to the instructions you have received?—Yes, according to the instructions which I have received.

4316. Will you read the 8th Article?—That abrogates all dispositions, decrees, ordinances and rules of whatever kind that are contrary to the present decree.

4317. You were asked, at Question 4138, "Are there any other regulations of the theatre that you can speak of in France as different from ours?—I do not think there is any other." Do you mean that all laws affecting the French theatres are the same as our own?—Yes, I adhere to that. I do not think that there is any other; but that is the result of a number of questions which I had been previously asked, I believe.

4318. Do you adhere to that, then, in the full sense?—I do not think that there is any other sense.

4319. Then I call your attention to the 6th Article of this edict of the 7th of January. Will you kindly read that, beginning at the 2d paragraph?—"Always these different establishments (meaning *spectacles de curiosité, de marionettes, cafés chantants*, and others of the same kind), shall henceforth be freed from the *redevance* or tax established by Article 11 of the *Ordonnance* of 8th December 1824, in favour of the Directors of departments, and they shall not be liable to furnish any contribution except the tax for the benefit of the poor and the hospitals."

4320. Now here is the *Ordonnance* of the 8th of December 1824, which is evidently kept alive. Will you kindly look at that (*handing a book to the Witness*), and read the heads of the 2d and 4th titles?—"*Troupes sédentaires*," and "*troupes ambulantes*."

4321. Now is there anything at all analogous in the English law to the *troupes* described in those words or to the provisions with regard to the *troupes* which follow the headings?—No, there are no laws in England whatever that affect them.

4322. Then so far as that *ordonnance* goes, there is a difference between the English law and the French law?—Yes, certainly there is a difference.

4323. And probably, if other French laws were produced to you, you would say that corresponding or equivalent laws did not exist in England?—Certainly; my view related more to what difficulties were thrown in the way of the English managers and the French managers.

4324. Do you consider that the French managers under such an *ordonnance* as that, and the other *ordonnance* is a freer man than the English manager?—I believe that this *ordonnance* has been done away with; I am speaking of the condition of the law as it is, since January 1864.

4325. On what reason do you found your statement that that law is abolished?—I have been given to understand so, particularly since the liberty of the theatres.

4326. But you have done us the favour of laying before us the edict establishing the liberty of the theatres, and there is nothing in that edict abolishing the law of 1824, is there?—You must understand that I only obtained those edicts since I gave my evidence on the last occasion, and consequently I was not so familiar with it as I am at present, but I was under the impression which I conveyed to the Committee that the effect of this edict was that that *ordonnance*, so far as related to *spectacles de curiosité, marionettes, cafés chantants*, and every place except theatres, was abolished, so far as the most important portion of it goes, namely, the taxes.

4327. Before the passing of the law for the liberty of the theatres, might the *cafés chantants*, and the rest of those places, give a dramatic performance, if they chose?—I believe not; but on that subject I am not sufficiently aware of the facts to give a precise answer.

4328. You think it was not allowed?—I believe not.

4329. Seeing that that edict in the 6th Article expressly maintains the old law with regard to those establishments, how comes it that they are freer now than they were before?—Pardon me, it does not sustain the old law; there was a positive law before, I believe, which prohibited them.

4330. But the edict distinctly maintains the existing law?—Pardon me, it maintains the regulations, but not the law; it is a question of police regulation.

4331. You adhere to the statement that this law, establishing the liberty of the theatres, made a *tabula rasa* of the previous laws with regard to theatres?—Yes.

4332. Do you wish for any copyright in favour of dramatic authors in England different from that which exists now?—None whatever.

4333. Would you like to abolish that which does exist, and make it all free?—No, I would not abolish the law protecting dramatic property.

4334. Do you wish to maintain, or to extend, or to narrow that law?—To maintain it as it is; but I should desire to have a more ready method of obtaining one's rights under it; we have now to go to chancery for that purpose.

4335. Do

4335. Do you know the state of things (whether by what you describe as police regulations or by law) with regard to smoking in theatres in Paris?—The police regulations in Paris, as I have been instructed since last Monday, do not prevent any of those things in Paris; drink may be supplied to the audience in all parts of the theatre, there is nothing whatever to restrain it; I have that from the manager of a principal theatre.

4336. In what sense supplied?—In every sense, they may consume it wherever they please.

4337. It would be competent in the pit, stalls, or gallery, for three or four men to club together and take a chop, and smoke, and have their claret; is that what you mean to say?—I believe there is no regulation to the contrary. The only regulation in the theatres generally with regard to the stalls is an arrangement between the manager and the person called the *limonadier*.

4338. Mr. *Selwin.*] But smoking does not take place, does it?—I never saw it; I believe it would be stopped.

4339. Would it be stopped by the police?—Yes; they would immediately make a regulation, which they are competent to do; those are the regulations to which I refer.

4340. Mr. *Powell.*] You are aware that the 54th section of the *Ordonnance* of the 1st of July 1854, expressly forbids smoking "*dans les salles de spectacle et sur la scene*," I suppose?—I am not aware of that; but that is a police regulation; it is not a law.

4341. I do not ask you the question with regard to police regulations alone, but I ask you with regard to law in the widest and fullest sense; whether by edict or otherwise, which compels obedience? — I was not aware that such an *Ordonnance* existed.

4342. Mr. *Clive.*] You seem to me to have given two answers which are rather inconsistent; you said that the lower classes cannot rise, but that you can descend?—Yes.

4343. Then again, you said that the music halls had fed the theatres?—Yes.

4344. I presume, then, you would qualify that answer about the lower classes not rising; they must have risen to some extent, or they could not have fed the theatres?—I mean this: that if you give an entertainment to the lower classes which is now considerably above their taste, they cannot immediately rise up to it and appreciate it; in the course of time, and by gradual means, they will get to that point, but it is only by gradually giving them something a little higher that you can bring them up to that level; but I know, from experience, that the pits and galleries of theatres have been fed very largely from music halls, during the last 10 years, and the fortunes made by the west-end theatres have been mainly attributable to that fact.

4345. Then as far as that goes the lower classes have risen in power of appreciation?—Distinctly.

4346. And they may rise more in proportion as the entertainments at the music halls, are improved, I suppose?—No doubt.

4347. Mr. *Locke.*] Upon that question with regard to what is a stage play, or not, has your attention been called to the decision in the case of Russell against Smith?—Yes.

4348. It was an action brought by Mr. Russell, the author of "The Ship on Fire," against Mr. E. T. Smith, for pirating his work?—Yes.

4349. For singing that song at Crosby Hall? Yes.

4350. Now, it was held that the singing of the song, called "The Ship on Fire,"; which was sung at Crosby Hall, an ordinary lecture hall in Bishopsgate-street by one man in simple evening dress, and who accompanied himself on the piano, was a representation of a dramatic piece?—Yes.

4351. Is it your opinion that this decision would render nearly every performance at concerts at music halls illegal?—Undoubtedly it was a representation of a dramatic piece within the definition of what the drama is.

4352. That was under the Dramatic Authors Act?—Yes; under the Dramatic Authors Act.

4353. Not under the 6th & 7th Victoria?—No, under the Dramatic Author's Act; I think the judge reserved the 6th & 7th Victoria; he gave no opinion.

4354. But the judge having that opinion, with regard to the singing of that song, and holding it to be a representation of a dramatic piece; are you of opinion that that would bring it within the meaning of the 6th & 7th Victoria? — Undoubtedly, because, in the early times of the drama there was only one actor. They were composed of one speaker alone, but that does not prevent one of the early tragedies of Eschylus being a dramatic piece.

4355. Then *a fortiori* taking a soliloquy out of Shakspeare's plays, and delivering it at a literary institution, would be an infringement of the 6th & 7th Victoria?—Undoubtedly. Anybody may read a play, even in costume, and read it with a scene behind him, with all the appliances of a theatre; but if, instead of reading the character, he gesticulates, and pretends to be the character, immediately he begins to act, and the drama is constituted.

4356. Therefore, the prohibition of the 6th & 7th Victoria extends to every place of that kind, whether there be a magistrate's license for spirits or not, provided money is taken at the door?—Yes, if there is an imitation of an action it constitutes the drama.

4357. *Chairman.*] You have spoken of the fortunes made by theatrical managers of the theatres at the west-end of London?—Yes.

4358. Have theatrical managers generally realised large fortunes?—Yes, they have realised very large fortunes within the last 10 or 12 years; the success has been so very great, that what they now consider a very indifferent house, they then considered a very large one; and the rents of many of the theatres, especially at the west-end, have increased beyond measure.

4359. Can you point to four or five theatrical managers who have retired with large fortunes?—I can point to several who have made their fortunes, and who might have retired if they had pleased.

4360. Have they done so?—They have not been wise enough to do it.

4361. Do you mean that they have lost those fortunes again?—Not always; I can point to several who still retain them.

4362. But you mean it would have been better if they had retired?—What I meant was this, that they may have speculated with their money, and some few of them have lost it.

4363. You mean that they have lost it in theatrical speculations?—In and out of theatrical speculations.

D. Boucicault Esq.

4 May 1866.

4364. But surely if you took a large number of managers, you would find as many unsuccessful ones as successful ones, would you not?—Not nearly so many. I could name, if you pleased, the managers throughout London and Great Britain who have made their fortunes during the last 15 years.

4365. Are you speaking of London or the provincial theatres?—I am speaking both of London and the provincial theatres. There are among the provincial theatres, I believe, during the last 10 or 12 years, managers who began with nothing, but who are now men of fortune; gentlemen holding the fee simple of their theatres.

4366. Then the drama, on the whole, has been flourishing in the provinces?—Very flourishing indeed in the principal large cities.

4367. There is no falling off in the prospects of the drama in provincial towns?—It is very evidently the other way in the large towns.

4368. Is the public taste increasing for theatrical performances, do you think?—Yes, very much, and new theatres have been built to supply it.

4369. What is the law with regard to those provincial theatres?—They come under the law of the 26th George the Second; the magistrates' licenses are granted to them, they being generally granted more freely than the Lord Chamberlain's license.

4370. Do the theatres in London fill very well now?—Very well.

4371. Do you think that there would be room for more theatres?—Yes, for double the number.

4372. And that they would be prosperous?—I think they would be prosperous, but I do not know that they would be so prosperous as the few that now exist.

4373. Would you be able to find actors for that number of theatres?—I believe that the question of demand would always rule the supply; the present supply not being sufficient, it is very likely that to give us good companies all round, good actors would demand better salaries; but that is what we are working for.

4374. How is it that there are not good actors now if the demand is so great?—There are a number of persons who should be on the stage who are now in the music halls, where they receive more money.

4375. But if the theatres are flourishing, and they have plenty of audiences, could they not afford to pay more to these actors?—They do pay very nearly double what they paid 15 years ago, but the music halls pay four or five times as much.

4376. But if you had double the number of theatres; why should that create a demand for good actors if the present increased attendance at the theatres does not do so?—I speak now particularly of the theatres at the west-end; not so much as to the theatres in the outskirts, which are looked upon almost as provincial theatres. There is a great desire on the part of actors to come to the west-end theatres, to be seen by a higher and better class of people; it is those theatres that particularly enjoy the monopoly of good acting; there is a great number of very good actors who have been drawn off to America; very large salaries are offered them to go out there, where they occupy a high position in their profession; they go there, and also to Australia.

4377. Still, notwithstanding the salaries that can be paid by the managers who make their fortunes, and notwithstanding their houses fill, there are not sufficient good actors to supply those theatres you say?—The fact is, that first-class actors now have descended as the drama has descended, and as other arts have also descended to the tastes of the lower and lower middle classes. But there are plenty of actors such as they are.

4378. Do you think, on the whole, that the acting is better in America than it is here?—I think it is.

4379. In America does the public taste differ much from the taste here?—I think it is purer; they have a great desire to see what is commonly called legitimate drama; it is more frequently played.

4380. In questions of stage morality, are they more or less particular than they are here?—I think they are about the same; in some cities they are more particular than they are here. I think they are more particular in Boston, and less particular in New York.

4381. But generally in the Northern States are they more particular than they are here?—No, I think they are about at a fair level with us.

4382. I suppose you are aware that the laws with regard to enforcing public morality (in such matters as bad publications) are much more stringent in America than they are here?—I hardly think so; there are not many of such bad publications there, I think.

4383. Do you think that performances there would be stopped by the police that would not be stopped here?—I think that the police would be inclined to interfere there more readily than here, because here they would imagine it was the Lord Chamberlain's business, and no business of theirs, but there was a case where the police did interfere in Liverpool, in a matter that was permitted by the Lord Chamberlain.

4384. You stated that they would be stopped at common law in the performances if there was anything indecent?—If any public indecency were to be permitted on the stage, such as the law could take hold of, the parties would be amenable to the law elsewhere, and I think it would be equally so on the stage.

4385. Are you at all acquainted with the laws with regard to theatres in the United States?—Yes.

4386. Is there one general law which regulates them?—No, in the United States each State has its own particular laws and its own legislature, which makes laws for itself; indeed, the legislature rarely interferes with theatres, but allows the City itself, that has almost a legislature of its own, to determine that question.

4387. So that, according to the particular taste and feeling in any given city, so will the regulations be with regard to theatres?—Yes, there was one State at one time that abolished theatres altogether; that was Connecticut.

4388. Is there any State in which there is any kind of censorship?—None.

4389. The censorship is practically exercised by the police?—I never heard of their interfering, but the public interfere themselves when anything is distasteful to them.

4390. Is that frequently the case?—It happens occasionally, not so much with regard to plays, as they come from this country, but with regard to the manner in which the actors fill their parts.

4391. In your answer to Question 4042 you say, "We have been greatly disturbed in consequence

quence of the Lord Chamberlain having different opinions on the same subject, both with regard to plays and with regard to theatres. Some plays have been licensed and have been withdrawn after eight or ten years." Now, there was one play, "Jack Sheppard;" which you mentioned; could you name any other besides that one which had been withdrawn after eight or ten years?—There were others named by Mr. Ponsonby, I think; Mr. Ponsonby stating at the same time, that they were plays of a similar character.

4392. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—With the exception of that one play, I do not; I cannot remember at present that there were any more of that kind, but there are many that have been refused a license in the first instance that have been licensed afterwards, and it was to those particularly that I referred.

4393. You say that the drama is in a higher condition in America than it is here; do you mean the acting or the pieces performed?—I alluded there to the taste of the public, which encouraged a higher class of dramatic literature, but clearly their taste is higher for the legitimate drama.

4394. But still they are forced to fall back on the plays of this country?—They are forced to fall back on the plays of this country, but they exercise their taste in choosing the highest and best of them.

4395. But nearly all the plays performed in America have passed through the Lord Chamberlain's office here, have they not?—Very nearly all of them.

4396. In France there are five theatres which receive a subvention, are there not?—I believe so.

4397. Why did they receive that subvention, what is the policy of it?—The policy is that they support a school of either music or declamation.

4398. Does not that constitute a kind of protection against other theatres?—It did, but it does so no longer; they then had the monopoly of the legitimate drama, but since that edict was passed they do not possess that monoply.

4399. But can the other theatres that have no subvention compete with those theatres which have that subvention?—On the contrary the theatres that have no subvention make their fortunes, and the theatres that have the subvention soon lose them.

4400. How is that?—The theatres that have the subvention have it in consequence of playing a higher class of performance exclusively; that does not amuse a sufficient number of the people to make them come in paying numbers. The other theatres make more money by catering for the public than they would if they received the subvention.

4401. Though they try to nurse the drama there, they cannot get sufficient audiences to make it pay without State assistance?—They cannot do it.

4402. At Question 4149 you were asked, "Is there any difficulty in obtaining a license now under Lord Sydney"? you answered, "I am hardly aware of that; I have never gone so far as to apply for a license, but when I was about to apply for a license I was told that there would be a difficulty about it, and I thought it very unfair; I was told that the other managers would be called together in the west end, to say what reasons they could allege for my not having a license; I think it is unfair if a person wishes to go into an enterprise that those persons who are in competition with him in the same enterprise are to be brought together and to be asked if they object." Did you hear this?—So I heard.

4403. Who told you?—It was the general opinion that was established outside among theatrical people as to what would be the result. I believe I was told it by two managers.

4404. Because they told you you thought the Lord Chamberlain would do so?—I was told that that was the usual course.

4405. But you did not get that information at the Lord Chamberlain's office?—No; I asked for no information with regard to that.

4406. Did you think it sufficient to take hearsay evidence on that point when you were going into a business transaction?—No; that business transaction was defeated by another branch of the Government, not by the Lord Chamberlain.

4407. Which branch of the Government was that?—The Woods and Forests.

4408. What was the objection?—I had bought the lease of very large premises in the Haymarket, and two days after I bought this lease I received a letter from Mr. Gore, of the Woods and Forests Office, stating that he had heard I had made such a purchase with the intention of turning it into a theatre, and that he warned me that he would not allow a theatre to be built there. I said that the Government were ground landlords of two theatres in the same street, and that I was going to sweep away a number of objectionable tenants in the Haymarket, but Mr. Gore stated that he would prefer the property to be left in that condition, and that he would not grant any permission to have it altered for the purposes of a theatre.

4409. It is not through the Lord Chamberlain's office, or any member connected with that office, that you were prevented from building a theatre?—Certainly not.

4410. Now with regard to dramatic authorship, I understood you to say that you could supply the whole of the London theatres with pieces yourself?—The west-end theatres.

4411. And that it is rather hard on the other dramatic authors, their trade being limited by there being so few theatres?—Yes, it is very much limited.

4412. You have said that the number of theatres might be doubled, and that they would still fill?—Yes.

4413. Would you be able to supply pieces for twice the number of theatres yourself?—No.

4414. But if there was one other author who was as fertile as you, he would be able to supply all the rest of the theatres?—Yes.

4415. So that the whole result would be to give scope for one more dramatic author?—If he had the same facility in producing works that I have, certainly that would be the case.

4416. You stated at the last meeting of the Committee that "a great many deserving authors are kept out entirely because there is no room for them," but there would be really room for only one more dramatic author?—One dramatic author of that kind.

4417. Can you tell us anything about Germany?—Nothing whatever, except what one sees in travelling there. I know nothing about their laws, except that they have more liberty there than they have in France.

4418. Will you look at your answer to Question

D. Boucicault, Esq.

4 May 1866.

tion 4216. You were asked whether the same thing occurred in France with regard to the taste of the public, and you said "yes, and in Germany and Belgium?"—That means this; that in Germany and Belgium they play a certain kind of dramatic performance in the music halls. If you refer to Question 4213, you will see that that is the connection.

4419. I think that the upshot of those questions was that the taste of the public was sufficient in America to regulate the matter, and that inconvenience had not resulted from that either in France, Germany, or Belgium. You could not speak to Germany from your own knowledge?—Only that in Germany and Belgium they give dramatic performances in music-halls and "cafés chantants."

4420. Do you know whether those dramatic performances are licensed or not?—I do not.

4421. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Has any one of your plays been performed at more than one London theatre at one time?—The "Colleen Bawn" was played at two theatres at the same time.

4422. Suppose that a piece was very popular, and the number of theatres was increased, would there not just be more representations at the same time of the same piece?—It was played at the Britannia Saloon, in Hoxton; it was a matter of understanding between myself and Mr. Webster that that theatre was so far off that it would not interfere with the attraction of the piece at the Adelphi; but no author permits his pieces to be played simultaneously within a certain radius of a theatre where it is first produced.

4423. Mr. *Locke.*] How can he prevent that?—He has the power in his own hands; he can stop it by an injunction.

4424. When you brought out the "Colleen Bawn" it was brought out at the Adelphi, was it not?—Yes.

4425. You entered into an arrangement with Mr. Webster, did you not?—Yes.

4426. Mr. Webster was to have the performance of that play at the Adelphi?—The arrangement was one which was generally understood rather than a distinct arrangement between the manager and the author; it is generally understood that the theatre at which a play is brought out at the West-end shall have the exclusive privilege of performing that piece either for a long or a short time.

4427. Who regulates that?—The author.

4428. How many years have you in that piece?—We generally sell to the manager a piece for one year or three years.

4429. But is the author's copyright limited?—No, it is the whole length of his lifetime, and 30 or 40 years afterwards.

4430. When they perform one of your pieces in the country, is it necessary to ask your permission?—Yes.

4431. Any piece that you bring out is your own property?—Yes.

4432. And it is with your sanction only that it can be performed anywhere?—Yes.

4433. Mr. *Clay.*] You are in favour of unrestricted competition?—Yes.

4434. You believe it to be quite impossible to draw any line between legitimate theatres and music halls, which would not lead to constant disputes and litigation?—Yes, quite.

4435. You ask for nothing but police regulations which will secure safety in theatres, and decency in the performance and the audiences?—Yes. I should desire that any theatre that is properly built, and certified to be fit to receive the public with safety, should receive a license, as a matter of course.

4436. And you ask for nothing but police regulations, to secure decency?—That is all; only I think that the license should not carry a wine and spirit license, as it does now under the Lord Chamberlain's Act.

4437. You would have no prohibition of smoking, would you?—That is a matter which a manager can dictate himself, and does dictate; there is no prohibition now.

4438. You consider it would be quite sufficient for any manager of a theatre to write up, "No smoking allowed"?—Yes, as he does now.

4439. But I understood you to say that even that was not necessary, because people would never smoke where there was an intellectual performance going on?—When a theatre is very full, and there is in the gallery a very large block of people all together, and it is impossible for the police to get in among them; and therefore there have been cases where a large placard has been put up in the gallery, to say, "No smoking allowed," because certain persons would light their pipes or cigars there.

4440. Would you, as manager of a theatre, prohibit smoking?—Yes, I certainly would prohibit it.

4441. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] You said that one reason why the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction is not agreeable, is that he is an officer who changes with the Ministry?—Yes.

4442. And that, therefore, if there is a Lord Chamberlain who has approved of the building of a theatre before it is opened, there may be a change of ministry, and the next Lord Chamberlain might disapprove of it?—Yes.

4443. But have you known that to occur?—No; there has been no new theatre built in the west-end for the last 25 years.

4444. But you are aware that one high officer in the Lord Chamberlain's office always remains, that is to say the Controller?—Yes.

4445. Do you not think that the Lord Chamberlain is very much influenced by his opinion?—I should say so; I am speaking of what he could do within the limit of his power; I think the office in minor matters has shown caprice, and it is entitled also to do so in all matters. The Lord Chamberlain, I think, has lately overridden an Act of Parliament.

4446. But you have never known that in any very important matter?—No, if that be not an important matter.

4447. The present Lord Chamberlain has allowed the theatres to be open every night in the year, except Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Christmas Day, has he not?—Yes.

4448. That was thought by a very strong party in the country to be a very great innovation?—Yes.

4449. It is not likely that any future Lord Chamberlain will alter that, is it?—I am not sure of that; Lord Sydney is a very liberal Lord Chamberlain, and Mr. Donne is one of the most liberal censors that we have ever known; really his power is more like the presence of a lady at a dinner table of gentlemen to control in a delicate way the subjects spoken of; but he very rarely interferes, and then he does so in a very gentle manner.

4450. But you admit that you have no reason

to

to complain of the way in which those duties are performed?—Not at present.

4451. You think that it is very liberally done?—The present Lord Chamberlain is liberal and the present censor is very liberal indeed.

4452. Are you aware that the opinion of the Controller very much influences the Lord Chamberlain, whoever he may be?—True; but there was a Lord Chamberlain a short time ago who held that there were enough theatres in London, and who had an objection to any more theatres being built; we have now a Lord Chamberlain who does not think so, and who does grant fresh licenses, which shows that there is a difference of opinion in the office. It becomes extremely difficult to obtain new capital to go into such enterprises, when things are so uncertain.

4453. Then, if the jurisdiction is maintained, you would wish it to be a permanent officer?—Yes.

4454. That is to say, irrespective of any change of Government?—Yes.

4455. Now you have mentioned, with regard to the number of houses, that you would like to see, as many theatres as anybody would like to build?—Yes.

4456. But surely there are quite enough theatres, are there not?—No, I do not think so.

4457. Then, how do you account for the fact that the English Opera was closed the other day?—That was opera.

4458. Do you think that there are operas enough in London?—I think that there are too many to pay.

4459. You had Astley's Theatre for some time, and you did not find it profitable?—When I took it, I took it not with the intention of managing it; I took Astley's Theatre with the intention of altering the theatre, and exhibiting it as a model of how a theatre could be arranged better than other theatres were managed with regard to ventilation and the comfort of the audience, and yet the theatre would hold a large sum of money. I did it with that sole object, and with the intention of disposing of it.

4460. You made that a very beautiful house, but I fear that it does not pay Mr. E. T. Smith?—That is a question of situation; if it was in Piccadilly or at the top of the Haymarket, I think it would pay.

4461. As you bring theatres towards the west end, have you not observed that they do worse; take the St. James's Theatre, for example; it now does better than ever it did, but I believe there is a good company, with no audience?—In the first place, no "first-class" theatre has ever been known to pay; but the St. James's Theatre has attempted to give itself a character for elegant performances, and such a theatre does not pay, because the class that it appeals to does not support in sufficient number. Besides, you must not take a theatre too far west; it must be in the centre of the pleasure-seeking population, a certain portion of London which may be almost bounded on different sides by Drury-lane, the Quadrant, Oxford-street, and the Strand. One theatre feeds the other; the Lyceum I have known feed on the overflow of the Adelphi, and *vice versâ*.

4462. You would not think that a new theatre in Belgravia or Tiburnia would answer?—I would not advise any friend of mine to build a theatre there.

4463. St. James's Theatre is in the district you mention, but it has been a losing concern?—It has been a losing concern, but it is not within the district I named, it is a little too far west.

4464. It is a good company, but no audience?—This season, I believe, they have done very well.

4465. You would allow any number of theatres to give any performance that they please here?—Yes.

4466. You have stated that this is the case in America?—Yes.

4467. And you have also mentioned France, Germany, and Belgium?—Yes; I know it is the case now in France.

4468. But they cannot give every sort of performance in France, can they?—Everything; they have done away with the privilege of the theatres.

4469. Could Molière, Racine, or Corneille be acted at the Ambigu Comique?—That was done; "Tartuffe" was the first piece played under the new liberty of the theatres. The edict destroyed the privilege at the Théâtre Français and the Odéon. The instant that came into operation, the Porte St. Martin immediately played "Tartuffe."

4470. But I suppose the Grand Opera and the Opera Comique are different; or could they give "La Dame Blanche" or "Robert le Diable" at those small theatres?—I believe they can.

4471. Mr. *Miller.*] You object to the Lord Chamberlain, on the ground that he is a changeable officer, though you recommend that the Home Secretary should be constituted a court of appeal?—Yes.

4472. Did it occur to you that the Home Secretary is also a changeable officer?—Yes, but he is only used as a court of appeal; simply in cases where political allusions, or things improper, with regard to morality or decency, are supposed to arise, and he is always amenable to the House of Commons.

4473. But being, equally with the Lord Chamberlain, a changeable officer, how can the Home Secretary be any more fitted to decide in a case which is always of more importance, namely, a case of appeal?—The objection I have to the Lord Chamberlain is the principle on which each Lord Chamberlain acts, being different in each case.

4474. Might not the Home Secretary act differently in each case?—The Home Secretary would not, under those circumstances, have an opportunity of dealing.

4475. Would you have him act on any fixed rules or regulations?—I do not think that it would be necessary.

4476. You would take your chance, though it is a changeable office, of getting justice from the Home Office in case of appeal?—Yes, but such cases of appeal would be rather unusual.

4477. And that chance you would not take from the Lord Chamberlain in the first instance?—No, because there is no appeal from him.

S. Brooks, Esq.

4 May 1866.

SHIRLEY BROOKS, Esq., called in; and Examined.

4478. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Dramatic Author, are you not?—Yes, I may call myself one, though I have not lately been writing for the stage. More than 15 years ago I wrote half-a-dozen or a dozen pieces which could hardly claim the dignified name of dramas, perhaps.

4479. You have not signed the dramatic authors' petition?—No.

4480. But we should like to have your views on the subject of these restrictions that are placed upon the drama at the present time, on the one hand, by the censorship exercised by the Lord Chamberlain on plays, and, on the other hand, by the limitation of the number of theatres in London?—I have not prepared a careful answer to that question, but perhaps I may venture to give the Committee, off-hand, some of my ideas upon the subject. I have not been writing for the stage for 15 or 16 years, but I have been much connected with theatrical people, and I am very much interested in theatres, both as a dramatic critic and otherwise. With respect to the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, I once had a curious experience of my own, which induced me to think that the interference of that high official is not sure to be exactly of a beneficial kind; I speak, of course, with regard to the office itself, and not as to any particular individual exercising its functions at a given time; I think those functions are exercised with a certain amount of caprice, and I will give you a little illustration from my own experience. When I was a young man, Mr. Disraeli had just brought out his brilliant novel of "Coningsby"; I was at that time very intimate with the Keeleys, who were the managers of the Lyceum Theatre, and they thought, that, in accordance with the custom of the day, it would be a good thing to put the story of that striking book on the stage in the shape of a drama. I did not quite see my way to dramatising the story, but being at the age when we are ready to undertake difficulties and almost impossibilities, I did do it; I put in a character or two, and invented a few scenes, and we really thought that we were going to do very well with the piece; we had got a tolerably good *Coningsby*, and we had a splendid scene of the montem at Eton, and every thing was very nearly ready, when I suddenly received an intimation that the piece would not be allowed. In a great state of consternation I went down to see the Lord Chamberlain about it. He received me with the greatest courtesy, and proceeded to say, that he thought there were many reasons for which it was undesirable to produce this piece, and, after some consultation, we agreed to go through the piece, act by act, if not scene by scene, and the singular objections that were taken by the Lord Chamberlain to points in that piece, which appeared perfectly harmless, astounded me. After a tenth or twelfth effort to get over some of the small points which he raised, I very nearly gave it up as a hopeless business. The Lord Chamberlain said, "You see that you are writing a kind of *quasi* political piece, and here you are exhibiting a sort of contrast between the manufacturing people and the lower classes; do not you think now that that would be a pity"? I ventured to explain to him, that over the water at that very time there was a right honourable villain in almost every piece that was played in one of the theatres there, who was always sending poachers to gaol, and always seducing his inferiors' wives, and that that person was exhibited on the stage with a star or a garter or a ribbon, or something of that kind, on his breast, the whole object of this transpontine drama being obviously to bring the aristocracy into unfavourable comparison with another class. Now, in my own piece I had an aristocrat, who was behaving rather better in a scene where a mill was burning, or something of that kind; however, that had to come out. Then, this was not to be in, and that was not to be in; something might be construed with an allusion to some family in Shropshire; Mr. Holloway's ointment was not to be put in as Mr. Highgate's ointment, because really Mr. Holloway was an industrious tradesman, and employed a good many people, and so on. Of course, a series of things of that kind places a dramatic author in a very unfavourable position, but that was the only time when I had a difficulty, and that was about the time when "Coningsby" had caught the top of the tide.

4481. I suppose, then, it must have been about the year 1837 or 1838?—It was in 1845.

4482. Have you had any personal experience since then with the Lord Chamberlain?—No; I soon learnt my lesson and made my satire out of milder materials.

4483. Would you be in favour of changing the present system of censorship, or of doing away with it altogether?—I shonld be disposed to do away with it altogether; at all events, so far as the prohibition goes. I would have an officer who should be appealed to in case of any question of public indecency or scandal, but his functions should go a great deal further than a mere alteration of a word.

4484. You would have the fault committed before the interference took place?—Yes, I would leave it to the audience. I believe that the British public are tolerably fastidious, as far as questions of public indecency go, and I think you might leave such matters to them.

4485. You speak now with regard to the theatres, I suppose?—Yes.

4486. But coming to a lower class of audience, do you think that their taste would be a sufficient check, say, at the east end and at the transpontine theatres?—I think so; I think it would be difficult to go very much lower than we have already gone with any chance of keeping a decent order of people together, to listen or to see a theatrical entertainment. I think that there is a large mass of good strong feeling in the English public which would stop anything that was very bad.

4487. Would there, in your opinion, be any change in the class of pieces performed, if the censorship were withdrawn?—I think not.

4488. With regard to religious subjects, for instance, what view would the public take of the performance of *quasi* religious dramas?—I have not had that view presented to me before, but I should think it would be eminently distasteful, and would have no success at all. Do you mean pieces where two creeds are brought into collision, as in the "Huguenots"?

4489. Take

4489. Take a piece where the point would turn on excesses of a Roman Catholic priest, for instance?—We have had a good deal of that on the stage, but now people do not pay much attention to it.

4490. With regard to political matters, we have had evidence given, in the course of the sitting of the Committee, on a piece which Mr. Buckstone told us was suppressed; that the House of Commons was to be presented, and he was to personate Lord John Russell; do you not think that such a piece as that would be very popular?—I think it might be very popular, and I do not feel sure that the Aristophanic drama would be such a very bad thing to restore.

4491. The taste of the public would not check all political pieces, you think?—No, I think not.

4492. The question then would turn on the policy of representing political pieces, because the public taste would rather like political squibs on the stage?—I think so. I am not at all prepared to say that there are not certain political vices which are open to very legitimate stage exhibition.

4493. Do you think that, practically, dramatic authors feel hampered by the present regulations?—No, I do not think so; I do not think that the dramatic authors of the present day have given their attention very much to that kind of drama to which you are alluding.

4494. Can you tell me why that is?—For this reason and the only point on which I think my evidence is worth hearing is about the supply regarded in a literary point of view. I venture to express my opinion that the extreme badness of the drama is not to be met by any precautionary measure, such as checking the extension of licenses. You have reduced the art, both in a literary point of view and in a histrionic point of view, to almost its lowest pitch. I do not think that a dramatic author who tried to do an original bold thing of the class you alluded to would feel it within his range to do so; and, besides, you cannot cast a high comedy in London at this moment.

4495. To what do you attribute the low state of the drama in both points of view?—In a histrionic point of view, to having an immense number of theatres in which the audience are content with what they can get, namely, one good central figure, while the rest are stocks and puppets.

4496. You would attribute that to the taste of the public, rather than to the effect of legislation, would you not?—The effect of legislation acts in that way on the taste of the public, by throwing open all the theatres. But the population which fills the theatres is by no means the class of people you would choose to submit a piece to.

4497. It is rather the free trade in theatres than the limitation which has produced those results, you think?—It is a limited free trade at present. You have got bad pieces, bad actors, and, though it is an unpleasant thing to say, you have got bad criticism.

4498. Do you think that the decline of the drama is due to the number of people who go to theatres being a class that do not appreciate the highest kind of drama, or would you attribute it to the fact of there not being sufficient scope for dramatic writers?—No, I do not believe in there not being a sufficient scope for dramatic writers. I think that the public is satisfied with an inferior article, and you cannot blame the manager for giving it.

4499. Do you think that there are as many theatres as can be well supplied with good actors, good audiences, and good pieces?—I think there are, if we may judge by the proofs before us, seeing that there is no single company now which is wholly composed of good actors.

4500. You would not say from your knowledge of the theatrical profession that we could provide double the number of theatres with good actors or good audiences?—Unquestionably not.

4501. Is there any feeling among authors generally that there are not sufficient channels in which to dispose of their plays?—I do not think that. I think that the authors, generally speaking, are men of the world, and see the real solution of the difficulty. The object of the managers now is to produce a drama with some one or more great effects which shall run 100 or 200 nights, or even for two years. During that time of course every other dramatic author is excluded, and I may also say that the majority of the London public is excluded, because however eager playgoers people are, you cannot very well go to see a piece more than three times.

4502. With regard to the production of plays, do you think that one or two dramatic authors could supply the whole of the theatres in London with good pieces for long?—If the present system abides, I do not see why they should not. Multiply the present producers by three or four, and the work is done.

4503. But you are not aware of any feeling existing among the authors that the limitation of the number of theatres, or the legislation that prevents dramatic pieces being acted in music halls, acts injuriously on dramatic authors?—I do not believe in it myself; and I should not believe in it under any circumstances.

4504. What is your view with regard to dramatic performances at music halls; do you think that pieces of any high merit would be likely to be performed at music halls if they were permitted to enact them?—I do not think they would, generally speaking.

4505. The Committee have had some rather conflicting evidence given before them on the taste of the public; some of the theatrical witnesses believe that the taste of the public is as good as it used to be, and that it is in favour of the legitimate drama; are you of that opinion?—No, I do not believe that for a second. I do not believe that the legitimate drama, by which (though it is difficult to jump at a definition) I suppose may be meant drama in which the interest arises out of passion rather than out of situation or scene, is popular at all.

4506. You are of opinion that the taste of the public is rather on the decline with regard to theatrical performances?—Decidedly.

4507. Now, is dramatic literature generally remunerative; I mean the production of plays?—It would not be remunerative to a man whose literary occupations were various. If a man wrote novels and had a considerable connection with the newspaper press, it would hardly answer his purpose to bring plays on the stage, unless he did it on the system which has recently been introduced of sharing the profits with the manager.

4508. But if the dramatic author shared the profits with the manager, on the average the remuneration would be higher?—His remuneration would be very large indeed. Of course, it is no

S. Brooks, Esq.

4 May 1866.

particular secret that in two or three recent cases which have been spoken to in this room, the author has carried a very large sum to his bankers.

4509. A successful author of dramatic plays is able to find a good market for his plays?—Yes, if he is really a successful author.

4510. Mr. *Locke.*] With regard to the sharing of profits, that must be a speculation which the dramatic author enters into; because if there should happen to be no profits he gets nothing?—Precisely.

4511. Therefore it would only be a dramatic author who felt himself quite secure that his piece would run who would enter into that arrangement?—You never can be quite secure. Take a piece that has had a very long run, and which has brought in a very large sum of money to both the manager and author, a piece written by a friend of mine, a very eminent scholar, and a first-rate novelist; I mean Mr. Charles Reade's play at the Princess's Theatre; there was in that piece a scene of the interior of a prison as it used to be in the olden times; the first night a certain portion of the audience set themselves very strongly against it, and I suppose that in other days that would have been accepted as what is called damnation; but the manager did not recognise the right of the audience to pronounce any such opinion; he pushed the piece on, and gradually the public came, and at last you could not get into the theatre at all. That is an instance of the uncertainty of success.

4512. But an author who had not written for the stage before could not enter into such an arrangement as that?—I suppose that the manager would not make such an arrangement with an untried author.

4513. And the author would hardly be glad to make that arrangement with the manager?—An untried author is like every other man in other branches of business; he must work his way steadily up, taking the rough with the smooth.

4514. It could only be with those who had established themselves that such an arrangement as that could be made?—Yes; and the moment a man has established himself, he has the ordinary chances in this as in other matters.

4515. You condemn the stage pretty freely: you say that there are bad pieces, bad actors, and bad criticism?—Yes.

4516. And likewise you said that the taste of the public had very much deteriorated?—I think so.

4517. Now, whenever there have been eminent actors come out, do you not think that the public have patronised them?—Applauding a single eminent actor and appreciating the drama are two very distinct things; and the success of a man whom I would not call an eminent actor, but only a reasonably successful quack, has been just as great. I do not value the opinion of the public at the present moment (with their present lights) at all, with regard to good acting.

4518. If John Kemble were to come on the stage at the present day, would he be hissed?—No; but that style of lofty declamation would not take.

4519. Take Edmund Kean?—I suppose that the tremendous power of Kean would carry him through, but that is a case of once in a century.

4520. But you are of opinion that we have no very eminent actor on the stage?—Exactly.

4521. How do you account for that?—The public are quite content with what they have and you have no school of the art.

4522. Do you not attribute it rather to this, that there are very few men born into the world who are calculated to become great actors like Edmund Kean?—Of course you cannot educate a man into genius, but you can educate a man so as to make him a good actor, presuming that he has the necessary gifts and graces.

4523. But if you look back to the time when the stage was well patronised, and when the audiences were admitted on all hands to be good judges, how very few eminent actors you had then?—Suppose we refer to Mr. Hazlitt's and Mr. Leigh Hunt's criticisms. At that time the best minds were brought to bear on dramatic criticism, and the least of the parts in a play were reasonably well acted. The critics picked out the blemishes and defects, and the actor was kept up to his mark; a very severe watch was kept on every actor, and of course he profited accordingly.

4524. You attribute the alleged decline of the drama partly to the want of good criticism?—I think that better criticism would do a great deal of good.

4525. I recollect very well the way in which the "School for Scandal" was in old days put on the stage; every part was well done?—Yes; that play has lately been put on the stage, and it has had a great success; a great many people have gone to see it as a new piece; persons in the stalls have told me that the fall of the screen caused just as much surprise as if it had never been seen on the stage before.

4526. Mr. Buckstone told us that at his theatre he could fill all the parts properly, but you doubt that?—Of course a manager knows the force of his company; I do not know that sitting in the stalls I should say so, but two or three of the parts would be very well played indeed.

4527. How do you account for the fact that the number of good actors has fallen off?—Because you have no school for the art in London. Formerly the country was your school, and a man did not dare to present himself to a London audience unless he had gone through the course. There was the York circuit, and having gone that circuit he would go to Bath, and having gone to Bath, where they were supposed to be very fastidious, they came to London. We are told that the drama flourishes in the provinces, and I read in the "Era" every Sunday that various plays are magnificently performed in the country, but we never get any of those men up to town.

4528. Have you been to the Brighton Theatre lately?—Not for some time.

4529. There are several actors in London; one, certainly, who is playing at the Prince of Wales's Theatre from the Brighton Theatre; that theatre is going on in a flourishing way, I believe?—The Right Honourable Chairman suggested a very admirable test, I think, of what we should expect in a high-class performance, say a comedy involving certain political allusions. Of course, a comedy of mere politics would not be tolerable; but suppose you mixed up the ordinary intrigue of life with certain political references, what would you want? You would want one or two persons who could adequately represent Members of Parliament, or those who desired to become so; a banker perhaps, a lady dowager, two or three young ladies, and some young men fit for "genteel comedy." I do not think that you could get that

cast together in London at all. The underplot you could get in very great strength, because we have got five or six exceedingly amusing comic actors; but what must be the state of the drama when you cannot get a cast together for such a comedy?

4530. Do you not think that that may have arisen from the doing away with the privileges of the patent theatres?—I make no doubt of it whatever.

4531. But still is it not the fact that before the privileges of the patent theatres were taken away the stage then had very much fallen off?—I dare say it had, but I am old enough to recollect two or three fine old comedies extremely well played.

4532. But did not Kemble introduce elephants on to the stage, and play pieces that it used to be said should only be played at Astley's; and was it not therefore said that it did not rest with them to prevent other theatres performing the legitimate drama?—Over that word "legitimate drama," we have had a great many struggles; but if you performed a procession directed by Shakespeare, or say, in Dryden's "Indian Queen," I see no reason why you should not make it as good as you could. I think that objection about bringing beasts on to the stage was absurd. When you had Drury Lane given over to Van Amburgh and his lions, that was another thing.

4533. But take the procession in "Richard the Second," or anything of this kind, there would be no objection to "Henry the Fourth" and "Richard the Second" coming in on horseback, of course?—None whatever, of course. And supposing you were acting "Coriolanus," could there be any objection to a Roman triumph from coins or arches; you might surely have elephants there. I think that Charles Kean's processions and set scenes did not at all exceed "legitimate" limits.

4534. Now, with regard to the music halls, do you think that they have caused any deterioration of the drama, or had any effect whatever on it?—Not the slightest.

4535. Suppose the music halls were to be permitted to act any pieces they liked, do you think that they would deteriorate the drama?—I do not, indeed; I do not believe that you would, generally speaking, get any high class drama there. You might get an occasional scene; and some actor, not perhaps of the highest rank, might be engaged to go through his celebrated scene, in, say, "Richard the Third," but I do not believe that the public would stand much of that at the music halls.

4536. But if you introduced a scene here and there it would raise the taste of the public, or, at all events, raise it in comparison with some of the performances which they have there now, such as mere tumbling, and so on; do you not think so?—I have not been a very regular attendant at music halls, but I have looked into several of them, and I have heard very pretty music pleasantly performed, with all the favourite things, such as comic songs, and the rest of it, and I do not know that we have any right to interfere with persons amusing themselves in their own way; the only point which I may add is that I do not think that Parliament need be afraid of doing the drama any injury by any kind of free trade measure, because the thing has got as low as it can go.

4537. Colonel *Sturt.*] I understood you to say that Mr. Charles Reade's play at the Princess's was not altered in deference to the opinion of the public, but that the piece has gone on just the same?—No, I think the manager withstood the clamour, but he altered a little here and there, perhaps.

4538. Mr. Boucicault said that the crank scene was taken out after the first two or three nights, and the prison scene omitted after, I think, 30 nights more?—I think I remember that there was a strong protest advertisement on the part of Mr. Vining, and I am certain that the scene in some way was retained to the end of the drama, though I do not recollect how it may have been modified.

4539. Mr. *Clay.*] What is the latest period at which you would say the best of our comedies could have been well cast in London?—My last recollection of seeing a play reasonably well cast is some 12 or 14 years ago, but I cannot say exactly without reference to the playbills; the clever actors have been gradually distributed one by one over the mass of theatres, and, by consequence, any single theatre is weakened; the Haymarket is the strongest; there, no doubt, you see something like comic acting.

4540. Are you aware that this complaint of the decadence of the English stage is very old indeed?—Yes.

4541. Should you be surprised to hear that more than 40 years ago, those who recollect the "School for Scandal" and other comedies being played by Bannister, Miss Farren, Munden, Dowton, made exactly the same complaint of the decadence of the stage which you do now?—Yes; but there is such a thing as comparative goodness and positive goodness; any person who will take the trouble to go and see a comedy played now will see how very inferior the actors are to a very ordinary idea of good acting; then it may have been otherwise, but I do not know that it was.

4542. Do you not think that the great reason is that the theatres have increased more largely in number than the dramatic talent of the country can supply?—No doubt that is the case; but I say that the reason why the dramatic talent of the country does not supply the demand is, that you have no means of providing a school for your actors.

4543. But is it not that the actors are divided among so many more theatres than existed some 40 or 50 years ago?—Yes, no doubt.

4544. If we had (so to speak), except the transpontine theatres, only the two theatres, Drury Lane and Covent Garden, do you not suppose that you could find two first-rate companies to fill those theatres?—I think that you would gradually get them together; but even that would be difficult, though I should be glad to see it done.

4545. Holding that very dismal opinion, have you ever turned your attention to any means of improving that state of things?—The only thing that I can think of, and I suppose it is of no great use to suggest it, is a subsidized theatre under Government control.

4546. Would you extend to that theatre the system adopted at the Théâtre Français, of taking from other theatres, with their own consent, any actors that they chose to take?—Certainly.

4547. Mr. *Clive.*] You stated just now that there was very little real criticism of acting at the present time?—Yes.

4548. Do you apply that remark to the upper class of audiences, or to the whole?—The entire bulk of the audiences.

4549. To the upper classes of audiences as well?—Yes.

S. Brooks, Esq.

4 May 1866.

4550. Do you not think that the immense amount of business now done by large numbers of people, prevents their giving that attention to dramatic art which they did once?—When people go to see a particular form of amusement, they could bring their best faculties to bear on the criticism of it. When we go to-day to the private view of the Royal Academy, we shall find the best class of people giving their opinion about the paintings, passing by bad ones and recognising good ones.

4551. Does not that require a considerable amount of artistic education?—I think it requires nothing more than the ordinary social knowledge which belongs to a very large mass of people.

4552. Mr. *Miller.*] What do you think of the state of what I may call professional criticism; are there in the present day professional critics equal to those of former days?—I believe them to be perfectly equal, if not superior; but I think that they are hindered from exercising their powers by a variety of causes which I could explain, if the Committee thought it proper that I should do so. Three or four of the leading critics of the present day are men of high accomplishments and scholarship, far more capable of producing good criticism, in fact, than Mr. Hazlitt or Mr. Leigh Hunt; but we do not get it.

4553. You gave it as your opinion that the taste of the public for good acting has declined in the present day; how can you arrive at any comparison unless you have the same class of actors in the present day that you had in former days?—My remarks applied as much to the material of the drama as to the actors, and that we can all judge of for ourselves; formerly people would listen to high class comedies, in which plot and passion were the elements; the present generation go for a full year together to see a house on fire, or a lady thrown into a pond.

4554. But take Shakespeare's plays, for instance, and let them be performed at the present day by a man equal to Edmund Kean, do you not think that the theatres would be filled as much as they once were?—I am not prepared to say, because I think that that fine old type of drama has, perhaps, worked itself out; the people of the present day do not like to listen to long declamations.

4555. But I apprehend that you could form no decided opinion on that point, unless the theatres were supplied with similar actors?—I have formed a decided opinion that if Edmund Kean were to re-appear to-morrow, the houses would be crowded to suffocation, because it would be Edmund Kean; but it would be from no love of the drama.

4556. *Chairman.*] Do you remember the case of Mr. Emery bringing an action against one of the newspapers for a criticism?—Perfectly well.

4557. Do you remember the result of that action?—Yes, I do, quite well. Do you mean that that should be an awful warning to critics?

4558. Is criticism possible under such circumstances. The case was, that the criticism alleged that Mr. Emery's part had been very well spoken by the prompter?—That was a severe way of putting the thing, but I am perfectly certain that if I had been the critic of the "Morning Chronicle," which I was for many years, I could have said the same thing quite as plainly, without exposing my proprietors to an action. This was a smart gentleman trying to say a clever thing.

4559. But it must make criticism rather difficult, if the critic is pulled up for something so simple as that?—Yes, and here is another matter. At the same time that I was writing the criticisms in the "Morning Chronicle," I was bringing out pieces. It may be wrong, but it is not human nature to be in daily intercourse with people, profiting by their labour, and possibly being in social relations with them, and then to go off to your desk, and say, Mr. Brown's acting is weak, and Mr. Johnson's declamation is vulgar. I felt myself disqualified from giving that form of opinion; I could not do justice either to the public or to the actor.

4560. That is an irremediable evil?—I think it is, and for a simple reason which no person seems to understand; unless the critic is mixed up with theatrical people, he will hardly be qualified for his task, and if he is much mixed up with them, he seems very liable to all such influences.

4561. Mr. *Powell.*] What is your opinion with regard to the existing state of the law of copyright, as affecting dramatic literature?—It is a matter which is very much under discussion in the Dramatic Authors' Society, and in which they are interested; but I have had so little to do practically with it, that my opinion is worth nothing. Most of the plays that I have written are played in the country, and I get my money for them. Nobody has attempted to pirate them.

4562. Therefore, practically, you have no reason to complain of the existing state of the law?—Not the slightest, but I believe that many men have, who have a right to be heard before this Committee.

4563. *Chairman.*] Is there any other subject connected with this enquiry which you would wish to direct the attention of the Committee to?—No, I think not.

HORACE WIGAN, Esq., called in; and Examined.

H. Wigan, Esq.

4564. *Chairman.*] You are Manager of the Olympic Theatre, I believe?—Yes.

4565. And a dramatic author?—Yes.

4566. Have you written many pieces?—I have had about a dozen successful pieces produced in London.

4567. Has the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain given you any trouble?—None whatever.

4568. Have you had any passages in your plays changed or modified?—No.

4569. Do you think that the censorship acts in the way of hindering the efforts of dramatic authors?—No; on the contrary, I think it extremely beneficial.

4570. Do you think that that is the general view of the dramatic authors?—I think so.

4571. You have not heard many complaints of pieces being either cut down or rejected by the Lord Chamberlain?—No, very few.

4572. Are the pieces sent to the managers before they are submitted to the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes, as a rule.

4573. Suppose that a piece were sold or proposed for sale to a manager, would he pay for it before

before it had been submitted to the Lord Chamberlain?—Whether he paid or not he would make his *arrangement* for paying before that.

4574. Would the payment be made dependent on the piece passing the Lord Chamberlain's ordeal?—Yes, it would be understood that it would be a playable piece. I do not know whether such a case ever arose as the Lord Chamberlain refusing a piece which had been bought, but as a matter of ordinary practice, I should buy a piece before it was sent to be licensed; it is usual to send for a license of a piece about a week before it is produced.

4575. Have you ever in your arrangements with authors had to make any distinct arrangement, when you bought a piece, that the bargain would be cancelled if the piece did not pass the Lord Chamberlain's supervision?—No; no such thing has ever come under my notice.

4576. Might not a disagreement arise between the author and the manager, if, after a piece had been bought and arranged for it were rejected?—It would be regulated like any other contract; no man is to be held to impossibilities, and if you buy something not playable you have not bought a play.

4577. You might buy it with all faults?—Yes, no doubt.

4578. I presume that you are familiar with the evidence given before this Committee, up to this point?—I think so.

4579. What is your view with regard to the sufficiency of the number of theatres; your view might be rather a biassed view, might it not?—No; I am not only interested as manager, but as author and actor, and therefore I have no bias.

4580. Do you think that there is room for a good many more theatres in London?—I think that the present number of theatres is amply sufficient for the actors, and for the theatrical public; but I am not prepared to say that if there were more theatres it might not create a wider taste in the English public; I think perhaps it would.

4581. Would it create actors?—I do not think that they require creating; I think that there are plenty of actors.

4582. Do you think that there are plenty of actors to supply the whole of the theatres that you might have?—Plenty.

4583. Are the salaries as high as they used to be?—They are very much higher, particularly in the country, where they have increased 30 or 50 per cent. within a few years. I remember the time when a guinea a week was considered a good salary in the country; but there are very few men at the present time in the country, with any responsible duties to perform, who would not get three times that amount.

4584. I see that you have said that the alleged monopoly of theatres maintained by the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction has no existence in fact?—Yes.

4585. How is that?—Simply, that if a man will conform to the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain with regard to the construction of the building, he can obtain a license. There is no instance of the Lord Chamberlain refusing a license where a building has been constructed according to his regulations.

4586. Are you familiar with the proceedings adopted by the Lord Chamberlain when he is called upon to give a license?—Yes, he surveys the building.

4587. Does not he consult the inhabitants of the neighbourhood?—I do not know of his doing so; I think not; I think he is quite irresponsible in those matters, and that he acts on his own discretion. I believe there was an application some years ago, in Leicester-square, to convert what was Miss Linwood's Exhibition into a theatre, and I believe that the parishioners opposed it; but I do not think that the Lord Chamberlain consulted the parishioners with regard to the propriety of granting a license. I think that the license was refused on the grounds of there not being the required approaches, and no possible means of making them.

4588. Is it a notorious fact that theatrical managers generally have, on the whole, realised large fortunes lately?—I think you would find that most of the metropolitan theatres have been profitably carried on for some time, for periods varying from 12 to 15 years ago.

4589. Are the profits of theatrical managers larger now than they used to be?—I should say that they were.

4590. Do you attribute that to the existence of a monopoly?—Not at all.

4591. Has the play-going public increased?—I think it has increased in London, very much so, and it is constituted of an entirely different class; that is to say, I do not believe that Londoners support the London theatres; they are in very great proportion supported by the population *viagère*.

4592. With regard to the metropolis, if the theatres are more lucrative than they used to be, you would not hold that the music halls have interfered with the profits of the theatres?—I do not think they do.

4593. If they were allowed to act stage plays, would they, in your opinion, be likely to interfere with the profits of the theatres?—I think they might interfere both directly and indirectly; but I think more indirectly than directly.

4594. Why indirectly?—I think that they would tend to bring the art and profession of the stage into disrepute; it would lower the standard of actors, make it disreputable, and consequently injure it.

4595. Have you known actors who have refused to go to music halls to act pieces there on account of its being a less dignified position?—I cannot say that I know any particular instance; but I know that the general opinion of actors has been that it is rather *infra dig.*, and that they have a great aversion to it; I know that actors, as a class, are not so much amenable to moneyed influences as other classes; they very often refuse a good position wholly irrespective of remuneration; it is a calling that a man's personality is mixed up with a good deal. Men frequently throw up their situations in theatres because they are cast for parts beneath their dignity. A man who was 25 years ago a star actor at Drury Lane Theatre for many years is now in very humble circumstances; he has since come down to a very low position, and two years ago he was taking checks at the Lyceum Theatre; he was once engaged for three weeks to go to the East-end to act subordinate parts, and he said, "No; the great So-and-so, who has acted So-and-so, will not do that," and he declined to go. That is what I may call the physiology of the dramatic character. Actors generally, in my opinion, have a great

H. Wigan, Esq.

4 May 1866.

great aversion to act before smoking, eating, and drinking, and clinking of glasses, and so on. I should myself strongly object to do so.

4596. I suppose that the feeling among the actors is that men who are smoking, eating, and drinking, do not sufficiently appreciate the acting?—Yes; and I think that they have also an intuitive knowledge that that kind of thing in this country would tend to make the calling disreputable, and send it down where it was 30 years ago.

4597. Then if the music-halls were to have the power to act pieces they might have a difficulty in finding actors?—No; they would find actors, no doubt, and there would arise an injury to the stage; they would find low-class actors, and a very large class of the public would get accustomed to a very low sort of thing.

4598. Have you known cases that you could cite of actors of any position going to music-halls?—No; I have known some cases of singers, but they have always done so with great regret, and they have some of them expressed a wish to return.

4599. Do you mean operatic singers or concert singers?—Operatic singers.

4600. Do you know enough of the music-halls to form any opinion with regard to whether it would be desirable to place them under a kind of censorship?—I should think it would be highly desirable.

4601. Do you think it would be possible?—Quite possible.

4602. Do you think, from the nature of their performances, ballets, and so on, they could be submitted to any kind of supervision?—Yes, their ballets are now submitted to supervision.

4603. In what way are they supervised?—By the Lord Chamberlain.

4604. Have you known any case in which the Lord Chamberlain has interfered?—I cannot speak of one; but when Mr. Mapleson had Her Majesty's Theatre for a short time, complaints were made of the shortness of the ladies' dresses, when the Lord Chamberlain did interfere, and it was altered.

4605. But you have never had any case, within your personal knowledge, in theatres with which you have been connected?—No, I think not.

4606. Do you think that is a sufficient market for theatrical pieces?—Yes, quite; there is a much greater demand than supply.

4607. If any dramatic author wrote a good piece now, would there be a market for it?—I should think there would; the managers would fight for him.

4608. Has there been any competition of that kind?—Good pieces are and always have been a very rare commodity, and from the nature of things they must be so. There has been a great deal said about the decline of the drama; I differ entirely from what has been said on that point; I believe that the pieces are as good or better than ever they were, and I think that the public are coming round to my opinion. I think that the best quality of a piece is that it should be playable, and that the literary portion of it is a secondary consideration; it may be good to read and uncommonly bad to act; but in the quality of playableness the pieces of the last 20 years are vastly superior, and even those of the last seven or eight years are better than those that preceded them.

4609. What do you mean by "playable"?—I mean plays attractive to the public; that they shall not be merely theatrical literature, but also playable.

4610. Are you of opinion that one dramatic author could supply the whole of the London theatres with good plays?—If you could get a man like Shakespeare or Alexandre Dumas, perhaps you could do so; but I do not know of any such man. I cannot get any good plays, and I have offered a very large sum of money for them.

4611. You know of no such fertility as would be able to supply 20 or 30 pieces a year?—No, I know of no such person.

4612. Has the price that managers pay for a good piece risen?—Yes, very much.

4613. How much per cent. has the price increased?—I do not know. A new system has arisen altogether. Plays are sometimes paid for down; but more frequently that is made conditional on the success, and so much per night is paid for them during their run.

4614. Have you ever made an arrangement with an author by which half of the profits have gone to the author?—No, but I have tried to do so. I had a negotiation with Mr. Boucicault to write a piece for me, and I have a letter from Mr. Boucicault on the subject, which I think I may read. His letter was to the following effect: "My dear Sir,—I should be very glad to write for you, but the terms you propose leave no margin of profit sufficiently large to tempt me to do so. Your terms are very nearly the same as those of the Princess's, Adelphi, and Lyceum, while in these theatres I consider 130*l.* a poor house. You will say that if I drew 100*l.* houses my share would be 120*l.* a-week;" and that is what I did say. "You will say that if I drew 100*l.* houses my share would be 120*l.* a-week, and this should satisfy me. I enclose you two returns from Manchester and Glasgow, where you will see that they pay me nearly 200*l.* a-week, my share. Mr. Vining has paid me from 240*l.* to 400*l.* a-week on the 'Streets of London' and 'Arrah-na-Pogue.' New York alone paid me 500*l.* a-week for 11 weeks past. I am now engaged on dramas for the Princess's and for the Adelphi, and I should be glad to write for the Olympic if I can see a margin; say share after 35*l.* These are not your expenses; but you will, I hope, pardon me if I say they should be." The negotiation, thereupon, fell off. I thought those terms very exorbitant.

4615. Those terms that you offered appeared to be pretty fair and liberal?—Yes, I thought the terms I offered were so.

4616. But, generally speaking, the terms obtained by Mr. Boucicault are pretty liberal, are they not?—I think that those terms would be very remunerative indeed.

4617. Mr. *Miller.*] I suppose it varies with the size of the house?—That letter of Mr. Boucicault means that the manager should cover his ordinary expenses.

4618. *Chairman.*] Are those the usual terms that dramatic authors obtain; are there other authors who get as high terms?—No, I do not think there is any other person who gets such terms.

4619. The supply of such pieces is not great?—No, the difficulty is very great; in fact, the chief difficulty London managers have to contend with is the difficulty of getting good pieces.

4620. You

H. Wigan, Esq.
4 May 1866.

4620. You do not think that there is any complaint on the part of dramatic authors that they have no market?—There are no dramatic authors in this country; there are one or two, perhaps, who write for the stage, but none of them who profess themselves to be dramatic authors to any extent; you could not number 30 of them; their plays are generally adaptations or translations from the French; and their fertility or sterility depends on the French stage. With very few exceptions, perhaps I should say for the last 120 years, at least 90 per cent. of all the pieces produced in this country were of foreign origin. Dramatic authors are at a very low ebb here, and have been so for a long period. It is incredibly difficult to write a piece that is playable. Charles Dickens tried it, and failed; Mr. Thackeray tried it; he wrote a piece that was refused by my brother Alfred and Mr. Buckstone; and Sir Walter Scott tried to write a dramatic piece, and could not do it. It is difficult, for this reason, that it not only requires fancy and literary ability, but it requires the knowledge of a particular technical art which very few people have time or opportunity of studying. Almost every beginner in literature commences by writing a play, and it is almost always unsuccessful.

4621. Mr. *Miller.*] What do you say of Sheridan Knowles's plays?—He was an actor all his lifetime; some of his plays were very good.

4622. Mr. *Clay.*] What do you think of Bulwer's plays?—I do not think that he wrote good plays; but that is a matter of opinion.

4623. The public has thought so?—Some of them have thought so.

4624. What do you think of the "Lady of Lyons?"—I think it is very poor trash; but I should like to put it up for my benefit, for it would draw money.

4625. *Chairman.*] What is your view with regard to the taste of the public; you differ from Mr. Buckstone and Mr. Webster on some points?—With regard to the prosperity of the stage, I understand that the tenour of their evidence was that the school of acting, which is a thing I never heard of as existing anywhere, has died out, and that there are no actors, and no prospect of getting any. I should like to say in contradistinction to that, from what I have learnt, and I can give you the most positive information, and point out where you can get more, that the salaries of actors in the country have very much risen, and that actors are more independent and more litigious. They stand on their rights, they are *personages*, and you will find that all the theatrical cases in the law courts have arisen of late years. For a great many years actors, as a rule, have been remarkably sheepish and willing to put up with anything; there have been no cases of the rights of actors tried until of late years, and actors have risen in social importance. I think they are not so illiterate as they were, and that altogether their position is very much higher than it was, and the prospects of the stage are therefore better; there are more young men now turning their attention to it in consequence of the less precarious nature of the occupation than ever there were; therefore I think that the prospects of the stage are rather rising than going down.

4626. With regard to the taste of the public, do you think that taste is improving?—I think it is. The alleged "decline of the stage" is a misunderstanding. The public now are better informed, and are more critical than they were; and when people say that actors have fallen off, they do not take into consideration that a different state of things prevails in theatres. Formerly actors had not so many calls on them; their versatility was not so tried; men devoted their attention to one particular thing; now an actor is called on to play a great many parts of a very difficult character; and almost every man is influenced, besides, in a very great degree by his recollections of the first performance he ever saw. There are many persons who say, "Ah, he is not like So-and-so"; and he may not be *like*; but he may be quite as good, if not better.

4627. Do you think that the taste of the public would sufficiently check any immoral pieces without the interference of the Lord Chamberlain?—I do not think so; I think that the taste of the public would not control anything of the kind. I think that the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction is not even severe enough. There is a passage in the 5th act of "Much Ado About Nothing," which is played at the St. James's Theatre; and which, if it had come under the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, would have been excised.

4628. You think that, generally speaking, the public would not condemn such pieces?—That is my opinion. The passage to which I allude, in "Much Ado About Nothing," is in the 5th act, the 4th scene.

> "*Don Pedro*—Good morrow, Benedick.
> Why, what's the matter,
> That you have such a February face,
> So full of frost, of storm and cloudiness?
> "*Claudio*—I think he thinks upon the savage bull.
> Tush, fear not, man; we'll tip thy horns with gold,
> And all Europa shall rejoice at thee,
> As once Europa did at lusty Jove,
> When he would play the noble beast in love.
> "*Benedick*—Bull Jove, sir, had an amiable low;
> And some such strange bull leap'd your father's cow,
> And got a calf in that same noble feat
> Much like to you, for you have just his bleat."

That is said nightly in the St. James's Theatre. I do not think if it had been under the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain that that would have been permitted.

4629. There are no modern pieces so broad as that, are there?—I think not.

4630. But you have not found the public object to that at all?—Not at all.

4631. You took an active share in the prosecution of the music halls, did you not?—I took no more active share than this. I was the youngest London manager, and I suppose it is regulated on the principle of courts martial, where they ask the youngest officer's opinion first, in councils of war. They put my name down first, and I said that I had no objection. They told me that the music halls were acting pieces in the winter of 1864, and I went round to several of the music halls, and I found that it was so. I found that the Lord Chamberlain could not interfere, and that he had no funds to do so; that the police were unwilling to do so: it was a very uneasy state of the law, and I consulted my brother managers, and they said that any certainty was better than a total uncertainty, and I asked for protection on public grounds. I knew none of the proprietors, and they did not interfere with me. I should perhaps of all the London managers be the man who would suffer the least if those

H. Wigan, Esq.

4 May 1866.

those contemplated changes were made. I was merely the nominal prosecutor.

4632. On what grounds did you prosecute; what were your chief objections?—I wished to ascertain the state of the law, and I wished to prevent what those contemplated changes would, I think, bring about; namely, the degradation of this particular calling which I follow, namely that of a player.

4633. Now, with regard to the consumption of exciseable articles, drink, and so on, what proportion do they bear to the profits of the managers?—I can tell you, so far as my theatre is concerned: I have four saloons; the nightly rent of them all appears to be 16*s.* 8*d.*; that is all I receive; 5*l.* a week.

4634. That is 250*l.* a year?—No, it is only while the theatre is open; it is a nightly rent.

4635. Those who pay that rent look for a profit on it?—Yes; the man says he sells more soda water, ginger beer, lemonade, and bills; they go to the extent of two-thirds of the whole of his profits; and one-third is derived from beer, wines, and spirits; he says, that in one week the consumption is nine gallons of beer, two and a half gallons of wine, and three gallons of spirits; that of course is for the six nights.

4636. Now, with regard to the music halls; have you seen any evidence that the profits in the music halls on drink bears any large proportion to the profits of the entertainment?—It is very much larger.

4637. In other theatres that you know of, have they large profits at all on the sale of drink?—I have inquired, and I do not believe they are benefited by it.

4638. Would you object, as far as the profits are concerned, to the sale of intoxicating liquors being prohibited in theatres?—I should like it exceedingly.

4639. Are other managers of the same opinion, so far as you know?—I think so; as it is, we have no liberty to sell those refreshments as they are sold in music halls.

4640. In what way have you not that liberty?—There seems to be a misapprehension about that. You are aware that of course theatrical managers are indeed licensed victuallers; that is to say, they have a license for the sale of wines and spirits, and everything but tobacco; that is obtained by Treasury warrant, and the Treasury warrant is only obtained on the production of the Lord Chamberlain's license. It has been maintained that we are on the same footing as the music halls, and that it is purely discretionary with us in what portion of the building we consume those refreshments. When I waited on the Lord Chamberlain as a deputation from the theatrical managers, I asked the Lord Chamberlain this question: "It has been said that it is discretionary with me, and that I can sell those matters in any part of the house I like, and that I could have a mutton chop and a glass of brandy in the stalls. I wish to ask whether that would be a violation of your regulations, and whether in such a case you would be called upon to interfere officially?" He said, "I should not like to answer your question in a hurry; I will take time to consider it." I gave him time, and after a long discussion with the clerk he said, in the presence of the other managers, that it would be a distinct violation of the regulation, and that I should forfeit my license; that I had no right to consume such things in the body of the house.

4641. Do you know a good deal about the French theatres?—Yes.

4642. You have been in Paris?—Yes, for many years.

4643. Have you acted there?—Once or twice.

4644. Are you acquainted with the French theatrical people?—Very much.

4645. What is your view with regard to the *cafés chantants*; can they perform stage plays?—Certainly not; that clause in the "Moniteur" clearly proves that.

4646. But if you had not seen this clause in the "Moniteur" would you have been of the same opinion?—I know as a fact that they do not, and cannot perform stage plays.

4647. Is there any complaint about that in Paris among dramatic authors?—No, not at all; since the liberty of the theatres every body is perfectly satisfied.

4648. But are the *cafés chantants* fit for the performance of small pieces?—No; they have neither scenery nor dresses.

4649. So that if they were empowered to act them they would have to be reconstructed?—Yes; my opinion is that the state of the law in France is precisely similar to the law here; that the liberty enjoyed by the proprietors of theatres in France is the same. You must show, for instance, that the building conforms to the police regulations, and if it does you get your license as a matter of course.

4650. Would you say that here you get your license as a matter of course?—I should say so, decidedly.

4651. Mr. *Locke.*] License for a theatre, do you mean?—Yes; I am not aware of any case of refusal where the proper regulations were carried out.

4652. You have had a long time to consider this question; do you think that any privileges ought to be extended to music halls or literary institutions, and other places that are not licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, but which merely have a license for music, or music and dancing, with regard to the performance of plays?—I see no reason why they should not, if they want to act plays, conform to the actual state of the law, and turn themselves into theatres.

4653. Take the Beaumont Institution, in the Mile End-road; can you see any reason why they should not be enabled to act farces at that place?—Not if they conform to the law.

4654. They have got a music license, why should they not act plays?—I do not know why they should not, if they conform to the law. If a building is properly constructed, I do not see why they should not have a theatrical license from the Lord Chamberlain or any other officer who has the control of that department.

4655. Take a place that has two licenses; a music and dancing license, and a magistrates' license for the sale of wines and spirits. What is your objection in that case?—I have no objection. I stand in that position myself.

4656. You have a magistrates' license, you mean?—No, I have no magistrates' license, but I have a license for the sale of wines and spirits.

4657. But you have no music or dancing license?—No, but the Lord Chamberlain's license would cover that.

4658. What is your objection to the music halls performing plays beyond what they do now?—My

—My objection is simply the one that I once had the pleasure of pressing upon you at your house; you said at the time that you had been present, I think, with your family at Amsterdam and other places where you had seen plays performed with persons smoking, eating, and drinking. My reply is, that it is all very well; that is the custom of that country, and there is no harm in it. I see nothing immoral in a man smoking, eating, and drinking, even at church; it is a matter of taste; but inasmuch as I know it is not the custom of modest women to frequent places in this country where smoking, eating, and drinking goes on, then I say if you surround theatres, or any other exhibition of art in that way, it will preclude their visiting them, and you have done a material injury.

4659. But do you not think that they might have one place where they had eating, drinking, and smoking, and another where they had not, so that tastes of every description might be accommodated?—No doubt their tastes might be accommodated, but I do not think that their taste would gain much.

4660. But some would go and others would not go?—No doubt that would be so, but the persons who follow that calling would be injured by the absence of respectable persons.

4661. There are music halls now established to the number of 33, I think, and there are about 25 theatres?—Yes.

4662. An enormous sum of money has been expended in those halls and buildings; it represents 1,677,000 *l.*?—Yes.

4663. Now the performances at those music halls at the present time are singing, ballet, tumbling, and different other things of that kind?—Yes.

4664. Do you think that if they were permitted likewise such performances as would be consistent with eating, drinking, and smoking (of course, they could not enact a long play), it would be detrimental to the manners of the persons who frequent those places, or that, on the contrary, it would elevate them?—Of course it might elevate them, with proper supervision, and so on.

4665. Then what objection can there be?—I have another objection; my objection is not a commercial objection; I do not contend for a moment that a licensed victualler who now has a music hall would not gain by making up a more attractive programme, but I say, as a person interested in the art, that an injury to the art would follow.

4666. But still you say that if you were to elevate the music halls by giving them better performances, you would elevate the audience too?—I think not; I think that the persons who go to music halls go for an object quite ulterior to the entertainment. To call them music halls reminds one of a man in Mathews's entertainment; "Why are the men who wait about the hackney coach stands called watermen?" And the answer goes, "Because they open and shut the doors of the coaches." There is no music to be heard at those places, though there is much noise.

4667. You think that if there were no music and no ballet and nothing on the stage, then, inasmuch as people go for an entirely different purpose, they would go just the same?—No; I do not go to that length; the eye can be entertained when the ear cannot. No doubt a man might sit and smoke and look at something; it might be a diorama, moving pictures, or anything that requires no very great exercise of his attention with it.

4668. But you said that those things were not the attraction?—I think they are not.

4669. Then why do people go?—To smoke, drink, and make appointments to see women of the town.

4670. That they might do without any performance on the stage, or anything else?—Yes.

4671. Do you think that people would come just the same without the music and ballet, and do you think that the managers of those music halls would expend a large sum of money for the purpose of putting a ballet on the stage if they would?—I do not say that they would come there just the same without it.

4672. Then it is attractive?—The ballet is attractive; there is no question about it.

4673. The ballet is attractive, and the singing is also attractive, is it not?—I think not much; comic singing may be attractive.

4674. Then it is only the ballet that is attractive, you think?—I should think it was by far the more attractive.

4675. What objection have you to the performing of a ballet. That was what you prosecuted for, was it not?—Not because I am an admirer of the ballet, or wish to see ballets associated with theatres, for I should be very glad to-morrow if they were strictly prohibited in all the theatres. It was the only entertainment at that particular building that I happened to select. What I say is this, that if those men may infringe the law with impunity in one particular, there is no reason why they should not do it in all.

4676. Then you have not really any objection to the performance of ballet at those music halls?—I have, so long as it continues to be a theatrical exhibition. I should like to see the ballets expunged from the theatres altogether; but so long as the law stands as it is, and it is a theatrical performance, then I should wish to see it taken away from places where smoking, eating, and drinking goes on.

4677. But take the ballet *quâ* ballet, the thing itself; what objection is there to performing it at music halls any more than in theatres?—There is no more objection to performing it in the one than in the other.

4678. Then so long as ballets are done at all, would you allow the music halls to do them?—No, I am directly opposed to it.

4679. Is it your reason for objecting, these ballets interfere with the theatres?—No; my reason is that it is a stepping-stone to something else.

4680. To what else?—To further infringement of the law.

4681. But suppose it stops there, would there then be any objection to ballet being performed at the music halls?—Then I should have no objection, perhaps.

4682. What is the precise performance that you object to in music halls; is it dialogue on the stage?—Yes.

4683. But if there are actors who are willing to act at music halls, and persons who are willing to go and see them, what objection have you to that; is it the dignity of the drama, as it is called?—Yes.

4684. That is the reason, is it?—Yes. I have no objection to free trade in theatres whatever; I do not care how many theatres there are.

4685. But you object to any theatrical performance

H. Wigan, Esq.

4 May 1866.

formance (that is to say, dialogue) where there are refreshments furnished in the body of the theatre; is that so?—Yes, I do object to that.

4686. On what is your objection founded?—I think that it tends to bring my particular art and calling into disrepute.

4687. Throughout the whole country?—Yes, I think so.

4688. But if you do not choose at your theatre to have any eating and drinking in the auditorium, how did it degrade your house; if you do not introduce it at the Olympic, how is your house degraded by that, when it is done somewhere else?—One black sheep must discredit the whole flock.

4689. But if he never comes near the rest of the flock, how then?—He must come indirectly near the rest of the flock.

4690. In what way must he come near the rest of the flock?—If nine theatres out of ten get into disrepute, surely some of that odium would reflect on the tenth.

4691. But if a person goes over and over again to those places, and likes it, how do you get into disrepute with the persons who frequent them?—You are speaking of an experiment which has not been tried.

4692. But there are more music halls than theatres, are there not?—Yes; but there are not many music halls that have infringed the law so as to enable us to judge what the effect would be; there are none where there is acting to any extent.

4693. But it used to be so generally; at the "Eagle Tavern," for instance, did it not?—It was a saloon for some time.

4694. That is where Mr. Robson came out, is it not?—No, it is a mistake to say that he came out there.

4695. Where did he come out?—He was a very experienced actor before he went there. The Eagle was not a saloon when he acted there; the first license for that saloon was in November 1843, and Mr. Robson did not appear there until 1844. I can give a list of the places that he played at. The first place he acted at was a minor theatre in Catherine-street, Strand; the second was the Bower; he was then in the Kent circuit, the Bedford circuit, the Oxford circuit, the St. Alban's circuit, Jackman's Company, Tonbridge Wells, Chester's Company, Rogers's Company, the Standard Theatre, and the Grecian Saloon. Then he went to Dublin to the Queen's Theatre, and then to the Royal Theatre; then he came to Mr. Farren, and then to me. I was very intimate with him. He was never a waiter; it is quite a mistake to say that he was; he was an engraver's apprentice in Bedford-court, Covent Garden, and he used to go to that minor theatre which I have referred to in Catherine-street, Strand.

4696. He went to the Grecian, and likewise to the Bower?—Yes, when they were theatres; at least, the Grecian was a theatre.

4697. There was smoking, eating and drinking going on, was there not?—No, not when he was there.

4698. Not at the Eagle?—No. The first license was in November 1843; the tables had been removed in 1844. The tables had been put outside the theatre.

4699. The tables were round about outside?—Yes, formerly there was a slab to put the glass on, and that was carried out. Mr. Robson was not the production of music halls at all; he was a regularly educated actor, who had to go through all the misery of the early part of an actor's career.

4700. With regard to the ballet, and with regard to the censorship at the different theatres, you have stated that Mr. Mapleson was interfered with when he had Her Majesty's Theatre, on account of the shortness of the dresses of the ladies, and that in consequence of that interference they were lengthened.

4701. Another alteration has taken place, I believe, since then, when Mr. Mapleson was there; the ballet dancers had not what are called skirt tacks under their dresses, had they?—I do not know.

4702. I was going to ask whether it was before or after that, that complaint was made of Mr. Mapleson?—I cannot say; but there was an interference on the part of the Lord Chamberlain. I was asked before the bench of magistrates whether there was a case in which the Lord Chamberlain had interfered with a ballet, but very much more might have been said on that subject; because if it were worth while to inquire into it, it would be found that up to the period of the passing of the 6th & 7th Victoria, he always did license every ballet performed in this country; the license was applied for and paid for, and I believe his books will show that.

4703. Do you recollect Taglioni?—I can only just recollect her.

4704. You do not know what change has been made in the dress of the ballet since her time?—I remember that I have been to see Taglioni in the ballet called "La Circassienne." I know that she came out from the bath (I can see her now) in an exceedingly tight fleshing dress all over, with just a shawl wrapped round her loins; it was almost nudity.

4705. I am told that there are what are called skirt tacks, which have been lately introduced into ballet dresses?—I think not everywhere.

4706. You say that the stage is as good as it used to be in former days, and that the performers are as good now as they ever were?—I think that they are better than I ever remember them. I think that the plays now are, on the whole, supplied with a better cast, and all the subordinate parts are better done than they used to be.

4707. What times are you speaking of?—I can remember the stage from 25 to 30 years ago.

4708. Do you recollect Jones, the light comedian?—Yes.

4709. Do you recollect Elliston, and Charles Kemble, and Fawcett?—Yes.

4710. Do you recollect half a dozen or eight of them acting together?—I do not remember that. I saw Elliston twice, and I have seen Jones. I never saw Fawcett. I saw Liston twice; but none of them together. Liston was at the Olympic Theatre, Jones was at the Drury Lane Theatre; they were all scattered.

4711. You have had no experience whatever of the patent theatres when there was a full company to act tragedy or comedy at each of the theatres?—Yes, I remember Mr. Macready's management.

4712. That is since the time I want to refer to; but you recollect that, do you?—Yes.

4713. You recollect Charles Kemble and Macready acting together?—No, I never saw them acting.

acting together; I saw Charles Kemble act with Macready, I think.

4714. Do you mean to say that there is a cast at this time that could perform the "School for Scandal," taking all the performers at all the theatres together?—I think that the "School for Scandal" could be quite as well performed by the performers of the present day as it was done by any players within my recollection.

4715. Though you have never seen the other people do it; how can you speak to that?—I started by saying that actors, in my opinion, were better than I ever remember them.

4716. You only recollect the state of the case when the patent theatres were done away with; that was in the year 1832, was it not?—I can scarcely remember them so long as that.

4717. Mr. *Du Cane.*] During what portion of the year is your theatre kept open?—My theatre has been kept open nearly all the year round. I have only been manager of the Olympic Theatre for 18 months, and I have never closed it; but I have been stage manager of the Olympic Theatre for a great many years, and the average season for the last 10 or 12 years was about 10 months. I have looked about to ascertain the length of the duration of the seasons at the other London theatres, and I have found that almost all of them are open for about seven or eight months, on the average. I have letters from all the managers; Mr. Fechter, for instance, and the Surrey. Mr. Webster sometimes keeps open the whole of the year; Mr. Buckstone keeps his theatre open about nine months; Drury-lane about eight months, and so on.

4718. Do the theatres usually close at the same time of the year, or do they select different times for closing?—They generally close about the same time.

4719. What is called the dull season of the year; what time is that generally?—That is in the summer.

4720. Have you ever heard of complaints of the want of theatrical performances during that time of the year?—No. The theatres are closed at that time because it is no longer profitable to keep them open.

4721. Do you suppose, if there were free trade in theatres, more theatres would start up, and keep open during that time of the year in other parts of London?—I think not; there is free trade in theatres now.

4722. You contend that there is no want of theatres now?—I think not. I do not deny that if there were more theatres it might widen the taste for theatrical performances. I do not say that it would, but it might be so.

4723. Do you know any instances of the Lord Chamberlain refusing to license a properly constructed theatre?—I do not.

4724. A statement has been put into the hands of most of the Members of the Committee, with regard to the morality of theatres generally?—Do you mean before or behind the curtain.

4725. Both before and behind. "There are no private boxes" (this refers to the Alhambra) "on upper tiers, beyond the reach of audiences and actors, commonly known in theatrical circles as 'cock-and-hen' boxes; no 'kept women,' or their keepers, are ever allowed to purchase 'first appearances' on the stage of the Alhambra, as they are occasionally, at west-end theatres?"—I thought I was very learned in theatrical slang, but I never heard that before, and I do not know what it means.

4726. Nothing of the sort has ever occurred at your theatre, nor do you know of anything of the sort ever occurring at any west-end theatre?—No. I know this, that the pigeon-hole boxes, at the top of the house, you cannot see into from the stage, but in all the other private boxes you can. A short time ago two people went into a private box, at the Olympic, and began to smoke, during the performance of the "Ticket of Leave Man." I was told of it from the stage, and I waited till I went on the stage; and I could see into the box. I went forward, and remonstrated with them. I could have seen anything that was going on in that box.

4727. You say that you would exclude all ballet performances from the stage?—If I had my own taste, I would exclude anything that tends to demoralise the people. I believe that the ballet is meretricious. I do not believe in the poetry of the dance. I believe that men simply go there for the pleasure of looking at the women's legs; there is no art, or anything else in it, and I would, if I could, altogether exclude it. Of course, as a purveyor for the public taste, I am obliged to introduce ballets, but it is done as little as possible.

4728. Mr. *Miller.*] Do you think it possible to prevent ballet dancing?—I should think not, so long as the public approve of it.

4729. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you include burlesque in the same category as ballet?—No, a burlesque may be a very legitimate entertainment. I think that burlesques of late years are very poor performances; in fact, it is hardly fair to call them burlesques; they have become a hybrid kind of things, called extravaganzas; but burlesques proper may be a very clever and entertaining performance.

4730. Do you think that the performances at music halls have in any way tended to create a bad style of burlesques?—I cannot say, but I cannot see what influence they can have had on it.

4731. Colonel *Sturt.*] Has not one of the results of the music halls been to raise the salaries of those engaged at the theatres, particularly the ballet, on account of the increased demand for their services?—I think that since what was supposed to be a breach of the law has taken place a larger number are employed. Ballet is going out very fast at the theatres

4732. But I mean, are not the salaries of people generally engaged at the theatres increased in consequence of the music halls?—I think not in consequence of the music halls.

4733. Take the singers?—I have known singers who being unable to find (the English Opera scarcely existing here) employment for their talent have gone to the music halls, but they have gone there with *mauvais coeur.*

4734. You do not think that the music halls have tended to raise the salaries at theatres?—No; it is in consequence of the prosperous state of the theatres, and the great number of people who visit theatres who formerly did not.

4735. That is not in consequence of the increased demand occasioned by the music halls?—No.

4736. Mr. *Clay.*] Is there any truth in the insinuation which I find in a paper before me, that ladies occasionally appear and act at theatres without any salary, their inducement being that they

H. Wigan, Esq.

May 1866.

they may be seen and admired?—I would rather that you would put it much more broadly.

4737. There is a class of ladies to whom it is a matter of importance to be seen and admired as much as possible?—Yes.

4738. Do you know any instance in any theatre where those ladies have been allowed to act without receiving any salary?—You put a question to me that I should have very great difficulty in replying to without throwing stones at my neighbours; but I have heard that theatrical managers have received sums of money to allow ladies to appear.

4739. That is in substance what is stated in this paper?—I have often had large sums of money offered to me for that purpose, and I have always refused; but I do not know whether it is true that any such sums have been accepted elsewhere.

4740. Do you think that music is not the attraction at the music halls?—I would not go the length of saying that music is not attractive, but I do not think it is the principal attraction at the music halls.

4741. Are you aware that the principal music halls pay very largely for those performers who do their selections?—I believe they do.

4742. Is it not probable that the managers of music halls would not do that unless it were found to pay?—I only found my opinion on what I have observed by being present at music halls. It always appeared to me (and I have visited them personally in connection with this inquiry) that music was the last thing the people seemed to be thinking about. There is a great deal of conversation going on, clinking of glasses, and moving and rushing about. The only thing that appeared to attract any attention at most of them was the comic song; that seemed to have a particular charm because it was not of a very correct nature.

4743. Are you aware as to the three chief music halls which have made the most money, the Canterbury Hall, the Oxford, and the Alhambra, that those are the places at which there is the best selection, as it is called?—I believe it to be so.

4744. Is not that a presumption that the music is a performance which draws?—I suppose it is a presumption to that extent.

4745. Are you a musician yourself?—Yes.

4746. Have you heard any of the best selections at the Oxford?—Yes, I think I have; I have heard some very good performances there; so far as the selection of music went, if it had been properly executed.

4747. But was it sufficiently well executed, the music being good, to have a tendency to elevate the popular taste for music?—Yes; I think under other surroundings, it would. I think in any other place it would have done so; but so far as my own knowledge goes about the music halls, the musical public do not go to the music halls; they go to the Monday Popular Concerts, where it is performed in an excellent manner. Musical people, as a rule, are very great enthusiasts and fastidious too; people who would not like to go to music halls.

4748. But surely there is a lower class of people than the audiences at the Monday Popular Concerts, who yet like music?—The Monday concert is a very cheap mode of enjoying music; it is one shilling for admission, and the concerts are very much frequented. I should say that the great bulk of the London musical public always attend at that place.

4749. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You have said something about the comparative profits of the theatres and the music halls from the sale of refreshments. Without giving the Committee any private information at all, what in your belief is the proportion of profits from the sale of spirits and refreshments in music halls?—I have made no calculation with regard to that. I have heard the evidence of Mr. Strange and others; he said that refreshments made 50 per cent. of his receipts.

4750. You have no reason to believe that it is more, have you?—I should think that that was an understatement.

Monday, 7th May 1866.

PRESENT:

Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Du Cane.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

TOM TAYLOR, Esq., called in; and Examined.

T. Taylor, Esq.

7 May 1866.

4751. *Chairman.*] YOU have written a good many successful plays, and you can tell the Committee something with regard to the views of the dramatic authors?—I should be happy to give you my own views. I do not know that I have any authority to speak for my *confrères*.

4752. Did you sign the petition which several of the dramatic authors signed some time ago, which petition has been presented to the House?—No, I believe not.

4753. We should be glad if you could favour us with your views with regard to the influence which is exercised by the fact of the existence of the Lord Chamberlain's censorship over dramatic writers, and whether in your belief, the authors are checked in their composition, by knowing that their plays must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain?—So far as I have had any opportunity of forming an opinion, I should say that practically it has no appreciable effect.

4754. Has it ever happened to you in plays which you have composed that any erasures have been made by the Lord Chamberlain?—In very trivial matters. Allusions to contemporary persons have been objected to sometimes. Sometimes the objections have been persevered in, and sometimes on remonstrance they have been withdrawn.

4755. Have you had experience of the working of the law through the reign of several different Chamberlains?—Yes, my experience extends from the year 1845 to the present day, about 23 years.

4756. Have you found any inconvenience from difference of views on the part of different Lord Chamberlains?—Practically, I may say, that my experience is that the interference of the Lord Chamberlain is null.

4757. Both for good and for evil?—Both for good and for evil. I have not perhaps tempted it very severely; it may be that my pieces have been free from objectionable matter.

4758. Do you think that in the lower style of theatres the taste of the public is a sufficient check?—No, I do not think so at all. With regard to taste, certainly not.

4759. With regard to immoral pieces being performed, do you think it would be safe to have no censorship at all, not only at the large theatres, which are frequented by the educated classes, but at the lower class of theatres?—I should conceive that there are some theatres in London at which the immorality and indecency of the pieces would be their greatest recommendation.

4760. We have understood from the witnesses generally that there are three points on which the Lord Chamberlain interferes, namely, immoralities, political allusions, and religious allusions. Do you think it would be necessary to keep that restraint in action in all respects at some of the theatres?—If my impression is correct, it should extend to all the three points of interference. In the west-end theatres, I believe, practically, the interference is null; that is to say, where the taste of the public is a restraint on the authors; but there are classes of theatres at which it would be absolutely necessary; I mean the penny theatres, and the theatres such as we have had described in Whitechapel, the gaffs.

4761. Is the Lord Chamberlain's license, so far as you are aware, at all effectual there?—I am not aware.

4762. Now with regard to political allusions, do you think there is any caprice on the part of the Lord Chamberlain?—In my experience, I only remember one case, and the interference was rather with the actor than the author. That was a piece of my own, in which Mr. Alfred Wigan represented a French naval officer dressed, as it was said, as the Prince de Joinville. The Lord Chamberlain interfered, and the costume was changed; but the only effect, I was given to understand at the time, was that the costume was made more correct, and the portrait improved.

4763. Do you think that it is necessary to maintain any kind of supervision over the pieces, with regard to political allusions?—Practically, I cannot conceive that that is necessary at the present day.

4764. As a matter of fact, are there very few plays with political allusions?—Very few; and where there are, such matters, if fit for the purposes of the stage, must have been so thoroughly thrashed out in the newspapers beforehand, that it would seem quite superfluous in a licenser to meddle with them.

4765. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you mean that the audience would check such things?—No; but, practically, there can be no objection, because such a thing must be already a matter of free public comment,

T. Taylor, Esq.

7 May 1866.

comment, otherwise it would not be effective on the stage.

4766. *Chairman.*] But to put public men on the stage might be very popular at times, perhaps?—I can hardly conceive that.

4767. We had a case laid before us, in which Mr. Buckstone was to have personated Lord John Russell?—I never heard of such a case as that. I can conceive that Mr. Buckstone, as Lord John Russell, would be very attractive.

4768. With regard to the present position of dramatic authors from a remunerative point of view, would you say generally that the prices paid for dramas are as high as they used to be, or that they are lower?—I am sorry to say that where they are settled in the usual way, and not made dependent on the run of a piece, they have not improved, in my experience.

4769. Is there a smaller demand for plays than there used to be?—I have not experienced that practically.

4770. Do you attribute the comparatively small demand which there is for dramatic literature to the small number of theatres?—No.

4771. You think that, so far as you know theatrical matters, there are sufficient theatres from the point of view of the demand?—Yes, there are more theatres than can be supplied with attractive pieces.

4772. Therefore, you do not hold the view, that at present dramatic authors are interfered with by the existence of certain restrictions on the performance of dramatic pieces at music halls?—Practically, it is possible that a different class of pieces might be brought into demand by the opening of the music halls; but having regard to the class of pieces at present acted, I do not think so.

4773. You do not think that on the whole the market is glutted with excellent plays?—Certainly not; from my own experience, and what I hear from the managers, I believe that there is a difficulty in getting plays.

4774. But if two or three of the first theatres have got a piece which has a very long run, does not that stop for a time all fresh production?—Yes, no doubt; but at the same time it should bring a profit to the author, and to the manager of the theatre, and so act for the encouragement of other authors.

4775. You think that it rather stimulates authors?—Yes, I should say so; I can conceive of nothing more likely to stimulate an author than the large rewards which we have heard have been obtained for successful pieces.

4776. Those rewards are larger than were ever previously obtained, were they not?—Yes, certainly; they have been promoted by good business management on the part of the author, and where he has been able to make his terms wisely he has profited very largely.

4777. I suppose there is quite sufficient competition for good pieces, so that the authors are not at all at the mercy of the managers?—If they are it is their own fault.

4778. I mean a successful author?—He certainly ought not to be at the mercy of the manager; there may be necessitous men who are at the mercy of anybody.

4779. There are a sufficient number of managers who are ready to buy good plays if they are produced, you think?—Yes. Of course I am supposing the plays to be adapted to the taste of the times.

4780. What is your view with regard to the taste of the public at present; is it improving, or is it declining?—I believe that the British public seldom fails to recognise, in the long run, a good thing, and to reward it; but I believe the average audience is essentially incapable of distinguishing off-hand between good and bad; that is to say, they are liable to be imposed on at first, and to take paste for diamond. This is true, and I believe it has always been true, in a great measure.

4781. Do you think that if they performed dramatic pieces at music halls, it would tend to the degeneracy of the drama?—I really can hardly answer that question. I believe that if a class of good pieces were presented at such places, it would be better than listening to nigger minstrelsy and seeing questionable ballets; but I have no reason to believe that better pieces would be attractive. What is most offensive in those performances is, I apprehend, that which most attracts; and so I fear that if they had dramatic entertainments they would go in for a low order of pieces, such as a person of taste could not approve.

4782. The Committee have had the view expressed that actors would degenerate by meeting a public there whose taste would be very questionable; would you think that that would be the case?—I should think that it might be so, believing, as I do, that the class of pieces accepted at such places would be a lower class of pieces; I believe that the actors would tend to deteriorate.

4783. But, on the other hand, would it not by competition rather stimulate men to whom there is not a sufficient opening at present to enter the theatrical profession?—The theatrical profession is like that of the dramatic authors', it wants good stuff; we have not good actors enough to supply the present demand.

4784. Not sufficient good actors to supply the majority of the London theatres?—I do not believe that there is a theatre in London manned as a theatre should be.

4785. Do you hold, speaking in a broad sense, that both actors and actresses are suffering from the present monopoly of certain theatres?—No, I do not.

4786. I understand from your evidence that there are sufficient theatres to supply the theatre-going public?—I think so.

4787. But at the same time you would see no objection to granting licenses for new theatres?—No, if they are properly superintended, and under proper control with regard to the safety of the public and their accommodation, and if they are not made mere drinking shops. I would advocate the abolition of everything that tends to make theatres public-houses.

4788. You think that the combination of the two things is not desirable?—I think so.

4789. You think that the public-house element rather destroys the dramatic element?—I think so.

4790. But does not the dramatic element at the same time rather destroy the public-house element?—At present the two are separate; a man must choose between the two; if he wants to see a play he must go where he cannot smoke, eat, and drink, but if the two were put together there are many men who would go where they could have both; so far, I have no doubt, that enjoyment among a certain class would

would be increased by the opening of music halls for theatrical performances.

4791. Would you in the interest of literature see any objection to the opening of music halls for theatrical performances?—As things are, I doubt if the interests of literature would be permanently affected.

4792. I do not mean whether it would be right or wrong to have those performances at music halls, but simply with regard to the question of fact?—As things are, free trade having gone so far as it has, I do not know that any real positive harm would be done by carrying the thing a step lower, supposing the music halls to be under proper restrictions.

4793. You would extend the restrictions of the theatres to music halls?—I do not think, so far as the literary part of the question goes, there would be much harm; but I think there is harm in associating theatrical performances with drinking and smoking, and the other adjuncts of those places.

4794. Do you think that the drama has suffered from free trade in theatres?—I think so, very much; I have a very strong opinion on that subject. I do not think that this is a matter in which the taste of the public can be safely left to itself.

4795. You think that it requires a little nursing?—Yes, I think so.

4796. Do you think that in France the throwing open of the theatres will rather tend to a decline in French acting?—If it operates as the withdrawal of the patents in this country from the Royal theatres, it will deteriorate the quality of dramatic writing and of acting too.

4797. Then you think that the drama flourished more under that monopoly than it does under free trade?—I think so.

4798. Can you account for that?—Those theatres were goals for the ambition of actors and dramatic writers; they were patronised by the higher classes; they charged higher prices; they kept alive a high standard of excellence, both in authorship and acting, which has not been maintained since they ceased to hold their patents.

4799. Then I gather from you that you think it is rather the absence of the two leading theatres, that dramatic writers and actors might look up to as the highest points, than the presence of other theatres, which has done the mischief?—Yes, quite so; those two leading theatres tended to keep up the notion of something like a model theatre; the ideal of a properly managed and well manned theatre.

4800. You think that if you had two model theatres it would answer all purposes?—Yes.

4801. You might have other theatres side by side with them?—Certainly.

4802. Are you aware of the present system in France?—I do not know how far the subsidy system has been affected by the liberty of the theatres; but up to a very recent time there were particular theatres for particular classes of performances; Molière could only be performed at the *Théâtre Français* and the *Odéon*, which were subsidised for the purpose. They were much like our patent theatres, except that our patent involved no subsidising. I am quite aware that it would be frantic to expect any such thing as the subsidising of our theatres; but if we had it I believe it would be public money well spent, and do more good than anything else with regard to the theatres.

4803. Mr. *Locke*.] Do you think that the *Théâtre Français*, up to the time of the alteration, had upheld its former position?—It had always held the highest position.

4804. But was that position as high as it was formerly?—I am not aware that it has materially declined. I do not know that it has ever had better actors than Rachel, in tragedy; or, in comedy, than Regnier and Sanson. Sanson is very old, but he still acts, and Regnier; and then there is Got, and Delaunay, and Plessy. I have not, however, been at those theatres within the past year.

4805. But with regard to the pieces produced, what do you say?—They have a certain literary *cachet*; there is still an ambition among those who write plays for the *Théâtre Français*, and a high standard is maintained by the *Comité de Lecture*.

4806. Whether or not the *Théâtre Français* has upheld its position, altogether you still think that it is higher held at this time than any other theatre in France?—Yes.

4807. Now with regard to the patent theatres in England; I think it was in 1831 that the Committee sat on the opening of theatres; are you aware that the patent theatres had at that time ceased to hold the same position in England which they had held before?—They might have felt their share of the general causes of depression, but still I conceive that in so far as the monopoly operated at all, it operated to their good.

4808. They did not confine themselves to the legitimate drama at that time either, did they?—They always had high class pieces there, as well as melo-dramas and farces.

4809. They used to play operas, did they not?—Yes.

4810. They never confined themselves to tragedy, as the *Théâtre Français* did?—No; they had afterpieces and melodramas, the same class of pieces as they had at the minor theatres, but the minor theatres were debarred from acting tragedies.

4811. Was not that the very complaint which the minor theatres made, namely, that while the patent theatres performed this class of pieces, they were not permitted to perform legitimate drama?—The minor theatres made that complaint; my theory would go to advocate restraint to the length of restraining the model theatre from performing burlesques and pieces of that class.

4812. Do you think that one model theatre would be quite enough, and that two was too much?—Yes, one would be quite enough.

4813. Probably you do not recollect that whenever a piece was brought out at Covent Garden they invariably produced the same piece at Drury Lane?—Yes.

4814. Take Terry (who Sir Walter Scott said had "terrified" him on to the stage, &c.); he introduced "Rob Roy" at Covent Garden, and immediately they had another edition at Drury Lane, and the one at Drury Lane failed; there was competition between the two patent theatres for the legitimate drama and competition in music?—Yes.

4815. That would be against your theory?—Entirely.

4816. Your theory is, that if there were a model theatre, there must be one only?—Yes, limited to tragedy, comedy, and farce.

4817. The Haymarket was a summer theatre in former days, was it not?—Yes.

T. Taylor, Esq.

7 May 1866.

4818. It was not open at the same time as the two others?—No.

4819. There were two theatres open during the winter, and one in the summer?—Yes. My notion, of giving a model theatre a subsidy, would not debar other theatres from acting the same class of pieces. I would only confine my model theatre to the acting of high class pieces. There must be a subsidy, because such a theatre would, to some extent, be hampered in its competition with its neighbours. I would, in that theatre, maintain a school of dramatic art, in fact.

4820. Would you give them the same privileges that they have in France, namely, to go and claim any actor or actress from a minor theatre if the actor or actress chose to come?—I believe that that would be a very wholesome provision.

4821. But with all that amount of privilege, I believe that the *Théâtre Français* does not pay?—Of that I am not aware.

4822. I believe that there is a difficulty in keeping it open in the midst of all these "advantages"?—It is quite possible; and my model theatre might be in the same predicament.

4823. The *Odéon* has a subsidy, has it not?—I do not know; perhaps I ought to explain to the Committee that I speak entirely in what I conceive to be the interest of art, and not with regard to the facts of political economy.

4824. If the subsidy were not sufficient, and audiences did not come, would you increase the subsidy?—No; I suppose that the subsidy is fixed on certain conditions, and that those conditions are adhered to.

4825. Something must be done by the theatre for it; good pieces introduced, and good actors engaged?—Yes; but I do not say that the French idea could practically cohere with our system. That is only what I should desire in the interest of art.

4826. You have been asked whether you think, supposing there were no restrictions with regard to political pieces being put on the stage, the production of those pieces would take place, and would not be at all encouraged?—Unless they were on highly popular topics, with regard to which the utmost freedom of opinion was already exercised through the newspapers and otherwise, they would not be introduced, because they could not be understood.

4827. But can you account for the historical plays of Shakspeare being so popular as they must have been in those days?—At that time, it must be remembered, that they were only one of several other classes of plays. At that period of immense dramatic activity everything was turned to the purposes of the theatre; even such things as a murder occurring at the time, and incidents of contemporary history in other countries. In Marston's "Game of Chess" he introduced Gondemar on the stage as the Black Knight; the run of the play was stopped by the Council, and the author laid in prison for it. Shakspeare found in the theatre certain historical plays which had been already acted, threw in something of his own, and brought them out among the other stock attractions.

4828. But they *were* attractive?—I do not know; the only play which we have any special record of as being attractive is that very play which I have mentioned.

4829. Is there no such record of "Henry the Eighth"?—I am not aware of such a record.

4830. But that was coming very close, putting the father of the Queen on the stage; was it not?—Yes.

4831. And bringing the infant on the stage?—Yes; but it was all done in such a way as to please those in authority, or else the author would have been laid up by the heels for it. No censorship would have prohibited those things.

4832. Do you think that no censorship would prohibit those things now?—I do not think the censorship would prohibit it because it was political, if it was not treated in an unbecoming manner.

4833. Suppose the late Duke of Kent was put on the stage?—Of course during the lifetime of the Queen the public taste might object to that.

4834. But the censor would object, would he not?—Yes; but he would only do what the public taste would ratify.

4835. Do I understand you to say, you do not think that, in the present state of things, and having regard to the actual taste of the public, the giving of theatrical performances at music halls would tend to depreciate the style of dramatic performances?—I think that combining the purposes of the music halls as houses of refreshment with the purposes of the theatre would, in so far as it had any operation on the class of pieces, tend rather to bring them down.

4836. Do you think that it would tend to deteriorate the plays produced at theatres?—I do not see how that is to be done.

4837. Why not?—The class of entertainment that is peculiarly popular now is so unsatisfactory to any cultivated taste, that it is difficult to believe it could deteriorate. How could the music halls go lower than some of the low modern burlesques?

4838. You do not apprehend any danger from that?—No, not from that.

4839. Are you aware that very excellent music is performed at the music halls?—Yes, very good music as well as very bad; I suppose, in fact, they appeal to all tastes.

4840. They go through a whole opera sometimes, but they are not allowed to have costume?—No.

4841. Can you see any objection whatever to their having costume, although the audience do sit at tables to eat and drink?—No; my objections to the opening of music halls arising from the quality of the performance, or the taste of the public, are very trifling indeed; but I do think they would tend to enlarge a market which is large enough, and that they would tend to deteriorate the theatres by drawing off good actors; there is not enough good writing or good acting to supply a larger market.

4842. But would not that produce more actors, and probably better ones?—My experience does not suggest that; it is not as if the music-hall theatre would be under the restraint of anything like taste; the entertainment would be in the hands of men who have no taste whatever, except for filling their pockets; it is rather difficult already among managers of theatres to find anything else; but the proprietors of music halls would be a grade lower than ordinary theatrical managers, and therefore the general tendency would be to consult a constantly lowering taste, rather than a better one.

4843. You think that the action of the Lord Chamberlain, or some other officer with power to license pieces, would make no difference in that result?—I think not; because pieces would not be

be produced that would call for the interference of the Lord Chamberlain.

4844. There would be nothing improper produced, you think?—No; only what you have now, but tending lower; not indecent; not offensive; not such things as the Lord Chamberlain could interfere with.

4845. But it would be better to have even such pieces than mere negro melodies and tumbling, would it not?—Possibly.

4846. Therefore it would not tend to lower the taste of a very large portion of the public, but rather to raise it?—I cannot help thinking that if the theatres could be maintained and managed as they should be, they would have no occasion to fear competition; but at present they have great difficulties in getting a sufficient supply of good pieces and good actors; and I should object to whatever tends to lower the profession in public estimation.

4847. There is a great body of people who do frequent those music halls?—Yes.

4848. You would not deprive those people of amusement, would you?—Certainly not.

4849. Therefore it would be advantageous to make it as good as possible?—Yes, certainly: the enjoyment of a certain class of people would be increased; but if you enter into considerations of taste you come to a different class of question entirely.

4850. But still, by doing away with the patent theatres, we have left taste to take care of itself, have we not?—Yes.

4851. It would not be possible to hark back, would it?—No.

4852. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Your pieces, I believe, have always been in the first instance, performed at first-class theatres?—Yes, generally at the west-end theatres.

4853. Do you think, if the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain was done away with, there would be any great demand at the minor theatres for the class of pieces that you write?—I should imagine not, but I should be very glad to find it so.

4854. You say that if the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain was withdrawn, there would be no danger of pieces of immoral tendency being represented at the higher class of theatres?—I think not.

4855. Are there not a great many pieces, either translations, or adaptations from the French, at the high-class theatres?—A great many; not so many as is said; out of 60 of mine there are only about 10 from the French; but no doubt the French theatre does largely supply our own, and has done so for the last 200 years.

4856. In consequence of the existing censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, are not such pieces very often very materially altered from the original, and a great deal of immorality cut out of them?—I never heard of a great deal of immorality being cut out of them by the Lord Chamberlain; I supposed it was done by the adapter, from a sense of what the public would like.

4857. You think that if the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain was withdrawn, French pieces of that class would not be more literally adapted than they are now?—I think not. The only instance in point I ever heard of was that of the prohibition of a very popular French piece, the "Dame aux Camélias;" that was allowed at the Opera House, but not as a drama, in this country. Yes, I once heard of a version of "Orphée aux Enfers" being forbidden.

4858. Colonel *Sturt.*] Mr. Boucicault told us that the "Dame aux Camélias" was played at the Lyceum Theatre?—I never knew that it had been acted here.

4859. It is at question 4286. Mr. Boucicault was asked, "It was refused a license, was it not"? and he said, "But it was given here at the Lyceum Theatre; they changed the title of the piece, but it was the same piece that was played in America, and I understand was played here by the lady who made so great a sensation in America in the part"?—I never heard of such a thing.

4860. With regard to political pieces, I think you are the author of a piece called the "Contested Election"?—Yes.

4861. Had you any trouble in obtaining the Lord Chamberlain's license for that piece?—None at all; the satire was general.

4862. It was not considered a piece of political tendency?—Not in the least; it was merely noticing what every newspaper was attacking.

4863. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] That piece has never been reproduced, has it?—Yes, it has been reproduced in the country, and it was played by Mr. Charles Matthews in town, too. It belongs to a country manager, to Mr. Knowles, of Manchester, and I have no control over the acting of it.

4864. There was no prohibition put to it after it first came out?—No, it ran for 100 nights, at first, I believe.

4865. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you conceive that a play on any political question, in which party feeling was running high, would not draw a full house?—I do not think so. Managers are very shy of any political allusions, because they know that party feeling is so divided, that if they made the theatre a political arena, the house would become a battle field, and they would call forth as much antagonism as applause.

4866. Do you think managers would be as shy of politics if the Lord Chamberlain's censorship were withdrawn?—Practically, I believe the censorship is null for the west-end theatres.

4867. Do you think that the general performance of burlesques has tended in any way to depreciate the public taste for legitimate drama?—I think it has interfered with it; it operates in various ways; it operates on the actors, for they are injured by the practice of playing in burlesque, and fitting themselves for it; and it tends to introduce a lower class of actors; whatever does that, tends to deter a better class from the profession, or a class that would furnish better actors. Whatever deteriorates theatrical performances, by way of lowering the standard, injures the demand for a better class of plays, and vitiates the taste of the public *pro tanto.*

4868. *Chairman.*] Do first-rate actors not act in burlesque?—Only peculiar actors, like Mr. Robson, for instance; but acting in burlesque injures them all, I think. I do not mean to say such burlesque as used to be written formerly, where the actors required intelligence to speak their parts, but the present burlesque, which goes in for Nigger-dancing, punning, and singing, which merely requires a certain aptitude for grimacing, and a peculiar kind of activity.

4869. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you think that the style of burlesque has deteriorated very much within the last 20 years?—Yes, very much.

T. Taylor, Esq.

7 May 1866.

4870. The burlesques played now are inferior to Mr. Planché's, for instance?—Obviously.

4871. Do you think that the performances at music halls have had any effect on burlesque?—*Pro tanto*, they have operated to encourage the same kind of thing; the style of performance is the same as at the music halls.

4872. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] I gather from your evidence, that though you say the censorship is to some extent null, that observation applies to the west-end theatres?—Yes.

4873. Can you give any recommendation with regard to the manner in which the censorship might be made more effectual?—I am afraid I cannot. I conceive the inspection is kept as a rod, hanging up, to be used when necessary.

4874. Would you withdraw it?—No, I would keep it *in terrorem*.

4875. You think that the existing powers might be useful?—Yes.

4876. They are sufficient, you think?—They are sufficient, as far as I know.

4877. You cannot suggest any improvement?—I have no practical suggestion to offer on that point.

4878. Will you tell us what was the precise operation, in your mind, of the patent for the old Royal theatres?—By reserving a particular class of theatre for a particular class of performance it made necessary a company that was capable of giving that kind of performance; it was an object of ambition to an actor to belong to such a company; when he once belonged to it he remained a member of it, and had a certain social status as well as a business one; is created an aristocracy of the profession. Men of education entered the profession, and were regularly trained up to it in country theatres with a view of entering one of those great London theatres; their position was then secured for life, and they did not change from one theatre to another. At present there is no such thing; the different companies are perpetually fluctuating; the practice is to make up a company of one or two good actors and a lot of sticks; it is exceedingly difficult to get any play, which involves any number of good characters, well acted in any theatre in London; I speak without exception.

4879. Mr. *Miller.*] You are an advocate for keeping up the system of licensing both to theatres and to music halls?—Yes.

4880. Could you tell the Committee what description of license you would give to each?—It would all turn on the question whether you are to extend the power of giving theatrical entertainments to music halls.

4881. Would you recommend that that should be done?—I should not recommend it, but at the same time I do not believe, having regard to the present state of things, it would do any great harm.

4882. Supposing it were done would you give them the privilege, which they now enjoy, of setting down the audience to eat and drink during the performance?—It appears to me that that involves the whole question. If music halls are to be turned into theatres, *cadit quæstio*; if they are to get the power of giving dramatic representations it is to be in combination with this smoking, eating and drinking. I do not think the combination would be wholesome, but at the same time I do not think it would operate in the way of direct depreciation of the quality of the entertainments at the theatres. Still it would *tend downwards*, because the caterers for such places are, generally speaking, of a lower class than the managers of theatres, and they would probably cater for even lower tastes. Again, no respectable woman of education, I assume, would go to such places as music halls. But ladies are the great staple audience of theatres, and they are the great restraint in matters of taste and propriety, and at any place opened as a theatre to which ladies could not resort, there would, I think, be a tendency to degradation or deterioration in the performances.

4883. But, taking all the circumstances into consideration, would you recommend that a license should be granted to the music halls, and that they should have the power of performing dramatic pieces, with the continual drinking that now goes on?—I should not recommend it.

4884. Will you inform the Committee what privileges you would grant to the music halls, and what license you would give to them?—I have not looked to that question; I have looked only to the one part that is immediately before you, namely, to dramatic performances; I have formed no idea of what performances should be allowed or prohibited.

4885. But, at all events, you would make a distinction between the license granted to theatres and the license granted to music halls?—I should. But I hope I am understood as speaking from my notions of the indirect influence of such a distinction, rather than from any notions of its direct influence.

4886. We have had it in evidence that drinking and the drama could not go on in the same building: practically, is that your opinion?—I think that the state of a man sitting and drinking his grog, and smoking his cigar, is not favourable to the habit of mind which can enjoy a high work of art, especially taking a number of such people together.

4887. *Chairman.*] Should you not say that that was rather the case in England than on the Continent?—The only places on the Continent where theatrical performances are given with such accompaniments, and where the companies are at all good, are the summer theatres at the German watering places; in France, I believe, there is no such place; the cafés chantants are simply for singing.

4888. But there is a rather high class of theatrical performance in some of the German summer theatres, is there not?—Yes; I have seen them, many years ago, not lately; and I dare say it is so. Of course, we must look to the habits of the population; and the habits of the German population are very sober, and comparatively refined. Smoking is their universal habit; they smoke in the regular theatres; and as many of the people in the gardens would be drinking wine or coffee as beer, the chances are it would be a perfectly sober audience.

4889. They would be able to appreciate the performance and attend to it?—Yes, they would; the German people are different from the English, and the circumstances that would be unfavourable to the one, would not necessarily be unfavourable to the other.

4890. Do you belong to the Dramatic Authors' Society?—Yes.

4891. How many authors belong to that society?—The secretary would be able to tell you; perhaps 50 or 60.

4892. Is the petition before the Committee signed

signed by conspicuous members of the society?—Some of the conspicuous members of the society are there. Mr. Boucicault is not a member; there are six or seven of the conspicuous members of the society who sign.

4893. Do those names, so far as you see, embrace the chief of the dramatic authors?—Some of them are highly respectable.

4894. But others are left out who are as important as those whose names are contained in the petition, I suppose?—Yes, certainly.

4895. Have you seen the petition?—Yes, I saw it last year. *T. Taylor, Esq.* 7 May 1866.

4896. The petition is this: "That your petitioners have found that the existing legislation concerning theatres operates as a restriction upon their industry, while it has not in any manner supported or elevated dramatic literature." You do not think it is a restriction on their industry?—I do not think so. There is no man capable of writing good pieces who cannot find ample employment, so far as I know.

4897. Have you anything further to add to your evidence?—I think not.

Horace Wigan, Esq., recalled; and further Examined.

4898. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you wish to explain a previous answer of yours?—Yes. An answer which is reported here, in reply to Question 4738, which was asked by the Honourable Member, Mr. Clay: "Do you know any instance, in any theatre where those ladies have been allowed to act without receiving any salary?—You put a question to me that I should have very great difficulty in replying to without throwing stones at my neighbours; but I have heard that theatrical managers have received sums of money to allow ladies to appear." What I meant by that was that I was not in possession of particular knowledge, and that I could hardly be called on to propagate scandal which I only knew as part of the *chronique scandaleuse*. I am not, in fact, in possession of any such positive knowledge; and all I meant was that I did not wish to repeat what I had heard. There is some information that I wish to tender to the Committee with regard to the subsidies to the French theatres. It has been said that those theatres do not pay, but the French theatres do not receive the subsidy for that purpose, but for the purpose of maintaining art; the Théâtre Français and the Odéon are nurseries for art, and the Government subsidizes them for the purpose of supporting the institution called the Conservatoire as a nursery for art. The aspirant for dramatic honours goes up on a certain day, when there is a *concours*, and says, "I wish to act and qualify for the Théâtre Français in the Conservatoire." They examine him in certain things, so as to be able to judge of his fitness, and they say, "We will take you"; then he is entitled to a salary of 60 francs a month, which is paid by the Government; or he is boarded, lodged, and clothed, if he is a musical aspirant. I believe that the extreme probationary term is three or four years. If he shows no disposition for gaining a prize, he is excluded; but if he goes up for one, then, on gaining a first-class prize, he is, as a matter of right, entitled to three appearances at the Théâtre Français, which is subsidized for the purpose; and then, if he stands his ground, he is entitled to a salary. If he gets a second prize, he is entitled to perform at the Odéon, and also to a small engagement. So that the French Government, while it gives the liberty of the theatres (though not to a greater extent than we do here), also fosters art, and is continually draughting into the profession a number of competent men. Fechter, Got, Regnier, and Sanson, were all pupils of the Conservatoire. The French Government, by the policy of subsidizing the theatres, keeps those places as nurseries for art.

4899. *Chairman.*] In fact, they apply the principle of competitive examination to acting?—Yes, they have competitive examination for acting; the pupils are maintained at the Government expense during the probationary course, and they are constantly turning out well-qualified actors, and they maintain a fixed standard of art. *H. Wigan, Esq.*

4900. Mr. *Du Cane.*] You mean to say, that it is a matter of perfect indifference whether it is a paying concern or not?—Yes, quite so; the Government does not look at it in that light at all.

4901. Mr. *Locke.*] But suppose it is not a paying concern, do you not think that would show that the taste of the public in France has somewhat deteriorated?—I do not think so.

4902. Or, at all events, that they do not care about the performances at the Théâtre Français, and that they would rather go to other theatres, such as the Palais Royal, which is full every night, and pays very well?—The taste of the Paris public for many years has been changing very much as it is here; they no longer like or care to see Molière or Racine, they prefer the modern style of piece; but the Théâtre Français is a school, and from the very fact of their turning out good actors the other theatres are obliged to compete with them.

4903. You think that a school is necessary?—No, not necessary, but highly desirable.

4904. You think that it has a good effect?—The best possible effect.

4905. It produces very much better actors than theatrical free trade, you think?—Yes, I think that the French actors are incomparably superior to ours.

4906. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You think that it is one of the duties of a Government to elevate the taste of the public?—I should conceive that it was the duty of a Government to foster art in every way.

4907. Mr. *Locke.*] Have they anything of the sort in Italy with regard to singing?—I believe so.

4908. We have an academy for music in London?—Yes; and music has advanced very much since its establishment.

4909. *Chairman.*] Are you acquainted with the Austrian system?—No.

4910. There is a State theatre there, like the Théâtre Français, is there not?—I have heard so.

4911. Have you heard whether the actors receive pensions from the State there?—I have heard so; just as at the Théâtre Français, but I cannot tell.

4912. Can you tell us anything with regard to the country theatres; you have visited them much, have you not?—Yes, some years ago.

H. Wigan, Esq.

7 May 1866.

I have been in London now for 12 years; but whenever I have a holiday, I always go, if in the country, to the theatres, and see how they work; but you cannot do better than inquire of one of the most respectable theatrical agents. I can only speak as an occasional spectator.

4913. Can you tell the Committee how the system of licensing works in the country?—The country theatres are licensed by the local magistrates.

4914. Have you ever heard of any caprice on the part of local magistrates with regard to the licensing of theatres in the country?—No; I have heard (but I am afraid it is not an instance in point) that in Scotland when the Prince's Theatre in Glasgow was about to be licensed, there was a very strong opposition, and the lessee boasted that he took the Act of Parliament in his pocket, and compelled the magistrate to grant the license; at all events, he obtained his license.

4915. Have you ever heard of difficulties on the part of lessees in obtaining licenses in any of the provincial towns?—Yes; I think there was a difficulty some time ago at Ramsgate, but they did obtain their license ultimately.

4916. Can you tell the Committee the circumstances?—No, I cannot, but they are reported.

4917. You do not remember on what ground it was objected to?—It was bigotry, I think.

4918. Does it lie within the discretion of the magistrates whether they will allow a theatre to be opened or not?—I am not lawyer enough to know; but my impression is, that they have no such discretion; I think, that if a person gives proper security, the granting of the license is compulsory.

4919. Have you ever had an interest in a provincial theatre?—Never.

4920. Mr. *Miller.*] Can you draw any comparison between the effect of a license granted within the Lord Chamberlain's province and a magistrate's license?—I think it would be highly desirable that the licenses should all come from one officer, and for this reason, that a bench of magistrates are a changeable body.

4921. If a central officer in London (say, the Lord Chamberlain) were to grant licenses for the country, do you think it would improve the drama in the country?—I do not think that the question of the improvement of the drama arises thereon at all, because all the pieces in the country are under the Lord Chamberlain's censorship, though the licenses for the theatres are not.

4922. Then what advantage would there be in removing the licensing from the magistrates to the Lord Chamberlain?—It might be less capricious.

4923. Do you know of any instance of caprice on the part of the magistrates?—The difficulty of obtaining a license in Ramsgate, I believe, arose from objectors on the bench; but on a central officer no such influence could be brought to bear. A bench of magistrates may be influenced many ways in the neighbourhood.

4924. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Would you have a system of central inspectors, and a system of inspectorship in the provinces, or how would you provide for knowing whether a theatre was building in a particular locality?—According to my view, no such matter would arise, because I am a free-trader. I contend now that in London, where there is one officer, free trade does exist. I do not believe, if I were to build a theatre to-morrow, with proper regulations, that the Lord Chamberlain could or would even dare refuse to grant a license; it would be a matter of course. And I presume that if the same officer had the superintendence of the country theatres, it would be the same thing; at all events, I think, it ought.

4925. He must have somebody to supervise the theatres in the provinces?—Yes, he must have a proper staff.

4926. He would require a large staff?—He must have the requisite staff, of course.

4927. You would have assistant inspectors for the provinces, under the central inspector in London?—Yes, to say that such a theatre is properly constructed, safe, and so on; and then there should be no question about the license.

4928. You would not allow the municipal or country magistrates to have any voice in the matter?—None; it should be unrestricted.

4929. Colonel *Sturt.*] Would you not propose the same system for Scotland and Ireland?—Yes.

Nelson Lee, Esq., called in; and Examined.

N. Lee, Esq.

4930. You are Manager of the City of London Theatre?—I am; I have been manager of Sadler's Wells Theatre, lessee of the Pavilion Theatre, lessee of the Standard Theatre, and I have had the City of London Theatre for 18 years.

4931. So that you have been for many years connected with the theatres?—Yes, I had a travelling theatre previous to that, and I went through provinces.

4932. You are also connected with the Crystal Palace?—Yes, on festive occasions.

4933. On these occasions do you arrange the performances?—Yes, I arrange the amusements.

4934. Could you tell the Committee something about the time when you had a travelling theatre?—Yes, that was 29 years ago.

4935. What kind of license did you have for that travelling theatre?—I had no license; I used to visit the different towns, and wait on the magistrates to obtain their permission.

4936. You took a company round with you?—I took a company round with me, and remained sometimes a month and sometimes six weeks, at such towns as Reading, Oxford, Dartford, Ealing Green, and places where there were no theatres.

4937. Can you tell the Committee how many actors you took round with you?—I took a regular company. When I became lessee of the theatre, during the time I had that theatre, I used to close my own theatre and sublet it for the summer, and take my own company.

4938. Has that system gone out of fashion?—Yes; there are travelling companies who go round, but there never was any so large as mine.

4939. What kind of license would now be necessary for a travelling company?—I have heard lately that parties performing have been summoned before the magistrate and fined, but I avoided that by obtaining a distinct permission before I commenced.

4940. From the bench of magistrates?—Yes.

4941. Have you ever had cases where that permission was refused?—I think not.

4942. Used

4942. Used there to be a discussion on the point?—I always had very strong credentials when I left a town. The magistrates used to give me letters speaking of the respectability of my company. I had them from clergymen, magistrates, mayors, and so on; and I used to send them before I went, and I was never refused.

4943. Do you know much about the state of the drama in the provinces; has the taste for dramatic performances increased in the country?—I have been confined to London for many years now; therefore, I can tell you little of the state of the drama in the provinces.

4944. What kind of pieces are generally performed at the City of London Theatre now?—It varies; I consider the principle of my theatre is for domestic drama; and after sensational pieces became the vogue I resorted to them, and found them the most profitable.

4945. How many new pieces do you produce in a year?—When I am in full swing, I should say 10; now the railroad is coming through me, and I have sublet my theatre.

4946. Have you found a difficulty in procuring pieces fit for performance at your theatre?—Recently I have. There are no fresh sensations to be got; you cannot throw a man off a rock every day.

4947. Have you ever been in the position that you have had five or six good pieces offered you, and you did not know which to choose?—Never. I had at one time the late Mr. John Wilkins on a salary, and he wrote one piece a month. I have several of his plays which were never acted; he was an excellent author, and if he had lived he would have been a very first-class man.

4948. Have you paid as good prices for pieces lately as formerly?—Yes, but our remuneration at the East end of London has not been very great; but still we have paid a good sum for pieces.

4949. Now, with regard to the taste of your audience there; have you ever had any trouble with the Lord Chamberlain?—Never; I have always received the greatest courtesy from him. If there was a line that was immoral or bad, it was always cut out; and if there was any question about its being cut out, he sent an officer to see if it was attended to.

4950. Have you ever noticed any capricious decisions on his part?—No, not at all. If the word "God" is used, I generally cut it out myself, or anything political I always cut out.

4951. Do you remember cases where you have felt annoyed at erasures being made?—Never.

4952. Have you ever sent in a piece for the Lord Chamberlain's supervision that has ever been refused?—No, never.

4953. Now, supposing that the pieces were not passed by the Lord Chamberlain, would you rely on your audience checking every allusion or immorality that should be cut out; would they stand anything that the Lord Chamberlain would cut out: would the public be as particular as the Lord Chamberlain?—No, certainly not.

4954. You do not think that some of those things that might be cut out by the Lord Chamberlain would so offend the taste of the public that they would insist on its being stopped themselves?—No, certainly not.

4955. Then, as the proprietor of a theatre, are you against the continuance of the system of licensing plays?—No, I think it is just. I am not against it by any means.

4956. Do you think it necessary?—Positively necessary. I think that many pieces would be played that would be very injurious if the licensing system were abolished.

4957. Your audience would not hoot an immoral piece off the stage, you think?—I think not.

4958. Would it rather draw an audience?—Sometimes it might.

4959. Are there many music halls in your neighbourhood that compete with the theatres?—Very many. There are some as low as a penny, twopence, or threepence.

4960. What are your own lowest prices at your theatre?—The prices are, gallery 3*d.*, pit 6*d.*, boxes 1*s.*, and reserved seats 1*s.* 6*d.*

4961. Do your galleries fill generally?—Yes.

4962. Have you found any difference in their filling since the music halls have become so fashionable?—Yes, a great difference.

4963. They do not fill so well now?—Certainly not.

4964. If a man has got 3*d.*, which would he prefer, a theatre or a music hall?—Tastes differ; if he likes his pipe he would go to a music hall.

4965. Is there any eating and drinking in your theatre?—Not any in the auditorium, nor is there any drink taken round the theatre, nor any smoking.

4966. Cannot they get beer in the gallery?—Yes, by going to a room at the back of the gallery which is used as a bar.

4967. Do they frequently drink much beer between the acts?—Not very much. I get a very trifling sum for it; it is so nominal that it is hardly worth mentioning.

4968. A man who wanted to drink would be more likely to go to a music hall?—Yes, there is more freedom about it. I have police regulations in the theatre, and there is no noise. Now, in music halls there is a general conversation going on during the performances; many do not care a pin about the performances.

4969. Have you been to some of those music halls in your neighbourhood?—Yes.

4970. Then you speak from personal experience?—Yes.

4971. What is the chief attraction in those music halls?—The chief attraction is the music, comic singing, and acrobatic performances.

4972. Have they ever tried, at the east end, semi-dramatic performances?—Yes, duologues.

4973. Spoken?—Yes, between two men.

4974. Have they been a favourite part of the performance?—I do not go often enough to say; generally I go when there are acrobatic performances, to see if it is worth engaging for my country fêtes and Societies' fêtes, and the nobilities' fêtes, which I get up in the summer.

4975. Would you see any objection to allowing dramatic performances at those music halls at the East end?—Yes, most unquestionably; it would be an injury to them, and bring ruin on them; and for the time being it would ruin the theatres.

4976. Do you think if the music halls had permission to perform pieces, they would do it?—They would endeavour to compete with the theatres, involve themselves in a world of expense, and not accomplish their object at last.

4977. Then you suppose that they would act in a foolish way?—Yes; in fact, I hear from several of the music-hall proprietors that they have no desire to perform pieces.

N. Lee, Esq.
7 May 1866.

4978. Then if they had the power granted to them, they would not necessarily do it, would they?—They would be obliged to do it if their neighbours did.

4979. Therefore they would ruin themselves in a body?—Yes, I seriously think so.

4980. As a theatrical manager, would you be afraid of ruined music halls?—I think it would degrade the drama, and do an injury in every way. I should be very sorry to see it.

4981. You think that if they were to act the same kind of pieces as you give at the City of London Theatre, it would degrade the drama?—It would do it an injury.

4982. In what way would it do it an injury?—Because there would be drinking, smoking, and eating, and the people could not pay attention to the context of the piece from the noise and buzz of gentlemen walking about at those places; the piece would be mutilated.

4983. And you think that would tend to spoil the acting?—Yes, I think so.

4984. Is your audience attentive?—Very attentive when there is a good piece being performed. I had a piece called "Waiting for the Verdict," that ran nearly a whole season; that was very profitable, and several pieces of the late John Wilkins are equally attractive. "Civilization" with Mr. Anderson in it. "Zenobia, Queen of Palmyra," and various other pieces of the kind.

4985. Are the audience at your theatre as attentive as a West-end audience, on the whole?—Not on the whole; I cannot say that.

4986. But there is much less conversation at your theatre than there is during the performance at the music halls?—Yes, certainly.

4987. Mr. *Locke*.] Do you think that the music halls would produce a class of pieces that would suit their audience, if they had the privilege of putting on the stage whatever they liked?—That I cannot answer. I should be very sorry to see it; it would not increase their attraction in any shape, because at the music halls drink is the chief object.

4988. But do you not consider if the music halls had the privilege they would merely produce that which would be attractive; is not that what you do yourself?—Certainly.

4989. Have you any reason to suppose that the proprietors of music halls would not do exactly the same?—They might.

4990. Do you think that they wish to ruin themselves?—No, I do not think so.

4991. It is not the desire of anybody to do that, is it?—But I have heard several of the music-hall proprietors say that they would rather be left alone; they do not wish to meddle with the theatres.

4992. They would not do it unless it suited their purpose, I suppose?—There are sufficient number of theatres in London; and if the music halls were allowed to perform dramatic pieces, there would be no difference between the two.

4993. You would rather have a monopoly?—I think music halls ought to be music halls, and theatres theatres; they have the advantage over theatres 20 per cent.

4994. But nobody is compelled by law to open either a theatre or a music hall?—Certainly not; but if they play pieces, and have drink too, they have an advantage over theatres.

4995. Would you prohibit drinking at your theatre, or would you like to have it?—Not under any circumstances.

4996. It would not be to your interest, perhaps?—If it was granted I would not have it; nobody could sit down in front of my stalls with drinking, eating, and smoking going on and listen to a serious piece; if you go to the Adelphi and see "Rip Van Winkle," you can hear a pin drop; or go to the Olympic and see the refined acting of Kate Terry, if anybody sitting next to you was even to speak a word, everybody would look round, and say "silence."

4997. Do you not think that acting such as that, in pieces such as those, would always command an audience who would not wish to eat, drink, and smoke at the same time?—Yes, it should do so; but there are some people who would have it, whether or not.

4998. But it would not be to your interest to have a certain number of people coming there to interrupt others, would it; it would be your wish to have your house filled by lovers of the drama?—Yes, but if the same play was being played at a music hall close by me, if they had the advantage of eating, drinking, and smoking, a great many would go there.

4999. They would like both things together, you think?—Yes.

5000. But still you would have enough for your own theatre, would you not?—That has got to be tried.

5001. After all, it comes to this: that you do not like to have those places giving dramatic performances, because they may interfere with you?—I am not so selfish as that; I am speaking for the general good, and for them as much as myself.

5002. Are there not a great many persons who like eating, smoking, and drinking, who would be benefited, and somewhat elevated in taste, by having better performances put before them than the music halls are now allowed to place on the stage; would not it do them more good to see a vaudeville than a man jumping about with his face blacked?—During the time I am speaking Hamlet's soliloquy, perhaps a man asks for potatoes and a kidney.

5003. Even if Hamlet's soliloquy did not help him to digest his kidney, it would not do him any harm, would it?—They have got sufficient; they have got ballets.

5004. But do you think that they should be allowed to perform ballets?—I have no objection; it is part and parcel of my living. I have written hundeds of pantomimes; one season I had them played in nearly every theatre in London, in the country, America, and Australia. I was induced to stop writing for other London theatres, thinking it would be a great benefit to my own theatre; it had the reverse effect. I did not stop for the purpose of enabling other authors to get a living; I stopped, because I thought that people would come to my theatre more. When I did it for various theatres, they used to go and see them; and then say "we will go and see his own, for that must be better still"; and then when I applied to be re-instated at other theatres, they had got other authors, perhaps, better than myself, so I have not written so many lately.

5005. Then if music halls did ballets, you would get a fresh start, would you not?—It would be against human nature to say that I should refuse it.

5006. You have no objection to ballet then?—None whatever; particularly if they were pantomime ballets.

5007. You would furnish the music halls with materials if they wanted it?—Certainly.

5008. Then it comes to a matter of self-interest, does it?—I am not so selfish as all that. I only say what I think for the moment. I would waive all my self-interest to hear that it is not granted.

5009. What, besides ballets and pantomimes, should be done at music halls, do you think?—It is only sketches; I would not write a complete pantomime for a music hall.

5010. Farce would do very well there, would it not?—No, I think not.

5011. Why not; not a broad farce?—No; there are plenty of broad songs.

5012. Have they broad songs?—I never heard them.

5013. And a broad farce, you think, would not do?—It would be very broad I am thinking; when a party has had a few glasses, any joke, with the slightest *double entendre*, goes down.

5014. They have *doubles entendres* sometimes on your stage, have they not?—Yes; but the audience are too refined to notice it.

5015. Have you such *doubles entendres* as your audience cannot understand?—They let them pass; they would make no joke upon them.

5016. Your *double entendre* is above the heads of the audience, is it?—Perhaps it is above their intellectual powers.

5017. I suppose you have a select few in the boxes who do understand?—I am very careful in that particular; I do not have many.

5018. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you wish to see the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain continued?—Most unquestionably; I have always received every courtesy from him, and at the same time he has cut out those matters that I conceived myself, on reflection, are very justly cut out.

5019. You think that it has had a beneficial effect with regard to the morality of the pieces?—Yes, I think so.

5020. I suppose you never introduced, on your own stage, any performances similar to those given at music halls; acrobat, or Ethiopian performances?—Yes, in pantomimes I have.

5021. Do you think that the music halls, in your neighbourhood, could afford to put on the stage the same style of play as you do, with as good scenery and as good a cast of actors?—No, certainly not; they have not got the convenience, and the expenses would overwhelm them. It would destroy their character as music halls, and they would have to launch into great expenses.

5022. But I thought you rather dreaded their competition in that way; you seemed to think that both kinds of places might represent the same kind of play?—No, I was speaking about ballet sketches and pantomimic sketches, which are very light affairs, occupying about four people.

5023. Have you ever, at music halls in your neighbourhood, heard indecent or immoral songs?—No, not particularly in my neighbourhood; but it has been communicated to me that there have been indecent songs at various places; they are published, and you can read them.

5024. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you think that you have suffered, in a pecuniary point of view, by the establishment of music halls in your neighbourhood?—Certainly; Fridays and Saturdays we used to have a great quantity of Jews, and since the establishment of music halls the Jews, who are passionately fond of music, go there, and I cannot blame them, for they have what they like; but I have suffered in that way very materially.

5025. Your prices are rather lower than the prices at the West-end theatres, are they not?—Half as much.

5026. Do you not think that if the West-end theatres were to lower their prices they would be able to compete more successfully with the music halls?—No, I fear not, because the salaries of their performers are so much heavier than mine.

5027. Would you object to a pantomime or burlesque being given at a music hall, provided the number of persons on the stage were limited to two or three?—I think I should have no objection to that.

5028. You would allow smoking, eating, and drinking to go on?—Burlesques I should have a greater objection to than pantomime and ballet, anything of speaking brings it more to a theatre.

5029. But you would not object to a pantomime or a ballet being given at a music hall provided the number of performers was not more than three?—They do duologues now.

5030. Would you object to three?—It is cutting it very fine.

5031. Would you object to four?—Yes, I should object to that, they could do a great many farces with three or four.

5032. But you would not object to ballets?—No, I do not think there is the slightest objection to ballets so long as there is no speaking.

5033. Mr. *Clive.*] We had Mr. Boucicault examined here two days ago, and he said this, "I am rather inclined to think that if the music halls were allowed to give (and already all their entertainments are illegal every night) a better class of performance, it would raise the taste of those persons, as it has already done, to a certain extent, and the theatres themselves would be benefited by it. All the large fortunes that have been made by theatrical managers during the last 10 years in London and the principal provincial towns have been mainly owing to the music halls that have catered for them." You see that Mr. Boucicault is of opinion that the music halls contributed to the welfare of the theatres by catering for them and raising the taste of the people who go there?—I do not know what he means by "catering" for them.

5034. He means by bringing up the public taste, "feeding" them is his expression?—I beg leave most respectively to differ from him.

5035. Mr. *Clay.*] I think you have stated that you have never heard any indecent or immoral song at the music halls?—No.

5036. Could you send us any witness here who has?—No, I should not like to make it my business to do so. The song books are published.

5037. I suppose you have never heard from anybody whom you would trust that they had heard indecent or immoral songs at music halls?—No, I never have.

5038. Now, suppose it was left entirely to you to draw a line of distinction between music halls and theatres, what would your conditions be; what would you allow and what would you prohibit?—It requires some reflection: I could draw out a draft of what I think the music halls should do. What the theatre does is fully established. The

N. Lee, Esq.
7 May 1866.

music halls now do selections, comic singing, acrobatic performances, and they might do sketch ballets, and so on.

5039. Would you allow them, instead of having selections from operas, which makes a sort of concert, to perform the operas themselves, with dresses?—No; I should think that would be interfering, body and soul, with the theatres: we could not live if that was done; it is quite out of the question.

5040. Does not it occur to you that the prohibition makes it more difficult for the music halls to live; live and let live being a good maxim which cuts both ways?—To counteract that prohibition they get 20 per cent. by the drink, that is an enormous qualification.

5041. Do you believe it possible to draw any line between music halls and theatres, with regard to the performances which should be permitted at both, which will not lead to constant disputes and litigations, the music halls naturally wishing to go beyond the line, and the theatres wishing to repel them even from coming exactly up to that line?—I think, with the volubility of evidence that you have had, you will be able to draw a line.

5042. But no one as yet having pretended to say that it would be possible to draw a line which would not lead to litigation and disputes, I ask whether you can suggest any line of demarcation which would not lead to constant disputes between music halls and theatres?—It would be a very difficult thing for me to do; I should not like to undertake that.

5043. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to add anything to your evidence?—No.

H. J. Turner, Esq., called in; and Examined.

H. J. Turner, Esq.

5044. *Chairman.*] You are a Theatrical Agent, are you not?—I am.

5045. Can you tell the Committee what business that involves?—Receiving from managers their instructions with regard to what actors or actresses they require, and furnishing them with them.

5046. The managers let you know what kind of actors or actresses they require?—They do.

5047. You act between the two?—Yes.

5048. Do you act in the same way for the music halls?—Very rarely; sometimes I do.

5049. I suppose there is no man who is more acquainted with the general scale of the salaries of actors and actresses than you are?—I should say that few men are better acquainted with them than I am.

5050. Do you act for the provinces?—I act both for town and the provinces.

5051. Now, on the whole, have the salaries of actors risen or fallen within the last few years?—I should say, in the provinces they have risen from one-third to one-half.

5052. And there is a great demand for both actors and actresses, I suppose?—There is a great demand. I find a very great difficulty in supplying the managers, either in town or in the country, with the ladies and gentlemen they require.

5053. There is not any large number of unemployed actors or actresses, is there?—I think there are very few good actors or actresses unemployed.

5054. If there were many more theatres, would it be difficult to supply that larger number with actors and actresses?—I think it would.

5055. Do the numbers increase in the theatrical profession?—I should say not. There are a great many theatres built, but the numbers of the profession have not increased in the same ratio.

5056. Are there many actors taken away by the music halls?—There are a great many subordinate ones; young men who can sing a song. The payment is much better in music halls than in theatres.

5057. I presume that the establishment of those music halls has been very satisfactory to the theatres?—I should think that it is very unsatisfactory.

5058. Has it raised the salary of the performers? Not the general profession; only those who have attached themselves to the music halls.

5059. But it has lessened the number of actors, has it not?—Yes, it has lessened the number of actors.

5060. If it has lessened the number of actors, surely it has given more employment and more remunerative employment to those who remain over?—That state of things is not desirable, because many young men, instead of devoting themselves entirely to the profession, have been withdrawn from the theatres simply because they could get more money in the music halls, whereas otherwise they would have proceeded with their theatrical studies, and perhaps have matured into good actors and actresses.

5061. But taking the point of view of actors and actresses, it seems pretty certain that your view is, that the establishment of music halls has tended to raise the salaries of actors?—I am not certain that that has been the sole cause, but I know that since the music halls have been established the salaries of actors and actresses have increased.

5062. It has also diminished the number of actors, you say?—Yes, I think so.

5063. But generally, in a profession, is it not the fact that the fewer there are in it the more remunerative it is for those who are in it?—Generally it is so.

5064. If there were any employment that were to take away a number of gentlemen from the bar, would not that be satisfactory to those who remained?—It would require a *very* large number to be taken away from the bar to make it satisfactory to those who remained.

5065. In the same way, if a large number were taken away from theatres by music halls, would not it be satisfactory to those who remained in the profession?—Not altogether; I do not think the performances are so well given as if subordinate parts were entrusted to the hands of clever men, consequently it may operate to deteriorate the opinion entertained of the profession by the general public.

5066. As a matter of fact, whatever the result may be, the music halls are unpopular with actors and actresses, are they not?—I think so, generally.

5067. And in the profession generally it is considered rather a pity that those music halls have come so into fashion, is it not?—Yes.

5068. Would an actor go to a music hall for the

the same salary as that for which he acts at a theatre?—I think not.

5069. Though the salary might be higher at a music hall, would that induce him to go?—To induce him to leave the theatre, the salary would have to be much higher, I think.

5070. You know, I suppose, that the salaries are better at music halls than at theatres?—I believe that they are very much better.

5071. So that it is a profitable employment to actors?—It is profitable to those who engage in it. They are not all actors; they are recruited, not simply from the stage, but any young man who can sing a good song obtains employment at the music halls.

5072. It is considered *infra dig.* for an actor to go to a music hall?—Certainly; the theatres are never recruited from music halls.

5073. It has been stated that Mr. Robson came from the Grecian Saloon?—The Grecian Saloon was a theatre at the time Mr. Robson was there.

5074. You know of no other cases?—No; but Mr. Robson's is scarcely a case in point.

5075. When was the Grecian Saloon a music hall?—There are two buildings; one in which concerts are given, and the theatre proper; at the theatre proper, the performances are carried on as in every other theatre.

5076. Are you aware that Miss Carlotta Leclercq sprung from the Grecian Music Hall?—I cannot think so; that is very unlikely. I knew her father many years ago; he was then in a theatre. I do not know that he ever left the theatre to go to a music hall. I should think she has been cradled in the profession.

5077. It is not correct then to say that Miss Carlotta Leclercq sprung up from a music hall?—It is very incorrect, I should say.

5078. Or Miss Marie Wilton?—Her father was a provincial actor, and she was also one; she was cradled in the profession, and she played children's parts until she came to womanhood, and then became an actress. I have heard (though I do not know) that she had been engaged in the ballet somewhere or other.

5079. Have you ever heard that she was said to have sprung from the Sunderland Music Hall?—No.

5080. Now, generally, do you think that the music halls supply theatres with actors, and that they can be considered at all as a school for actors?—I should think it impossible that they could constitute a school for actors.

5081. You think that the music halls would spoil actors rather than otherwise?—I am quite sure of it.

5082. Why?—I have always noticed in the performances that the songs given have been of a low order.

5083. Is the taste of the audience at music halls different from what it is at theatres?—Essentially so.

5084. What would constitute the chief difference?—Those who go to theatres go to listen to poesy in the language of our best authors, whereas those who go to the music halls go to gratify their sensual tastes in eating, drinking, and smoking; and it is incompatible with eating, drinking, and smoking, listening to a good author.

5085. You think that the public go to theatres to listen to the best authors?—Yes.

5086. Do they not sometimes go to listen to the worst authors?—They may be compelled if it is part of the programme.

5087. But sometimes at a theatre the audience is not always in proportion to the merit of the author?—I think that may be the case among the less intelligent portions.

5088. I speak not only of the West-end theatres, but of the East-end?—I do not know much about the East-end theatres.

5089. But do you think that the highest class drama, in a literary point of view, draws the best houses?—I think it does not.

5090. Then they do not go to see the best author?—In a modern drama it must be accompanied by sensational effects.

5091. Frequently they go to see most beautiful scenery, the spectacle?—Yes, in common with the other attractions.

5092. But if they had the same thing at the music halls, where would the difference be between them and the theatres?—If you could make the performance at the Alhambra or any other music hall as good as that at the theatre there would be no difference between them, but that is impossible. In the first place, if you were to increase the number of theatres you would not find actors to supply the demand.

5093. But if the salaries rose in amount, and the profession in public estimation, would not that increase the number of actors?—It might, in the course of years, but not at present.

5094. We have had it in evidence that more men of education join the profession than did formerly; in your opinion is that so?—It is my impression that it is so.

5095. Then how do you account for the diminution in the number?—I do not know how to account for it. I think a greater number of men of education are more desirous of joining the profession than formerly. I have had many who have been engaged in the legal profession, and officers of the army, very desirous of engaging in the theatrical profession.

5096. The total number who enter the profession is less, but the number of educated men is greater; is that so?—I think so.

5097. But if that is the case, you cannot say that the theatrical profession is going out of favour, can you?—I think it is increasing in favour.

5098. Notwithstanding the competition of the music halls?—Yes, the theatres prosper.

5099. Therefore you have got no evidence, as yet, that the music halls are acting in a way such as to make the theatrical profession degenerate; in fact, the theatrical profession is not degenerating you say?—I think that the style of pieces is not so good as it used to be.

5100. But, generally speaking, the profession of an actor is as high as it was?—Socially considered, he is infinitely higher than he used to be.

5101. Then, so far as any practical result on actors goes, the establishment of music halls has not done harm?—Yes, I think it does do harm; it draws people to witness an inferior performance who otherwise would attend theatres to witness a superior performance.

5102. I understood you to say that the remuneration of actors is at a better point now than it has ever been?—In the provinces it is, certainly.

5103. Not in London?—I do not think that there have been much alteration in the London salaries.

H. J. Turner, Esq.

7 May 1866.

5104. It is not worse in London, is it?—I think, not worse. I think the payments among the subordinates are, perhaps, a shade worse; but in the better class (not stars, but experienced actors) the salaries are very much better.

5105. What would be the effect, in your judgment, on those who avail themselves of your services, of throwing open the music halls for theatrical performances?—That I should be overwhelmed with applications, and unable to meet the demand. A very inferior class of men would go to the music halls to sustain business which they could not sustain.

5106. If that would create such a demand for their services, would it not be welcomed by all actors?—They would not be anxious to go to the music halls.

5107. The result would be this, that the music hall managers would come to you, and ask for actors, but the actors would not be inclined to go?—Established good actors would not be inclined to go.

5108. It would cut off the future supply, by taking off the younger men, if the established actors would not go?—Yes, it has already done that to some extent, as I have before explained.

5109. Would not their going be a question of salary?—I think not even that would induce them to go.

5110. They would not go for even double the salary, you think?—That might induce some of them to go, but the number would be very few.

5111. Is it generally thought in the theatrical profession that there are not sufficient theatres?—I am scarcely prepared to answer that question. I think, as the population of London increases, it will be necessary to build new theatres.

5112. Do you think that there is a greater number anxious to go to theatres than can be accommodated by the present theatres?—If you could imagine the population being stationary, perhaps there are enough; but it is not so; there must be an increased number of theatres.

5113. Do the actors who come to you and ask you to find them an appointment at the London theatres on the stage, say that they would have greater opportunities if there were more theatres?—No, I think not.

5114. I suppose, on the whole, you have seldom got any large number of actors seeking for places?—Very seldom; good actors in the provinces hesitate to accept London places, even at double the salaries that they would have had formerly.

5115. In fact, good actors are snapped up?—Yes, good actors are snapped up.

5116. Are they more anxious to act in London than in the provinces?—They are not as anxious to perform in London as they used to be since the patents were taken from the two large theatres.

5117. They do not mind so much where they act?—No, so long as they get good business and a good salary.

5118. I thought you said that they did not care so much for salary as they cared for acting to an intelligent public?—They do like to act to an intelligent public, but they like to be paid for it.

5119. Then what is their great objection to the music halls, if they act to an intelligent public?—The actor supposes that the music-hall public is not quite so intelligent.

5120. Do you think that a man who smokes is less intelligent than a man who does not smoke?—I think it is impossible that a man can eat, drink, and smoke, and pay attention to the words so well; perhaps he is discussing the qualities of his glass of grog.

5121. But is not a man who smokes as well able to appreciate a piece as a man who is not smoking?—It is just possible, but not if it is accompanied by drinking.

5122. Mr. *Clive.*] You have said that you thought the number of actors could not be increased for many years?—I think it would take some years if you increase the number of theatres, or convert the music halls into places of dramatic entertainment; it would be some years before there would be a sufficient number of men to fulfil the demand.

5123. Why is that?—Already we have a difficulty in finding men of intelligence and experience to fill the situations.

5124. I thought you said that officers and barristers, and so on, were anxious to become actors?—Yes.

5125. Then how does the difficulty arise?—It is not always the case that they are capable.

5126. But if the public at the music halls would like to hear them, why should they not?—I do not think they would go to the music halls to feather their wings there.

5127. Why not, if they had a good salary?—I never heard one of them desire that.

5128. Suppose the music halls could give dramatic entertainments, is there any reason why that class of gentlemen should not feather their wings there?—I do not think that the music-hall proprietors would care much about making those places a school for such actors; they would rather desire to get men of experience and talent, than to convert their music halls into schools for the young seekers of the profession.

5129. Mr. *Locke.*] When you say smoking, eating, and drinking make attention difficult, I presume you mean drinking to excess?—No, I do not; I mean that drinking at all would divert a man's attention from the due consideration and enjoyment of a play.

5130. Now, the Right Honourable Chairman of the Committee is drinking at this moment, and we have most of us had a glass of sherry during the day, do you think we are unfit to discharge our duties?—You place me in a very awkward position, but I think nothing of the kind.

5131. Does not it depend on the quantity; if a man has a glass of wine, or a glass of brandy and water, can that interfere with him in such a way as to prevent his enjoying a reasonable performance?—I think it is very possible that the Chairman was thinking more of his sherry than of the question you were putting to me.

5132. Then you are wrong, for he stopped drinking his sherry on purpose to remind me of the fact when I put you the question; but you *must* mean, in fact, that some men drink too much?—It involves other points; he must call for his cigar or his grog, and it may not be good, and he might express his disapprobation to the waiter, and then he must discuss it with his companion; all those things divert his attention.

5133. That is an unfortunate thing for him, is it not?—Yes.

5134. But if he chooses to see a play, and have his attention now and then diverted, and if after all he is amused and sees a good play, do you not think it is all the better for him?—Yes, if it is a good

good play it is all the better for him; but I do not think it is all the better for the drama.

5135. But it is better for all who go to music halls under those circumstances, and that means thousands of people, does it not?—Thousands, no doubt.

5136. Are there more persons going to music halls than there are going to theatres?—Perhaps so, the number of music halls being greater.

5137. Then if better performances are now to be given at those places those people's tastes would be improved rather than deteriorated, would they not?—*If* the performances were better.

5138. Then what is your reason for saying that the performances ought not to be better; that is to say, that they should not have an opportunity of performing pieces of the stage?—I think it would be impossible to supply them with actors sufficient in number to meet this new demand.

5139. That is the ground you put it on, is it: that the music halls could not find actors to meet the demand?—In addition to that, they must entirely change the nature of their entertainments; they must cease to be music halls and become theatres.

5140. Suppose they did?—I have no objection, if they become theatres, and come under the same restrictions as the theatres are now under.

5141. But if what we are talking about is the benefit of the public, not the benefit of the keepers of music halls or theatres either, what objection can you have if those performances would have the effect of amusing the people and improving their tastes?—I do not think there is any objection to there being a sufficient number of theatres; but if the music halls generally were opened in that way, the number would be so overwhelming that they would tend to ruin each other.

5142. There would be too much competition, you think?—There would be too many people in the field.

5143. Then you are a monopolist, are you?—No, I hope not.

5144. Then what are you?—There should be a sufficient number, but if you were to throw open the whole of the music halls I think there would be more than sufficient.

5145. You think there would be too much of a good thing; you have no other objection?—No, not if they were conducted on the same principles as the theatres are conducted.

5146. Colonel *Sturt.*] You have never acted professionally in obtaining engagements for actors and actresses for the music halls have you?—Yes, I have acted for the music halls.

5147. Do you continue to act for them now?—Only rarely, because there are agents whose special business it is.

5148. Is it not the fact that the salaries are generally higher in music halls than in theatres?—They are much higher, I think.

5149. Did you say that you thought the competition of music halls had raised the salaries of actors and actresses at the theatres?—It may partially tend to that.

5150. You do not attribute the great rise in the salaries at the theatres to the action of the music halls?—No, I think not. I think that is to be attributed to the scarcity of actors and actresses.

5151. Would you object to the music halls being licensed, and allowed to continue the eating, drinking, and smoking, provided the number of persons on the stage was limited to three or four, say; for instance, to the performing of a burlesque with only three people on the stage at once?—I would object to their giving dramatic performances.

5152. Would you object to their giving dramatic performances if they were limited in that way; say a burlesque or a pantomime, provided that the number of persons on the stage at one time was limited?—Then it is impossible to give a pantomime with three people.

5153. What is the possible limit?—From 16 to 20 persons.

5154. Impossible or not, would you object to a burlesque being performed at the music halls, with a limit of three persons on the stage at the same time?—The same remark as applies to the drama generally applies to burlesque.

5155. You object to that?—I do object to it.

5156. *Chairman.*] Have you ever seen the performance of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul?—Yes.

5157. That is a burlesque, is it not; it is called a drawing-room burlesque?—Yes, I think they call it so.

5158. Would you object to have that performance done at the music halls?—Yes.

5159. Why?—Because it would be subject to the same condition as other performances where eating, drinking, and smoking are going on.

5160. Would that hurt the public?—No; but it would hurt Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul.

5161. But they would not go there if it hurt them, would they?—I think they would not go there to act at all.

5162. Then it would not do any harm to anybody?—Not if they did not go.

5163. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you think that the Lord Chamberlain was wrong in licensing Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's performance?—I do not think that any harm arose from so excellent a performance.

5164. You do not think that that was inconsistent?—No, I do not think it was consistent, because that license was given under different conditions.

5165. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Will you tell me whether, in coming to your conclusion with regard to the question between music halls and theatres, you have looked at it as a matter affecting the interest of the managers of theatres, or as affecting the interest of the public?—Both.

5166. How would the interests of the managers of theatres suffer?—Because it must necessarily withdraw a certain number of the frequenters of the theatres from the theatres.

5167. You think that the performance of dramatic pieces would increase the audience of the music halls by drawing there some of the audience that now go to the theatre?—Yes.

5168. That would not depreciate the audience at the music halls in any way, would it?—It would increase the number.

5169. And it would improve their character, would it not?—No doubt it would, if the performances were good and well conducted.

5170. But you say that it would affect managers, by withdrawing some of their audience to the music halls?—Yes.

5171. And that the audience of a theatre is of a higher standard usually than the audience of a music hall?—Yes.

5172. Therefore the result would be that the audience at the music halls would be improved?—Yes, undoubtedly, in number. It would depend entirely on the nature of the performances

H. J. Turner, Esq.

7 May 1866.

ances at the music halls. If they gave as good an entertainment at a music hall as they do at a theatre, then, I say, convert it into a theatre.

5173. Have you any reason for saying that they could not give a good dramatic entertainment at the music halls?—I say that they are totally unfit for the representation of dramatic entertainments.

5174. Do you mean with regard to the stage?—Yes, it is not capacious enough.

5175. Does not your experience tell you that, where there is a large stage like that at the Alhambra, any necessary fittings or apparatus can be easily supplied?—No doubt.

5176. Which is the more difficult to get up, the scenic mounting of such an entertainment as the ballet shown at the Alhambra now, or the scenic mounting necessary for an ordinary drama?—I should think that it involved a larger expense to prepare such a ballet as that at the Alhambra.

5177. Therefore there could be no sort of difficulty in getting up ordinary dramatic performances there?—Exactly.

5178. Then do you think that those dramatic performances would not be patronised by the public, or is it simply that you object to eating, drinking, and smoking in the auditorium?—That is my principal reason, and also the difficulty of getting fit exponents of good language.

5179. What is the reason you think you could not get them?—Because I always feel a difficulty in getting them for the theatres.

5180. You think that the demand is greater than the supply?—I do, for good actors and actresses.

5181. You do not think that an increased demand would increase the good supply?—In course of time no doubt it would.

5182. Do you think it would be desirable to recognise such an influence as would in course of time increase the good supply?—I think so.

5183. Then if the music halls were permitted to have dramatic entertainments, and after two years the supply was increased that would be an improvement to the profession, would it not?—I do not think it could be done in two years, or twice two years; it takes some years to give a man sufficient experience in his profession to enable him to stand well with the public.

5184. You have had considerable experience in dramatic matters, have you not?—Yes, I have had 33 years' experience as an actor.

5185. Putting it not from a manager's point of view but from a public point of view, it would not be an advantage to the public generally, you think, if this permission was given to the music halls under proper restrictions to play such small pieces as would suit the taste of their audiences?—I do not think that the public would be benefited unless the pieces were properly represented.

5186. But that would be at the risk of the owners or managers of the music halls?—Yes, certainly.

5187. Therefore no injury could be done to the public, inasmuch as if they were not properly represented they would not be attractive?—Just so, but to see a piece ill-played deteriorates the taste of the public.

5188. Only that does not draw?—Yes.

5189. Have you been much through the provinces?—A great deal.

5190. Do you know the system of licensing in the provinces?—They obtain their license from the magistrates.

5191. Have you ever had occasion to apply for one?—Yes.

5192. Have you ever had any difficulty in getting a license?—Never.

5193. You think that the system works well in the country, do you?—In cases in which I have been concerned it is very satisfactory.

5194. Is it within your knowledge that licenses have been obtained with difficulty by other gentlemen in the profession?—I have heard of difficulties being found in obtaining licenses.

5195. Have you ever found that licenses were obtained in particular localities more easily than in others?—Yes.

5196. Is that from any particular characteristic of the district, religious, or otherwise?—Yes; perhaps in one case the bench of magistrates have been men who have been partial to dramatic representations, and there has been no difficulty in other cases; religious influence has pervaded the bench, and they have refused the license on that account.

5197. Is it your opinion that the system of licensing requires some alteration?—I think it would be better if the licenses were issued from a central office.

5198. For the whole kingdom?—Yes, for the whole kingdom.

5199. Mr. *Miller*.] Have you had any experience of the music halls in the country?—No, not in the country.

5200. I suppose you know that they require a license in the country the same as they do in London?—I presume they do.

5201. Can you tell the Committee whether the license which they get, not being within the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, enables them to perform anything more approaching to a dramatic entertainment than is performed in London?—I do not know much respecting the country music halls; but I think that the vigilance of the country managers would be such that if the music halls attempted to give dramatic entertainments they would be pounced upon by the managers.

5202. Their music hall license does not enable them to perform the drama, you think?—I think not.

5203. Suppose the license which is now extended to the great theatres for the drama were extended also to the music halls in the country, do you see any objection to that?—I am not prepared to say.

5204. You have not had experience enough in provincial music halls to say?—No, I have been in Scotland.

5205. Do you know more about Scotland than about the provinces?—I have been to several music halls in Glasgow, but I never knew them to attempt anything in the way of the drama.

5206. Their performances are somewhat similar to the London performances, are they?—Yes, I think so.

5207. Has any case of dispute ever arisen between the managers of theatres and the managers of music halls?—Yes, I have heard of several.

5208. Have they gone so far as to proceed to law?—Yes; there was a case in Moor-street, Birmingham, where the music hall was not properly licensed for dramatic representations, and where there was some one who attempted to produce a piece.

5209. What

5209. What was the result of that action?—I think the manager abandoned the production of the piece.

5210. *Chairman.*] Is not there a long list of actors and actresses out of employment advertised continually in the theatrical journals?—There is a long list of actors and actresses advertised continually in the theatrical journals, but they are not people of much esteem; there would perhaps be a few.

5211. You adhere to the opinion that generally goodactors are quickly able to find remunerative and satisfactory employment?—Certainly. *H. J. Turner*, Esq.

5212. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] The leading members of the profession very rarely advertise?—Very rarely; there is very rarely any necessity for doing so. 7 May 1866.

5213. *Chairman.*] Is there anything that you wish to add to your evidence?—No.

JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD, Esq., called in; and Examined.

5214. Mr. *Locke.*] WHAT are you by profession?—I am an Author and Journalist, and a member of the Dramatic Authors' Society.

5215. I believe that you are one of those gentlemen who signed this petition in support of the Theatres Bill, which was brought in by me last Session?—Yes.

5216. The petition states, "That your petitioners have found that the existing legislation concerning theatres operates as a restriction upon their industry, while it has not in any manner supported or elevated dramatic literature"?—Yes.

5217. In what way do you consider that the existing legislation concerning theatres operates as a restriction upon the industry of dramatic authors?—I ground my opinion chiefly on the extraordinary rise of rent alone in most of the London theatres during the last 25 years. I believe that at the Princess's Theatre the rental, until the year 1841, was 1,200*l.* a year; in 1848 it went up to 1,800*l.* a year; in 1851 it went up to 3,000*l.* a year; in 1862 it was 3,800*l.* a year; and in 1863 the present manager paid 4,000*l.* a year for it. With regard to the Lyceum Theatre, in 1844 it was let for 2,000*l.* a year, in 1846 it was 2,500*l.* a year, and in 1863 it was 4,000*l.* a year. Drury-lane Theatre was let to Mr. E. T. Smith, in 1860, for 4,500*l.* a year, and in 1862 he sold his lease for a premium of 6,000*l.* to Messrs. Falconer and Chatterton. I consider that those facts, and I believe others can be brought forward of the same character, prove that the existing system must have been restrictive, for no other property has risen in equal proportion.

5218. Is that an inconvenience to dramatic authors?—I think it must be.

5219. In what way?—It must limit their market, so far as London is concerned.

5220. If the number of theatres is restricted, the opportunities of dramatic authors are diminished, I suppose?—Yes, kept down to an artificial level, I should say, judging from those facts.

5221. What is your view with regard to the theatres with respect to persons being privileged to open them?—I think that the present law must be altered. The Committee is called together on the assumption of the present law being wholly impracticable. I do not think that this is a question between music halls and theatres; it has been narrowed down to that by certain witnesses, but I think it is a much broader question. I have made a calculation and I think there are about 5,000 places in which dramatic representations are given that come within the definition of stage plays, where no refreshment of any kind is sold, and where they have no dramatic license; places, such as literary institutes, town halls, entertainment galleries, and so on. Music halls form a very small numerical proportion, about 150, though some of them are important in size and value. *J. Hollingshead*, Esq.

5222. You see no objection to the performance of a stage play in any building which is fit for the purpose?—No objection, certainly, inasmuch as a stage play, even of the lowest kind is an intellectual entertainment; the present law gives full liberty to perform anything of a degrading character, but the moment you wish to perform a drama, which, as far as it goes, is intellectual, you are restricted by the dramatic licensing system.

5223. *Chairman.*] Have you known many cases where literary institutes were desirous of performing stage plays?—All the existing literary institutes are not only desirous of doing it, but they do it in defiance of the law, and it is open to anyone to prosecute them.

5224. Mr. *Locke.*] And they are prosecuted, are they not?—Very rarely; occasionally they are stopped, but as a member of the Dramatic Authors' Society, I know that we derive fees from the institutes, which is a proof that they perform plays in them.

5225. Here is a case decided in 1864, the case of Mr. Elliot Galer; will you be kind enough to state to the Committee what that case was?—I believe that Mr. Galer bought the copyright of the original version of a piece, had the music composed for it, dresses made for it, and I am not sure that he did not have scenery made for it. With his wife, and one or two other professional people, he proposed to make a tour through the provinces, and the first place in which he performed was the Leicester Temperance Hall, and he was prosecuted by the theatrical managers of that town; the entertainment was considered illegal, and he was prosecuted. His own estimate of his loss was something like 2,000*l.* I speak from memory of what he told me himself.

5226. *Chairman.*] Under what law was he prosecuted?—Under the 6th & 7th Victoria, performing a stage play without a license. He gave it in a building which was not licensed as a theatre by the magistrates under the 6th & 7th Victoria, cap. 68.

5227. Mr. *Locke.*] That case of George Owen and the proprietors of the Leicester theatre *versus* Elliot Galer was decided at Leicester, was it not?—I think so.

5228. Mr. *Miller.*] Was it before the magistrates or the judges?—It was before the magistrates.

5229. Mr. *Locke.*] Was there any appeal in that case?—I cannot say. I have not read the case; I am only speaking from memory. The house had a music and dancing license, but not a license for stage plays.

5230. Had it a license for wine and spirits?—None whatever; it was the Temperance Hall.

J. Hollingshead, Esq.

7 May 1866.

5231. That license was similar to what the Beaumont Institution had?—Yes. I will read to you a resolution of the St. James's Hall Company, which has been placed in my hands: "Copy of resolution unanimously passed at a meeting of the Directors of this Company, held on Wednesday 26th April 1865. That the existing laws affecting theatres and other places of public amusement are unsatisfactory, and uncertain in their operation, imposing needless restrictions upon those who wish to provide wholesome entertainment for the public, and that a Bill now before Parliament, introduced by Mr. Locke, to amend the laws, do receive the support of this Company, and that the sum of guineas be granted towards the expenses incurred by applying for the Act.——*Note.*—The Lord Chamberlain has twice refused a dramatic license to the St. James's Hall, though he has granted one to the Gallery of Illustration. The first belongs to an important public company, representing an enormous capital; the second is the property of Mr. German Reed, and is of very slight value as a public building."

5232. This case of Mr. Elliot Galer was heard at some length. Mr. Merewether was instructed for the prosecution; Mr. Galer was not legally represented, and the magistrates came to this conclusion: "We have carefully considered the question raised by the information now before us. It is impossible for the magistrates to know what was the intention of the framers of the Act of Parliament, with respect to entertainments of the kind represented at the Temperance Hall on the 22d of February last; but the magistrates feel bound by the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench in the case of 'Thorne against Colson,' that a dualogue in which scenery is introduced, and different characters represented, is a stage play within the meaning of the Act, and the magistrates cannot see any distinction between the entertainments called 'Cousin Kate,' and 'The Haunted Mill,' and the one which formed the subject of consideration in the case referred to. We therefore feel it our duty, as being bound by the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench to convict the defendant in the mitigated penalty of 5*l.*" Now that was a case where the performance was similar to that of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, was it not?—The same, precisely.

5233. It was given at a temperance hall which had only a license for music and dancing, and the magistrates were bound on the authority of that case to fine Mr. Galer, and they fined him in the mitigated penalty of 5*l.*?—Yes; Mr. Galer put down his losses at 2,000*l.*, but perhaps that is an exaggerated estimate.

5234. *Chairman.*] Could Mr. Galer not have applied for a license to perform that play in that building?—I think that nobody but the lessee can do it; the magistrates will not grant it to persons passing through a town.

5235. We have had evidence that performances are given under licenses granted in country towns on application?—I cannot say.

5236. Mr. *Locke.*] A license is for a particular term in a country theatre, is it not; that is to say, it does not permit the theatre to be open all the year round?—I think that all such licenses are very objectionable. The only claim the Lord Chamberlain has to maintain his privilege is that he takes great care that all buildings shall be properly constructed as theatres, and if a travelling company were to have a floating license, they might perform in an unsafe building.

5237. *Chairman.*] They apply to the magistrates for a license at every town they go to, I understand?—Yes, for the building; the play of Mr. Elliot Galer was submitted to the Lord Chamberlain as a play.

5238. Mr. *Locke.*] You think it is objectionable that in any building which is properly constructed, anyone should be prevented from giving a dramatic performance?—Yes; my impression is that if a competent surveyor was sent round to half the London theatres, he would pronounce them unfit for the audiences which they hold nightly; they are very faulty in passages, entrances, staircases, and so on.

5239. Mr. *Miller.*] Does that apply to the London theatres?—Yes, I have an intimate knowledge of them, having been connected with them more or less for 20 years.

5240. Mr. *Locke.*] Have you looked at the theatre which they are building in Holborn?—No.

5241. Did you hear the evidence which was given the other day about that building?—Yes.

5242. Do you think that that will be a proper building with regard to ingress and egress?—Most likely, as it is a new building.

5243. Do you think that they have provided sufficient avenues there?—I should think they would now, under the circumstances, so much attention being directed to the subject.

5244. Do you think that these restrictions have in any way supported or elevated dramatic literature?—I do not think so. I do not think that the censorship has had that effect. Take, for instance, the drama produced at the Adelphi, on Saturday, which is a most objectionable French drama, very little care being taken to adapt it to English ideas of right and wrong; it is offensive in action and full of vulgarities in dialogue, and ending with a parody of the "Judgment of Solomon"; also having a most objectionable Holywell-street title, "The Fast Family." Now that play has passed the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, and the play will be performed for a considerable time. I have been dramatic critic for eight years to the "Daily News," the "London Review," the "Express," and occasionally for "Punch." I think that the censorship of the press is always in advance of the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, and is constantly found making objections to the morality of pieces which he passes as being correct and decent.

5245. You think that the piece which you have mentioned is a most objectionable piece?—Yes. Mr. Donne admitted in his evidence that the press had great influence in those matters.

5246. You think that the censorship of the press and the opinion of the public would be quite sufficient, and that there is no necessity for the Lord Chamberlain's censorship?—Just so; that is never in advance of the average decency of the audiences.

5247. Do you think, however, that it must be of some benefit in certain theatres?—It never interferes with the old drama, which is the most offensive of any portion of our drama. Mr. Horace Wigan proved that the other day, in quoting from Shakespere a passage which is recited nightly at the St. James's Theatre.

5248. Do you think that the lower middle class and

and working class have, of late years, developed a large appetite for intellectual amusement?—I think they have.

5249. How is that shown?—By the increase of the music halls.

5250. And theatres?—The theatres have not increased in the last 25 years. I believe that the whole of the audiences of the whole of the theatres and all the concert halls and entertainment galleries and music halls put together every night in London, never amount to the number of visitors who are supposed to be stopping in London every night, passing through; and the 3,000,000 of the standing London population would therefore appear to be untouched.

5251. *Chairman.*] Are the theatres generally over-full?—Sometimes the theatres are; it depends a good deal on the management.

5252. But taking the whole of the theatres, is there sufficient accommodation for all the people who want to go?—It appears so, but if many of the theatres had an attractive piece, then it would not be sufficient. The Haymarket is now advertising that you can book seats a month in advance. I have known theatres where you have had to apply a fortnight in advance, in order to get seats.

5253. That might be the case, however many theatres you had, might it not?—It might be so.

5254. You say that the taste of the public has very much increased for such an entertainment as they give at music halls. I believe you have witnessed the performances at most of the music halls in London; what is the description of performance; is it correct or proper, or what is its general character?—Within my experience, I have never noticed anything more indecent at the music halls than I have at the theatres generally; nothing half so indecent as I have noticed in popular light comedians; such as the late Mr. Wright at the Adelphi Theatre, who was such a favourite with the public that he had full liberty to do as he chose, and whatever the Lord Chamberlain struck out of the dialogue, he took care to put in again with additions; of course, however, the entertainments at the music halls are not above the intellectual powers of the audience; it is a supply that meets the demand, but I have never heard any songs of an improper character there, and I do not think that there is any demand for songs of that kind. Places like the Cider Cellars would not pay now if they were started.

5255. Used there to be indecent songs there?—Yes, there used to be 20 years ago; and also at Evans's.

5256. There is nothing but the greatest propriety now, is there?—No, the censorship does not apply to them; there is no demand for such songs now, they are given up for a commercial reason, the audience do not care for them.

5257. Mr. *Locke.*] At Evans's there is a most excellent choir, is there not?—Yes, very good; there is a little sameness about the performance; they have sung the same chorus every night for the last 15 years.

5258. There is a Mr. Sydney there who always sings the song on the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race night?—Yes.

5259. He sings an improvised song for the occasion?—Yes.

5260. On the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race night the place is always very full, is it not?—Yes.

5261. But there is no impropriety of any sort or kind at Evans's, is there?—None whatever.

5262. Do you know of any such impropriety in any of the other music halls?—None whatever, within my knowledge.

5263. Take the Alhambra, for instance; there has been a great deal said about that; that is the largest, is it not?—That is more a theatre than a music hall; the music hall element is very small there; it is only used to fill up the front of the stage while the great spectacles of the evening are being prepared.

5264. Just as they used to have some of those comic songs while they got ready behind the scenes at the theatres?—Yes, just so; gymnastics and comic songs.

5265. Can you state to the Committee what is the expense of getting up one of those ballets at the Alhambra?—Speaking from memory, I should think it would vary from 500 *l.* to 1,500 *l.*

5266. What ballets are they giving there now?—A comic ballet of action, the cost of which has been very much less than that minimum; then a general dancing ballet, which would cost from 500 *l.* to 600 *l.*; the figures in the scenery are painted by an eminent Royal Academician; the great mechanical ballet, or the butterfly ballet, must, with its machinery, have cost from 1,300 *l.* to 1,500 *l.*, much of the machinery in that ballet being available for other performances at other times, of course.

5267. How many performers are there in that ballet at the Alhambra?—Quite 100, I should think.

5268. I believe, in fact, that that ballet is as well got up as any ballet at any theatre, if not better than any you know of?—I have seen no better ballet in England. I have seen them in Berlin, where the opera is given up to ballet on alternate nights.

5269. Was the ballet that they are now performing at the Alhambra the one that was prosecuted?—It was a similar ballet.

5270. There has been no further step taken for prosecuting that ballet at the Alhambra, has there?—Not since the judgment in the Court of Common Pleas last October. Perhaps it is presumptuous in me to give an opinion, but I should say, myself, that I think they are unquestionably stage plays within the meaning of the Act.

5271. The Judges of the Court of Common Pleas gave their decision that the question of fact having been decided below, it was impossible for them, in point of law, to reverse that decision of the magistrates, there being no distinct opinion given with regard to whether it came within the meaning of the Act of Parliament or not?—I believe that was more a judgment of feeling than a judgment of law.

5272. Their decision was, I think, that the magistrates having given a decision in favour of the Alhmabra, they could not apply the law to that decision in such a way as to say that the magistrates were wrong; the magistrates being the judges of the question of fact?—Yes.

5273. Now, if the Bill which I brought in last Session were passed, which gives the right to all places where they have a music and dancing license to give any performance of the stage they pleased, what performances do you think would be given at places other than theatres, such as music halls?—I think that light pieces, small comic operas, vaudevilles, and, perhaps, farces, ballets, and pantomimes would be given.

J. Hollingshead, Esq.

7 May 1866.

5274. Do you think that those performances would be attractive?—Unquestionably so.

5275. Of course, a manager would not put anything on his stage that did not attract?—I think not.

5276. Do you think that there is any likelihood of their acting Shakspere's plays?—I should see no objection to it if they did. I have heard a good deal about the "degradation of the drama:" now, when the British drama is freed from certain French impurities, which it derives from its very birth, it will be of course a fine thing; but still, I think that the British public is a much finer thing. It is much more important to care for the public than to care for the British drama.

5277. Do you think that the music halls would perform Shakespere's plays if the restriction were taken off?—The better the performances are the more likely they are to have good influence on the audience.

5278. What are the performances that you think would be introduced which would elevate the public?—I should think that the pieces at first would be very slight pieces, probably what I should call the scum of dramatic literature, trashy burlesques, and so on, which I should be very glad to see the theatres relieved from; mere ballets of action, which may or may not have a meaning, and then the theatres would have to compete on mere intellectual grounds alone, which they talk so much about.

5279. Do you think that they compete on intellectual grounds now?—Some of them do. The first duty of a manager is to make his theatre pay, to keep out of the Bankruptcy Court, and to produce the kind of pieces that the audience like. He may patronise the drama if he likes. In the entertainments at the music halls there are many things that I do not admire there, as a man of taste, but they supply a large demand, and I am very glad to see them.

5280. If there is no impropriety in what amuses other people you see no reason why they should not be amused in their own way?—None, whatever. I should not go myself to music halls, but thousands do.

5281. In addition to that ballet at the Alhambra there is a large chorus, is there not?—Yes, a very large chorus.

5282. How many are there in that chorus?—Perhaps 50.

5283. What do they sing?—They sing selections generally every night from one of the Italian operas or French operas, such as "Faust," "Masaniello," the "Orphée aux Enfers," and so on.

5284. Do they give the greater portion of them?—The most effective portion of them.

5285. If the restriction were taken off do you think that they would produce comic operas?—I think that at the Alhambra they would immediately do comic operas; most likely they would engage M. Offenbach. He would be engaged to write one for the Alhambra, and conduct it, and it would start as a comic opera house.

5286. Do you think that Mr. Strange would embark large sums of money in comic opera if he thought it unlikely to succeed?—The experiment would be tried, and, if it failed, it would be given up and a more limited performance given.

5287. But you think that the experiment would be tried?—Unquestionably.

5288. A good deal has been said about this canteen at the Alhambra; I believe that you have been very frequently in it?—No, I have been there very rarely; but I know the room, of course.

5289. Is there anything objectionable that you have seen there?—Nothing more objectionable than I have seen behind the scenes at the opera houses, where I go as well; except, of course, that the canteen of a music hall is, perhaps, hardly so refined as the *coulisses* of the opera.

5290. Now, do persons go behind the scenes at the theatres?—Very rarely, I should think.

5291. This canteen is not on the stage, is it?—No, it is at the back of the building; it is at the basement of the building.

5292. Underneath the stage?—It is below the stage, at the back of the building.

5293. It does not interfere with the stage in any way, does it?—No; it was started not to interfere with the stage.

5294. It is for the performers to retire to during the time that they are not employed?—There are 200 persons employed on the stage at the Alhambra, and they have all a right to go into it to get refreshments at cost price. You see the stage carpenter there eating his bread and cheese and onions, a few ballet girls, and a few visitors. There is a class of people who visit the theatres and music halls who will go anywhere to see the ballet girls off the stage in their dancing costume, and nobody could keep them out.

5295. They will go to see a ballet girl?—Yes; and if they do not get in by the permission of the proprietor, they get in by back-stairs influence.

5296. But there is so large a number of people at the canteen that it is impossible for any improper conduct to take place there?—It is a public room; there are never less people in it than there are in this room; there are always one of Sir Richard Mayne's police, and two of the police of the establishment there, and any indecency would be followed by the immediate discharge of the offenders, if they were members of the company, or their expulsion if visitors. It is a matter of detail in the management of one building, and I think that it has very little to do with the broad question.

5297. It is a mere matter of arrangement?—Yes.

5298. The broad question being, whether or not the performance of stage plays should be restricted in the way it is now?—Yes; due attention being paid to the fact that stage plays are largely performed illegally throughout the country, and must be so until the law is altered.

5299. The performance of stage plays tends to elevate the taste of the public, does it not?—It is the most intellectual form of amusement that we have.

5300. Now, with regard to actors who have come out at music halls; do you know any actors who have commenced their career at a music hall?—It is difficult to say where an actor has commenced his career; he may have performed in a tent or a barn, which some people think is more elevating than a music hall. I remember Mr. Robson's appearance at the Grecian; I lived in the neighbourhood and went there frequently; I make no mistake about the Grecian Saloon, what I call the Saloon; it is a building which was no theatre, but a music hall in 1844, when Mr. Robson went there,

there, and it did not cease to be a music hall until 1848; that is in evidence before the Committee by the Lord Chamberlain's statement; and during those four years Mr. Robson performed in an atmosphere of tobacco smoke, and before audiences who sat before ledges in front of each seat (there was no table), on which the drink was placed. He performed most of the familiar characters that made him popular at the Olympic, and sang nearly all the comic songs which made the fortune of that house; it was, to all intents and purposes, a music hall. Miss Carlotta Leclercq, and Miss Stevens (now at the Olympic, I think), and Mr. Flexmore were there; and I believe that Mr. Sims Reeves was in the chorus.

5301. Among the smoke?—Yes; the performances were very perfect, and of a refined character; I was young at the time; they had little operas and burlettas; it was not much like a theatre, it was more of a suburban comic opera house; people went there from all parts of the town. A piece of Mr. Shirley Brooks was put on the stage there, which Mr. Keeley had made a hit in at the Lyceum Theatre; they went down there to see it, and their impression was that Mr. Robson was better in it than Mr. Keeley, and that it was better performed. I think it had been withdrawn at the Lyceum.

5302. But Mr. Keeley had done it at the Lyceum previously to Mr. Robson doing it at the Grecian?—Yes; I do not know whether the fact is of much value, but it is a fact; I am speaking from my own knowledge.

5303. The Grecian was to all intents and purposes a music hall, was it?—Yes. I saw Mr. Robson about three times a-week during the whole of those four years, when it was essentially a music hall; it was called a saloon, but with all the conditions of smoking, eating, and drinking in the auditorium.

5304. And at that time many persons preferred Mr. Robson's performance to Mr. Keeley's, in the same character?—Yes.

5305. That was before Mr. Robson went to Dublin?—Yes, before he went to Dublin.

5306. Then it cannot be correct to say that he never learned to be a good actor until he went to Dublin?—I know that at a theatre people cannot smoke; but I should hardly say the audience at the Queen's Theatre in Dublin was of the quietest. The lowest price at the Grecian was 6*d.*, and the lowest price at the Queen's was 3*d.* There was no smoking, eating, and drinking at the Queen's, but the audience was rather a rough Irish audience.

5307. You saw Mr. Robson full of art before he went to Dublin?—Yes, full of art at the Grecian.

5308. Can you mention any others who have come out at the Grecian?—Miss Carlotta Leclercq, and, I think, Miss Stevens, who performed the old woman in the "Ticket-of-Leave Man" at the Olympic, and Mr. Fraser, who was a singer of some notoriety at the Covent Garden Theatre, equal to Mr. Templeton.

5309. Had he been at Covent Garden Theatre before?—Yes, he came direct from there to the Grecian.

5310. Then it is incorrect to say that no actor or singer has ever gone from a theatre to a music hall?—Yes: those are the facts, and you can take them for what they are worth.

5311. Have you anything to add to your evidence?—No.

5312. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you think that the present system of restriction is detrimental to the interests of the drama?—I think it must be so, like any other restriction; besides, it is difficult to say what the immediate result of free trade would be.

5313. You do not believe that two or three authors would suffice to supply the British public with dramatic pieces if the music halls were thrown open?—I think not. There might be a run on a particular author, the same as there is on Mr. Boucicault just now.

5314. Do you think that even two or three Boucicaults, if it were possible, would suffice to supply the music halls and theatres with pieces?—Undoubtedly not; you would want small pieces of a different character.

5315. How do you account for the present state of things, as described by Mr. Boucicault, in which he monopolises so many theatres?—The pieces he produced were very popular. I believe that most of the London theatrical audiences are largely composed of country people; the old metropolitan playgoer lives out of town, and does not go so much to the theatre as he used to do; the provincial people come up to town, and fresh audiences are created every night.

5316. But still you do not think that three or four men, like Mr. Boucicault, would suffice to supply the theatres with pieces?—They could only fill one theatre with one piece.

5317. What I mean is, if the music halls were thrown open?—Unquestionably not. At first the music halls would take the scum of the drama from the theatres, small farces and burlesques, and the theatres would have to turn their attention to dramas, and the operation on the salaries of the actors would be immediately to raise them.

5318. Therefore it would be an advantage to the actor as well as to the authors?—Unquestionably so; more immediately to the actor than the author.

5319. Would there be any great difficulty in limiting the number of persons on the stage in the music halls?—Unquestionably; it would be impracticable; it would break down, and in three months you would have to legislate again. What they would do on a stage, the size of a dining-table, would never do for a stage like the Alhambra, where they can conveniently have 300 people on the stage at the same time.

5320. You do not know of any dramatic author, like Mr. Boucicault, who has written 200 pieces?—Mr. Tom Taylor is very prolific.

5321. But he has only written 60 pieces?—He is otherwise occupied; he is an eminent civil servant.

5322. Do you think that there are a great many authors now in obscurity who, if there was free trade in theatres, would come out?—I think so. There is great difficulty in getting pieces read. I have left off writing pieces since I became a dramatic critic, because I consider that a man who does one thing ought not to do the other.

5323. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] You have mentioned that you thought the survey now made by the Lord Chamberlain of theatres was insufficient?—I should think it was. I do not want to mention particular theatres.

5324. Is it not the fact that the survey is repeated every year, before the license is granted?—I cannot say.

J. Hollingshead, Esq.

7 May 1866.

5325. Do you know the Strand Theatre?—Yes.

5326. Is not it the fact that they have opened a new entrance there (at some expense) to the pit?—Yes; it is as perfect as it could be made.

5327. Was that done in consequence of their being called upon to do it, by the Lord Chamberlain's surveyor?—I am not aware.

5328. You would propose that there should be a very extended survey of the houses?—I think that the safety of the public should be provided for; but, on the other hand, in the event of any accident occurring at the theatres, the managers of the theatres are liable to heavy damages; and they are, therefore, interested in having their buildings safely constructed.

5329. You have a very large knowledge of theatrical matters: do you not think it would be desirable to have a complete and perfect survey, so as to guarantee that the safety of the public should be cared for in all public places?—I think that probably it would be advisable.

5330. You have not given the Committee your opinion with regard to the censorship of literature; as it stands now, do you think it is sufficient?—I think it is insufficient. I have written a good deal on that subject in the "Athenæum" and "Household Words," and other journals; and I generally find the press more severe than the censorship.

5331. Are you of opinion that it should be extended?—I would rather leave it to the good taste of the audiences.

5332. We have heard some evidences given in this room in favour of more extended and larger censorship; you are not of that opinion?—I am not of that opinion. I have generally found that anything grossly indecent in dialogue or action is hissed off the stage, unless you have a man who does as he likes, as the late Mr. Wright did at the Adelphi.

5333. Do you know sufficient of Scotland and other parts of the kingdom to enable the Committee to apply that answer to those districts as well?—No; Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham are the only towns that I know much of. With regard to Liverpool, I think that the music halls have full liberty to perform the drama, the magistrates there being liberally disposed; but in Birmingham the system is very restrictive; the managers of the music halls are being constantly prosecuted. In Liverpool it is of no use, because the magistrates grant the dramatic license as a matter of course; 100 miles makes all the difference.

5334. The Committee understand that you do not agree with the managers of theatres or Mr. Tom Taylor with regard to the injury that the drama would sustain from those enlarged performances at the music halls?—I think that Mr. Tom Taylor and several of the other witnesses are led away by the idea that the drama wants all kinds of protection, and that the patent theatres did something to sustain the higher drama; that view is certainly not supported by the report of the Committee of 1830; but even if it were so, it is more important that millions of people should have no restriction put on their amusing themselves in a decent way and being elevated by any performance that they think proper. I think that the people are of more importance than the drama.

5335. We have heard a good deal about the ladies and gentlemen of the profession who have come from the music halls, do you think that giving permission to music halls and other places of public entertainment to perform such pieces as you describe would really tend to advance the profession in any way?—It is a matter of opinion; I should not think it would myself.

5336. You have mentioned that you saw nothing in the canteen at the Alhambra that made it differ very much from what you have seen behind the scenes at the opera?—That is the substance of what I said.

5337. Have you ever seen any smoking, eating, and drinking behind the scenes at the operas?—No, it is a standing rule in theatres that there shall be no smoking, eating, and drinking behind the scenes, and the same rule applies to the stage at the Alhambra.

5338. There are 200 persons in the Alhambra company who have access to this room, are there not?—They have the right of going to it.

5339. We have heard from Mr. Strange that the average number of strangers who go to that room is 50 in an evening?—Yes.

5340. Do you think from your experience that such a room, with the admission of some 40 or 50 strangers in the course of the evening, is or is not calculated to advance any establishment?—It keeps the stage free for the business of the evening; but whether it is a fit thing in itself is a matter of opinion.

5341. The canteen of itself seems to be almost necessary, but my question refers to the admission of a certain number of gentlemen every evening?—I do not think it is any advantage to the public, and I do not think it is any advantage to the stage, except in keeping strangers off the stage.

5342. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the press reaches all the theatres in its criticisms?—Some of what used to be called the minor theatres (but I think local theatres is a better term) only come under the supervision of the local press. The daily papers very rarely go to the outside districts.

5343. Do you think that the power of the press (which is very great, no doubt) over well-known theatres would be sufficient to keep the east end theatres, or small theatres, decent?—I think so; I think that the pieces at the minor theatres may sometimes be coarse, but they are not so indecent as a rule as the pieces at the west-end theatres.

5344. Your view is that the censorship of the press is sufficient in the outlying theatres, as well as in the more prominent theatres?—I think so; take the case of Miss Menken for example; I do not see the advantage that the Lord Chamberlain was in that case; most of the press abused that exhibition when it was maintained by the Lord Chamberlain. I felt bound to describe it in very strong terms. I said in my criticism that it was the representation of a woman who had just tumbled out of bed with her shift tucked between her legs.

5345. Does not that prove that the taste of the public is not sufficient in such matters?—Not that case, I think; it drew other persons than the local population, because she was a notoriety, and they went to see her, but I do not think that the performance was approved of by the Lambeth people.

5346. Is not it the case that that shows a necessity for more supervision rather than less?—It may be so taken.

5347. Would you think that the general supervision of some central authority might not be extended

tended even further than it is to the music halls, with regard to the character of the performances?—If the theatres are to be under supervision, it is only fair that the music halls should be the same; if one audience is to be kept moral by the censorship, they all clearly ought to be.

5348. You would see no objection to giving music halls power to perform dramatic pieces, at the same time submitting them to more supervision?—Personally, I am opposed to most restrictions that fetter any particular industry. I think the ordinary police regulation is sufficient to check any indecency.

5349. But the ordinary police would not have checked Miss Menken or any performance of that kind?—No.

5350. Can you imagine that *poses plastiques* could reach any degree where the police might interfere?—I do not think it would draw audiences if it went beyond a certain point.

5351. You say that there are 5,000 places in which dramatic performances might take place?—There are quite that number throughout the country.

5352. Could you group them into different classes?—Town halls, concert halls, entertainment galleries (more particularly in London, though there are some in large towns), literary institutes, where they constantly give dramatic performances. I think it is just a question whether some oratorios are not stage plays. "Samson Agonistes" is unquestionably a stage play: it was so written by Milton, and I believe might be stopped at Exeter Hall.

5353. Would those places together reach 5,000?—Yes, I think that 5,000 is rather under than over the mark.

5354. You have positive grounds for giving that figure, and as not speaking vaguely?—Yes.

5355. You mean to say that these are places where dramatic pieces are likely to be performed?—No, those are places where they actually are performed and where I want to make the performance legal.

5356. You mean that this is now actually done at 5,000 places?—Yes, irrespective of the music halls. This discussion has turned, I think, too much on the music halls. There is the Walworth Institute where Mr. Toole was trained, and from which he came direct to the Adelphi; he was the product of a literary institute.

5357. Can you inform the Committee how many literary institutes there are in London where dramatic pieces are performed?—I think the actual number of literary institutes in London is not above 15 altogether. I think fully half of them perform stage pieces, a fact to which I had to draw the attention of the Secretary of the Dramatic Authors' Society, in order that he might apply for the authors' fees which have accrued on certain performances there, and he did it, and obtained them; and there was a sensation meeting at the Society of Arts to consider whether they could not perform the plays of dramatic authors without paying for them.

5358. How many times a year do they perform at those places?—During the winter season, what they call their session, from October to April. In the summer there are very few lectures. They engage people like Mr. and Mrs. Henri Drayton to give entertainments like that which was stopped at the Leicester Temperance Hall, and may very probably have been given illegally at the Walworth Institute. But I do not think that anybody has had the boldness to prosecute a literary institute.

J. Hollingshead, Esq.

7 May 1866.

5359. Do they charge admission to these entertainments, or are they for the subscribers only?—The subscribers are admitted, and they may take their friends according to a certain arrangement; but there is also a tariff of prices at the door for strangers; 6*d.* or 1*s.* according to the part of the building to which the payment applies.

5360. Are these entertainments not rather in the nature of private theatricals?—They are public in this sense, that money is taken at the doors; but there are often subscription performances, at which private theatrical entertainments are given, for charity; money is taken directly or indirectly at the doors, and they are illegal unless given in a properly licensed building. The Honourable Mr. Wingfield was getting up a performance for some hospital, under the patronage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Lord Chamberlain advised him to withdraw it, because he said that some unpleasantness might occur; some one might go in and interrupt them, and that would not be pleasant when the Prince of Wales was present.

5361. The whole of the audience might have been fined 10*s.* apiece, I suppose?—They might have been turned out. The proprietor of Willis's rooms told me himself that for many years he has had no license for anything, and he has been giving concerts and balls, and all kinds of illegal entertainments.

5362. You think that there would be a considerably increased demand for dramatic pieces throughout the country if the legislation were changed?—I think that most of the lighter pieces would go to lighter places, and the theatres would be left to the more intellectual forms of entertainment.

5363. You think that the change would take away from the theatres what you called their "scum"?—Yes.

5364. And that that would go to the music halls?—Yes.

5365. And if they were to do that, you still think the music halls would be elevated?—The scum of the theatres is better than the scum of the present music halls.

5366. But still good music at the music halls is better than bad pieces at the theatres, is it not?—I think so, undoubtedly.

5367. You think, I suppose, that the music halls might be improved by degrees, and the taste of the people be gradually educated to better things?—I think so; that, however, is a matter of opinion. But it is a matter of fact that these halls are in existence, and are filled every night, and I think that it is better to give them some amount of liberty, which might be turned to good use, than to restrict them to low-class performances.

5368. If a high class of pieces were acted at the music halls, do you not think that many of them would lose their custom?—I cannot say; that must be a matter of experiment.

5369. As a matter of fact, are theatres generally very prosperous now?—Yes, those that are well managed.

5370. Is what is called the monopoly, in your opinion, a great advantage to them?—I believe that at the Princess's the net profits were 32,000*l.* in the course of one year; chiefly derived from the "Streets of London," under the management of Mr. Vining and Mr. Boucicault. The run of "Arrah-

J. Hollingshead, Esq.

7 May 1866.

"Arrah-na-Pogue" was nearly as productive, and I believe that there have been very beneficial results from "Never too Late to Mend." I believe also that Mr. Buckstone has no reason to complain of one or two pieces produced by Mr. Sothern; but there I do not speak by the book.

5371. But still a great many managers come to grief in the theatres, do they not?—If they produce bad pieces they do; I think the very high rents they have to pay is one important thing; they do not see that one effect of this proposed change of the law would be to reduce those high fancy rents. My idea is that those rents would go down 50 per cent. if there were anything like free trade.

5372. You said, I think, that the first thing a manager had to do was to keep out of the Bankruptcy Court?—Certainly.

5373. Was that at all a suggestion that there is a tendency on the part of the managers of the theatres to get into it?—No; but I think any man's first duty is to pay 20*s.* in the pound.

5374. Did you, however, mean to convey to the Committee that the leasing of a theatre was rather a dangerous speculation?—No, not at all; I think that it is as lucrative a business as any business we have; it is not free from risks, but the profits are very large; there may be bad business occasionally, but taking the whole trade, I think the profits are far above those of ordinary trades. I suppose there is no business employing an equal capital, and managed with about the same amount of intelligence (or I will even say with an equally small amount of intelligence), from Meux's Brewery up to Hyde Park Corner, which brings in such profits as I have quoted.

5375. Colonel *Sturt.*] Who had the Princess's Theatre before Mr. Vining?—Mr. Webster.

5376. Did he make it pay?—I believe so; he let his lease at a premium of 200*l.* a year.

5377. Did Mr. Harris have it?—I believe Mr. Harris had it, and Mr. Hankey; it was not very successful in his hands, from one or two circumstances. Mr. Fechter would only play three nights a week.

5378. *Chairman.*] Is it considered a profitable thing to get hold of a theatre?—There are always a great many applicants; you rarely find a theatre in the market. M. Offenbach, for instance, is very anxious to come over here and produce an opera, but there is no theatre open; an offer has been made to him of the Alhambra, on his own terms.

5379. With regard to the supply of actors, do you think that there are now actors enough to supply, and more than supply, the whole of the theatres?—Yes, I think so; but anyway, I think those things may be left to the ordinary operations of trade.

5380. But is there any grievance on the part of actors, from their supposing that the present legislation interferes with the theatres?—In many cases there are always new actors springing up. There is the Prince of Wales's, which is now one of the recognised West-end theatres; one or two persons who act there were never heard of before that place was opened; and Mr. Hare, who came from Liverpool, has not been on the stage more than two years.

5381. Have you a large acquaintance with actors?—Yes, very large.

5382. Do you think they consider the present legislation a grievance?—I have never consulted many of them on that point. They have been protected and "patronised" for several centuries, and are not a class that you can discuss free trade with, because they lose their temper; you cannot show them to their satisfaction that free trade would probably double their salaries in a short period.

5383. The fact is, that you yourself think (as it comes out in the evidence) that it would be to their advantage, in a pecuniary point of view, to have the music halls competing for their services?—I should think so.

5384. But the actors seem to be rather against a change in the law?—I cannot imagine why they should be so; I know that, as a journalist, I fought very hard for the paper duty to come off, feeling that it would benefit me; and it did, for I get 25 per cent. more for my work.

5385. Do you agree with the evidence that has been given here, that there is an antipathy on the part of actors to music halls?—On the part of some of them there is, no doubt, considerable antipathy; the majority of them very likely; it is a matter of feeling. I believe, however, in spite of that, that many actors would go to music halls and perform in the face of the tobacco smoke, as many foreign actors do; but you may have to raise a new class of actors for it.

5386. Of course, if the performances were improved at the music halls, that antipathy might fall to the ground, might it not?—If music halls had a better *status*, and were more encouragingly noticed in the press, it might do a great deal; an actor likes a newspaper notice, even if he is cut up. At present the music halls produce nothing that cannot be disposed of by the critic in three or four lines.

Friday, 11*th May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sir Arthur Buller
Lord Eustace Cecil.
Mr. Clay.
Mr. Clive.
Mr. Du Cane.
Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Locke.
Mr. Lusk.
Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Selwin.
Colonel Sturt.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. WILLIAM THOMAS SIMPSON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. T. Simpson.*
11 May 1866.

5387. *Chairman.*] WILL you kindly tell us what experience you have of provincial theatres?—Yes. I have been very nearly 30 years playing or connected with all the Theatres Royal in the United Kingdom, and I have been stage manager as well, which generally includes the business of the stage for the proprietors.

5388. With regard to the country theatres, have you a theatre now?—Yes, I have been travelling for many years; I have read of many questions being asked with regard to the cause of our not having country theatres now as nurseries for the drama. The cause is not at all strange, when you come to think that if you went to build a theatre in the country, where the town's people would wish for one, you have to think, first, shall I get my license; Mr. Tomkins says that he will never have a theatre, and all the rest of the gentlemen will bow to him; so they say, "We will build a singing room, which requires no license." What is a country singing room? It is a room at the bar of a public-house, with music at one end, and swearing at the other; they call it a saloon, but no respectable man and his wife could sit there for an hour.

5389. Do you speak of the country music halls generally?—Of some parts; not those in Liverpool and Manchester.

5390. What particular music halls do you refer to?—Take the county of Staffordshire.

5391. What towns?—Walsall for one, and Wednesbury for another, and Kidderminster and Stourbridge; all round Staffordshire; I have played in every town.

5392. Where have you played?—In a travelling theatre.

5393. You are manager of a travelling theatre?—Yes, I am now; I have managed one for a manager; there is Bennett and Patch's, which exists to this day.

5394. Will you describe to the Committee the kind of license that you require, and the kind of license that you get?—You secure a piece of ground, and you build your show. Until within the last 10 or 12 years everyone thought that the Act was explicit, and did not apply to a portable theatre by the last clause; but as there have been loopholes in it, some persons have persevered when they have found the magistrates disinclined for it; he has given the reading the other way, and there have been convictions; since that, many persons have brought charges against travelling theatres, saying that they should be licensed from the magistrates. But the present Act, as I read it, relates only to a permanent building. Could it refer to a travelling theatre, when it says that the proprietor may be bound in 500*l.* to answer for his well-conducting the same, and to find two tradesmen to be bound along with him; now, if he was a stranger, who would be bound for it. No; it is meant to be some building fixed in the town, where the people who live in the town might know that their money is quite safe.

5395. You suppose that the Act does not apply to temporary theatres?—Yes; but it has been made to apply either through bad reading or bad writing. It says that this Act does not apply to booths and shows, such as go to fairs and feasts, and things of that kind. But they do not prosecute you under that; they prosecute you under the clause which says any "place" that is unlicensed, and they have had a great difficulty to define what that is. Before the magistrate at Croydon we were six weeks, and he came to the conclusion that the place was not a place within the meaning of the Act; not a temporary building, that is here to-day and gone to-morrow. But I lost a great deal of money. The police say, "We shall prosecute you," and the magistrate says, "You can go on." Now there is Maidstone; I used to have a little theatre in Maidstone when it was not one-sixth of what it is now; there is a better population now; more of the working population. Formerly you got the tradesmen generally to patronise you, but you could not get a good house, but the artisans will now fill the house every night. I went there 16 miles to get a license.

5396. Mr. *Locke.*] When was this?—Last June 12 months, or July. I was to get two magistrates to sign this application before the case could be heard; so when I went to the Bench there were but two magistrates. One of the magistrates said, "We cannot sign that," and I said, "How so?" and they said, "Because we do not like theatres." I said this is only a matter of form, and they said, "You must get somebody else to sign it, we shall not." I went four miles to another magistrate and he said, "Well, but this is not the right place; why did you not go to the court to-day?" I said I had been to the court, and that they referred me to other gentlemen; and he said, "Well, this is very strange; I should not like to take it out of their hands; I would

Mr. *W. T. Simpson.*

11 May 1866.

would do it with pleasure otherwise. You had better go back." I went back and they said, "No, we shall not sign it; there are plenty more magistrates." I went off to another magistrate, a mile and a half off, and he was a little more like a Christian, and he signed it, and took me to another gentleman who signed it too.

5397. Was this an application for a license?—Yes, we have to give eight days' clear notice.

5398. That application must be signed by two magistrates, must it?—Yes; when we went to hear it decided there was a general commotion in Maidstone. Maidstone is a very theatrical town; the streets were crowded like they are at an election, and they came to the conclusion that they did not think that the Act allowed them to give the license. I played in the town six weeks, and I go there four times a year besides, but that is nothing.

5399. Did you continue to act then?—Yes.

5400. But you had not got a license?—No; I argued that we did not want one, but they argued that we did; and I agreed with them that I should apply for one, but they said that it did not lie in their power to grant it.

5401. Do you continually play without a license in other towns?—I never heard of but three or four prosecutions in my life of a portable theatre.

5402. You think that a portable theatre can play without any license at all?—Yes; the Act says it is exempt, but it says in the other clause, if you act in any "place"; so that it is both for and against you; you can do neither. The Mayor of Maidstone said that he never saw such an Act of Parliament in his life, and that the best thing was to burn it and get a new one; but he supposed that we were too poor to get that. I was never prosecuted but once.

5403. Was that at Croydon?—No; the magistrates said I was right there; this was at Maidstone; they fined me 1 *s.* on account of the word "place;" and it cost me 2 *l.* then.

5404. Have you ever been interfered with anywhere else besides that?—They have been interfered with at Dudley, in Worcestershire: a man laid out his all to build a very nice theatre in a place where there are 60,000 inhabitants; he got a license; it was his native town; he had been acting there 40 years; he built this theatre, and it was opened; it played the whole season, and never had one complaint against it; he went for his second license, but in the interim some gentleman who was on the Bench had been taken ill, and had made all the magistrates promise that they would never grant a theatrical license until he was gone: the next season he was refused his license, and he had to pull down his theatre and carry it away like old bricks and mortar. Mr. G. V. Brooke played in that theatre.

5405. Was this permanent theatre pulled down?—Yes, it was pulled down.

5406. I thought the license was only temporarily suspended?—The gentleman was very old; he asked that as a favour; there was no secret about it.

5407. The license had been granted in the first year?—Yes.

5408. Do you know of any other case?—No. There was no harm in that theatre. It says in the old Act that any person opening a theatre should be bound in a penalty of 500 *l.* or less if the magistrates think fit; that is the 6th & 7th Victoria. There happened to be a barrister, bearing the name of Kenealey, at Birmingham, and he happened to be in the court, when he started up with an opposition for this license; they had only called one of the names, and he said, "Mr. Bennett, are you worth 500 *l.*" He said, "No." "You are not?" "No." Then he says, "Your worships, this cannot go on." He says, "How so"? "Why," he says, "you might put him in a penalty of 500 *l.*," and so he lost it on account of that. That was a great deal to lose for a country manager, trying to get his bread and cheese in the country.

5409. What is the average cost of a theatre in the country?—The Northampton Theatre, which is small, that is, about 150 *l.* a year rent, and 50 *l.* a year taxes; a man has got his 12 months' rent to pay, and he has got 100 *l.* to start in his business; he thinks that will do, and he does not see why he should have that 500 *l.* too, and that is what prevents him from getting a license.

5410. Is it possible to conduct a theatre fairly with less than 500 *l.*?—Yes, those little theatres, if they have got a little local connection, can do it.

5411. Mr. *Locke.*] When you pay 150 *l.* a year for a theatre, does that include properties?—There are very seldom any in a country theatre.

5412. How do the actors dress themselves?—Every manager has a wardrobe of his own. You may find some scenery, but you are better without it, and have your own in those little places; but Mr. Saville has had that theatre for a considerable time, and it is in very excellent repair now.

5413. *Chairman.*] Does the drama pay in the provinces now as it used to do?—If you would only allow them to build theatres it would pay a hundred times better; in small towns of 10,000 inhabitants, for instance. There is Kingston, it would pay to open a theatre every night during the year. I went to Croydon with a travelling theatre, and stopped nine months there, and played every night.

5414. Had you large audiences?—Yes, up to 900.

5415. That was a temporary theatre?—Yes. I had all the principal country gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

5416. Is that lately?—Yes; I have done nothing but travelling the county of Surrey, my native county, lately; there is one of the richest gentry in the neighbourhood, Mr. Cressingham, and one of our performances was under his patronage. (*The Witness handed a sample play-bill to the Committee.*)

5417. Mr. *Locke.*] Now, the section of the Act of Parliament to which you alluded was the 23d section?—The last section.

5418. No, it is the last but two; "Interpretation of Act"?—Yes.

5419. Section 23 says: "And be it enacted, that in this Act the words 'stage play,' shall be taken to include every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or other entertainment of the stage, or any part thereof;" then it goes on with this proviso, "provided always that nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to any theatrical representation in any booth or show which by the Justices of the Peace, or other persons having authority in that behalf, shall be allowed in any lawful fair, feast, or customary meeting of the like kind"?—Yes.

5420. Now is it under that section that you make

make your applications to the magistrates to be allowed to act?—No; we apply in the regular way for a license if we fancy that there will be any opposition.

5421. In the first place you cannot act in any place that is not licensed as a theatre?—Just so.

5422. That is by a former section of the Act of Parliament, is it not?—Yes; that is the 11th section, I think.

5423. "And be it enacted, that every person who for hire shall act or present, or cause, permit, or suffer to be acted or presented, any part in any stage play, in any place not being a patent theatre or duly licensed as a theatre, shall forfeit such sum as shall be awarded by the court in which, or the justices by whom, he shall be convicted, not exceeding 10 *l.* for every day on which he shall so offend;" is that the section?—Yes.

5424. But you can go to any place with your troupe of actors, and then apply to the justices?—Yes.

5425. Then what is it you apply for; because you do not apply under this 23d section, inasmuch as that is for permission to be allowed to play "in any booth or show which is to be allowed in any lawful fair, feast, or customary meeting, of the like kind;" so that the magistrates if you go at any ordinary time when there is no "fair, feast, or customary meeting of the like kind," have not the power to grant a license?—That is the very argument.

5426. That they have not the power to grant you a license for playing in such a place at such times?—Yes.

5427. They hold that it is only at particular times, namely, when there is a "fair, feast, or customary meeting of the like kind," that they can give you that authority?—Yes.

5428. But if you go at any ordinary time when nothing of the sort is going on in the town, they consider that they have no right to give you a license?—Yes, and the same with regard to a permanent building.

5429. It cannot be the same, because the section mentions "booth or show"?—Yes.

5430. That is a proviso which says, whatever may be enacted in the 11th or other sections, it shall not apply to any of those occasional licenses granted for the performance of theatrical entertainments in booths or shows?—Yes.

5431. Suppose you go down to any place and there is not a fair at the time or anything of that kind, and suppose there is a theatre in the town which is licensed, what is the course which is pursued by the magistrates?—We should never go to a town where there was a licensed theatre, nor within three miles of it.

5432. *Chairman.*] Why not?—It might be a gentleman that I might want an engagement with, within a twelvemonth.

5433. Mr. *Locke.*] Your only application is under this 23d section then, namely, that you should be allowed to play in a booth or show?—Yes; but you have not seen the evil of the Act yet; suppose I were to go into a town like that, what would be the consequence.

5434. You mean a town which has no licensed theatre?—Yes.

5435. At any ordinary time of the year when there was no fair?—Yes.

5436. What do you do first?—We put out our bills, and in nine cases out of 10 there is no notice taken of it; but in the 10th case there may be.

5437. *Chairman.*] What notice is taken in the tenth case?—They send down to say that you shall not play.

5438. Who send down?—The magistrates.

5439. Mr. *Locke.*] That is when you have not obtained a license from the magistrates?—Yes.

5440. In some cases they take no notice; in some cases they proceed against you; and in other places when you do make your application, they say that it is not competent to them to grant you a license, inasmuch as there is no fair or feast going on, which makes it legal for them to grant it?—There is a little difference there; the reason why they cannot grant this license is that it is not a building, in their mind, within the meaning of the Act, to be licensed.

5441. But then it would be a licensed building; there is first the license of a permanent building as a theatre, which is granted in London by the Lord Chamberlain, and in the country by the magistrates?—Yes.

5442. But we are not talking of that, because you say that you would not go within three miles of a town where there was a licensed building?—But if you were obliged to have a license, whether there was a theatre or not, you would reckon yourself a much more respectable member of society. The magistrates say that it is not a building within the meaning of the Act to be licensed.

5443. That is the building?—Yes, that is what I want a license for.

5444. They say that they cannot license that temporary building as a theatre?—No.

5445. But you think you might be allowed to come in under the 23d section?—Yes.

5446. And then they say that is not the right time, because they can only do it when there is a "fair, feast, or customary meeting of the like kind," going on; but they can license you when there is?—You can go in then, and they take no notice of you; there is no license required for that; when there is a fair or feast, there never has been yet.

5447. The Act says, "Provided always that nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to any theatrical representation in any booth or show, which, by the justices of the peace, or other persons having authority in that behalf, shall be allowed in any lawful fair, feast, or customary meeting of the like kind." That section may be ambiguous, but that is the section under which you apply?—Yes.

5448. You never take your troupe when there is a licensed theatre in a town?—No.

5449. Yours is a travelling theatre?—Yes, it is a travelling theatre, visiting towns where there are no theatres. I should say that in the United Kingdom we have 800 of these travelling theatres, and they would all be very pleased to take out a license in a proper manner. I know very well that if that license was obtainable in many parts of England they would have nice little theatres in the country spring up as fast as music rooms.

5450. And yours would spring down?—I should be glad to get rid of it.

5451. But you would have a permanent theatre, would you not?—Yes.

5452. You might have that now, might you not?—Yes, but I do not want to risk money.

5453. What is it you do want?—Nothing.

5454. You have no grievance?—Yes, I have; I want to be sure that a license cannot be stopped by theological views, or anything of that kind; there

Mr. *W. T. Simpson.*

11 May 1866.

there may be eight or nine magistrates, and five or six may be against it.

5455. How many magistrates must there be to license you?—There must be four to sign it; I think you will find that in the Metropolitan Police Act.

5456. That cannot apply in the country, but it might apply in Croydon, for instance?—It applies very strongly there.

5457. How would you propose that this license should be granted; first of all you would say that there would be some inquiry into the character of the person who applies?—Yes.

5458. To whom would you have the application made?—To some party who would grant a license irrespective of party feeling; any head centre, provided they were backed with bondsmen for the well conducting of the same to a moderate amount.

5459. You mean to say that a magistrate should not bring into the performance of his duty his private notions of the propriety or morality of theatres?—Yes.

5460. If the law of the land establishes a man's right to perform in a theatre as well as to do any other act to get his living, you think he should be entitled to do it?—Yes.

5461. You say that a prejudice against theatres exists in many magistrates; some of them set themselves against all theatres, and will not have them exist?—Yes, I have heard them say so.

5462. Just the same as with regard to public-houses; some magistrates who are teetotallers may not like to grant a license?—Yes.

5463. But you think that that is not the province of a magistrate?—I know an instance at Walsall, where I have had another journey of 16 miles four or five times to put in the notice for a license. I had to go four times before we could get the magistrates to meet to the number of four on the Bench. At last they met, and the very gentleman that had an objection to theatres was there; he was against it, and the other three were for it. I went there a fortnight after that, and that gentleman was not on the Bench, and they said, "certainly."

5464. They gave you the license?—Yes.

5465. So it is quite uncertain whether or not you will be allowed to carry on your calling in any particular town?—Yes.

5466. You have never performed in any licensed theatre, I suppose?—Yes, I performed for 13 years in London.

5467. I mean in the country?—Not now; I have performed in every theatre royal.

5468. You do not take your company there?—No.

5469. Is there any theatre at Maidstone?—No, it is a shoemaker's shop now.

5470. Do you know Guildford?—Yes.

5471. Is there any theatre there?—There is the remains of it.

5472. It is now an upholsterer's shop, is it not?—I do not know; it was in a dreadful dilapidated state 16 or 18 years ago.

5473. Have they any permanent theatre at Croydon now?—No.

5474. Used they to have one?—Yes, they used to have a very nice little theatre, but it is given up.

5475. *Chairman.*] Why is it given up?—It was a little quiet town then, when the people went out town to enjoy themselves. They could go to a theatre in London, but now Croydon is a second London.

5476. Mr. *Locke.*] But that cannot be the reason why it is given up?—The only reason is, that they would be doubtful whether the magistrates would grant a license.

5477. *Chairman.*] Cannot they ascertain that before building a theatre?—No, the magistrates must see the building first.

5478. Colonel *Sturt.*] The license would be liable to be taken away next year?—Yes; it was proposed the other day, whenever I could get a license, to raise 5,000 *l.* in shares for a theatre.

5479. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you think the magistrates generally, I do not say invariably, set their faces against theatrical entertainments?—Yes.

5480. How do you account for that?—I cannot say, but I was talking with one, and he said that there should be no such people as theatrical people, and no theatres.

5481. What sort of people did he say there should be?—I cannot say; he said "Move off"; I said I would stop. I think it is very hurtful to human nature to be treated like rogues and vagabonds, and not like honest men; why not let me live within the Act of Parliament.

5482. You think that this Act should be altered?—Yes, I do play other things every night, and charge for it, and the Act does not touch me, and then I open the doors and play Othello for nothing.

5483. Why do you play Othello for nothing?—I must not charge for it; I may for the previous entertainment, but that would bring me within the meaning of the Act.

5484. Colonel *Sturt.*] You have studied that Act pretty well, have you not?—Yes, I have had cause to do so; I have lost a good many hundreds of pounds which my family ought to have.

5485. But acting for nothing would hardly suit your purpose, would it?—Yes, it does when I am paid for the first portion of the performance.

5486. Do you turn them out and let them in again?—No; I say, "You may go out, the performance is over."

5487. But you have incurred the penalty by your first performance?—No; I play a ballet first.

5488. Mr. *Locke.*] Are you not aware that a ballet has been held to be a performance of the stage?—It has been decided the other way by all the country justices where I have been.

5489. Then the country justices have taken a more reasonable view than some of the London ones?—I have one very close to me who would soon stop me if he could; but I play a ballet every night.

5490. Can you give us any particular decisions by country magistrates on this point with regard to what is a performance of the stage within the meaning of the 23rd section of the 6th and 7th Victoria?—There have been so many opinions given about it.

5491. I mean with regard to the country?—For instance, having a stage in a concert-room does not constitute a theatre.

5492. If you had no performers it would not amount to anything, of course?—But, if you have singing in character dresses it does not constitute a stage performance.

5493. *Chairman.*] Has that been decided by the country magistrates?—Yes.

5494. Where has that been decided?—It was somewhere in Kent.

5495. Do

5495. Do you mean where people sing together?—No, where there is only one.

5496. But have those questions been tried before country magistrates continually?—They have not, because there is no restriction over the concert-rooms in the country at all.

5497. But have such questions arisen and been decided?—I remember a case in Kent; somebody had a theatre; and there was one at Norwich, against a music hall there; they overruled that; they said that it was not a stage play.

5498. Mr. *Locke.*] What was that performance?—It was a concert.

5499. Have you any knowledge of any particular case where the magistrates have decided that ballet was not a performance of the stage?—I can give you a case where the real drama was decided not to be a performance of the stage.

5500. What was that?—"Timour the Tartar," and "Mazeppa."

5501. Where was that decided?—It was performed in a circus at Norwich, and the manager of the theatre, Mr. Sydney, indicted them.

5502. Where was the case tried?—In Norwich.

5503. Before whom was it tried?—It is within four years.

5504. Was it at the quarter sessions?—I was not there; I only read it in the newspapers. The decision was, that it had always been allowed in circuses in Norwich before, and they did not look upon it as a play represented on the stage.

5505. Mr. *Selwyn.*] Was that the decision before the magistrates?—Yes.

5506. Mr. *Locke.*] That was at the petty sessions, I suppose?—I should think so. Mr. Sydney is manager of the Norwich Theatre, Colchester Theatre, and Richmond Theatre.

5507. He indicted the circus people, or rather he summoned them before the magistrates to be fined?—Yes, and the magistrates said that they were not plays to be taken notice of as theatrical representations, because they had been allowed in circuses ever since they could remember.

5508. *Chairman.*] Do you remember what troupe that was?—I cannot recollect, but it is rife in every one's ear in Norfolk.

5509. Mr. *Ducane.*] What is the general character of your performances?—Here is another play bill of a performance that was given under the patronage of the Lord of the Manor at Mitcham (*handing in another play bill*).

5510. Do you find that such plays as the "Lady of Lyons," or the "Honey Moon," which I see on these bills, pay better than burlesques, break-down dancers, and nigger songs?—We get more money from those plays because respectable people come, and it brings a 6*d.* gallery instead of a 3*d.* one.

5511. You say that if there was a permanent theatre in every town you would give up your itinerant course?—Yes, if I could get a license.

5512. You mean if there was free trade?—Yes.

5513. Colonel *Sturt.*] Are you at liberty to give any plays that you like?—Yes. I could not do my new piece; we never play only old comedies, the legitimate drama.

5514. You could not give a piece that had not been passed in London?—No, it is no use to us unless it is well known; they say, "We can have a little outline of it here, and that will be as good as seeing it in London."

5515. Mr. *Locke.*] I think the section of the Metropolis Police Act to which you allude, is the 46th section of the 2 & 3 Vict. c. 47?—Yes, I dare say.

5516. That section enacts: "That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Police, by order in writing, to authorise any superintendent belonging to the metropolitan police, with such constables as he may think necessary, to enter into any house or room kept or used within the said district for stage plays or dramatic entertainments into which admission is obtained by payment of money, and which is not a licensed theatre, at any time when the same shall be open for the reception of persons resorting thereto, and to take into custody all persons who shall be found therein without lawful excuse; and every person keeping, using, or knowingly letting any house or other tenement for the purpose of being used as an unlicensed theatre shall be liable to a penalty not more than 20*l.*, or, in the discretion of the magistrate, may be committed to the House of Correction, with or without hard labour, for a time not more than two calendar months; and every person performing or being therein without lawful excuse shall be liable to a penalty not more than 40*s.*" That is the section of the Act of Parliament to which you alluded, and which could have been applied against you at Croydon, or any place within the metropolitan district?—Just so.

5517. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Are drinking and smoking allowed in your temporary theatre?—No; but you cannot help the public smoking. When I say that drinking is not allowed, men will go and fetch themselves a pint of beer, but we do not sell it.

5518. You allow refreshments, then, I suppose?—Yes; apples, nuts, oranges, and ginger-beer. We do not profess to sell beer.

5519. If they wanted bread and cheese or a mutton chop, they could not get it?—No; such luxuries are not to be found in our little theatres.

5520. *Chairman.*] With regard to the music halls, have you seen much of the music halls in country places?—Wherever I have been I have seen them.

5521. You have made a point of going to see them?—I generally go to see the "Era," the theatrical newspaper; they take it in there.

5522. You do not seem to approve of the way in which the music halls are carried on at some of the small towns?—Unless they are carried on after the same fashion as they are in London, if you were to see them you would say so. Take Dudley, where there are 60,000 inhabitants; go into one of the great places there, which are all like glass; you cannot hear a word; there is the music, and there is a collier and his wife fighting, and a child crying, and that they call a concert-room; it is all in front of the bar.

5523. Suppose you go to some place with your theatre, do the people conduct themselves in a more orderly manner when they are inside your theatre?—Yes; I have always found the colliers very well behaved in my theatre.

5524. Is that because they are interested in the pieces?—Yes; I have had 700 or 800 navigators present at one time, and they never interrupt the performance in any way.

5525. But suppose that the same performances were given at the music-halls, would the people conduct

Mr. *W. T. Simpson.*
11 May 1866.

conduct themselves well?—Yes, but the music-halls would not care about that; it is merely the ready penny; but if there was a restriction over them, and they were obliged to obtain a certain license, they would imitate the London houses, and make it a place of entertainment; it looks like a place of debauch at present.

5526. Are they not forced to take out a license?—No, not any; there is no one to interfere with them.

5527. Mr. *Locke.*] They must obtain a spirit license?—They have that already.

5528. But there is no music and dancing license in the country, is there?—It is 15 miles round London, I think.

5529. *Chairman.*] As soon as you get over the border of the 15 miles round London, you get into a different style of music-halls?—You must get further away to the north, where the population is large enough; Staffordshire, Shropshire, and so on; it is more in the towns.

5530. But are music-halls more disorderly in the country than public-houses?—A hundred per cent. more; the public-house is an old-fashioned little place; but the music-hall is quite different, and the customers do not agree with the place at all.

5531. Have you anything else to add to your evidence?—I think that if you will let us have free trade in theatres, we shall show you that the drama is not so much destroyed as has been represented before this Committee.

5532. Mr. *Locke.*] With respect to that distance of 15 miles round London, the Act which regulates the distance is the 25th of George the Second, c. 36, s. 2, which has the words, "From and after the 1st day of December 1752 any house, room, garden, or other place kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind, in the cities of London and Westminster, or within 20 miles thereof, without a license had for that purpose," and so on. The distance, then, is 20 miles, is it not?—I see I was wrong; it is 20 miles.

Mr. JOHN GREEN, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Green.*

5533. Mr. *Locke.*] I BELIEVE you are lessee of Evans's?—Yes.

5534. How long have you conducted Evans's?—I have been proprietor for 22 years.

5535. Have you been manager likewise?—I have been managing and identified with places of musical entertainments over 40 years.

5536. Is it 20 years ago that you became manager of Evans's?—I became manager of Evans's in 1844.

5537. Whom did you succeed?—Mr. Evans.

5538. Mr. Evans was a singer, was he not?—He was an actor; we were both actors together in the same theatre.

5539. Where was that?—At Worthing, at the old English Opera House, and for a short time at Covent Garden.

5540. Did Mr. Evans die, then?—Yes.

5541. Was it upon his death that you succeeded?—No; it was years before his death; he died in 1855, and I became proprietor in 1844.

5542. But after you became proprietor of Evans's in 1844, used Mr. Evans to take the chair there?—Never; not while I was either conductor of the music, nor while I was proprietor.

5543. Then, he left it altogether?—He retired from the chair when I went there.

5544. And you took it?—I did.

5545. You took the chair nightly?—I did.

5546. Do you do so now?—No, and I have not done so for years.

5547. It is changed since then?—Yes, surely.

5548. When you first went there in 1842, it was a different place from what it is now?—Yes.

5549. I think at that time there were no performances at all?—There was always singing.

5550. But no performances on the stage?—No, nor are there any performances on the stage now.

5551. But nothing was done on the stage at all?—No, it was merely tables, songs, and suppers.

5552. Persons sat round the table and sang songs, the same as you might do in any private house?—Yes.

5553. When was it that you first made an alteration in the building?—The first alteration in the building was in 1851.

5554. That was the Exhibition year?—Yes, and subsequently I made an alteration in 1855.

5555. Had you altered your mode of proceeding previous to 1851, when you made your first alteration?—Yes.

5556. What had been done when you first changed from the mere ordinary sitting round the table; what was the first thing that you introduced?—A small elevation that could scarcely be called a stage; perhaps three feet high, to enable one or two people to sing a comic song; the room crowded and it was necessary to do it in order to place the people so that everybody could see and hear.

5557. Then in 1851, you placed this contrivance for the persons to stand on who sang, but was there any other innovation?—None whatever, except an improvement in the music, and a large improvement and increase in the choir; formerly we had three singers. Mr. Evans used to sing, I used to sing, and people who are now eminent used to sing, and people eminent in every phase of life used to come and see us.

5558. You also used to sing at the Cyder Cellars, did you not?—Yes, I conducted the Cyder Cellars years before.

5559. They had a large room at the Cyder Cellars, had they not?—There was a large room built; the old room was a little place that would hold a dozen people.

5560. That was in Maiden-lane?—Yes.

5561. Then there was another place; Ben Morgan's?—Yes.

5562. But there was never any singing worth notice there?—No.

5563. That is the place introduced in "Society," is it not?—I have not seen it; there was Offley's, the Cyder Cellars, Evans's, and the Coal Hole; the Old Coal Hole in the Strand.

5564. Where Edmund Kean used to go and take the chair?—Yes; I have been there with him.

5565. What was the next thing that you introduced at Evans's after the small stage?—Only an increase of the choir.

5566. Now there is a stage, and tumbling on it, is there not?—Yes; acrobatic performances.

5567. And very large choruses?—Yes.

5568. You

5568. You have got a large chorus, have you not?—Yes; about 23 performers for glees, madrigals, and choruses, every night.

5569. You have a great many boys there?—No women, only boys.

5570. You have chorus singers besides boys?—Yes.

5571. It is 23, including boys?—Yes; about 12 boys and 11 men.

5572. Then in addition to that, have you acrobatic performances and songs?—Yes.

5573. Mr. Sydney used to sing there?—He did.

5574. He has left, has he not?—He has.

5575. What have you in addition to that?—Nothing but acrobatic performances and singing.

5576. Now, I believe, no females are admitted at Evans's?—Never in the singing-room.

5577. But are there boxes to which they are admitted?—There is a small gallery connected with the hotel, that will hold a dozen females, and there have been 16 or 18 there; that is connected with the hotel, quite away from the singing-room. I never saw a woman in the room nor did I ever permit one.

5578. I believe that nothing can be conducted with greater propriety than Evans's?—I think not.

5579. That is the general opinion which I have heard expressed, and I presume you do not differ from it?—No; I am the father of the music-halls, but I am ashamed of some of my children; I do not want to own them.

5580. Do you consider that it would be an advantage to you if you were enabled to make any alteration in the amusement that you afford to the public at Evans's, introducing something else on to the stage?—I do not see that it would be an advantage to me at all, I do not desire it; it can be in no way advantageous to me.

5581. You think that the entertainment which you now have is all that is requisite for your public?—Yes; improve it as much as possible, but not give a dramatic or theatrical stage performance.

5582. But your case is rather different from the others, persons come in after the theatre to Evans's?—Mine is essentially a supper house.

5583. On the University Boat-race night, you are pretty full, are you not?—It is the only place that the young people can come to with any credit to themselves.

5584. There is always a song written for the occasion, is there not?—Mr. Sydney always writes a song for any special occasion; the Cattle-show week, the Derby week, and the Boat-race week, or any particular event.

5585. Those songs attract a great number of persons?—The events attract the people, but the songs were found desirable.

5586. They are very much applauded, I suppose?—Certainly.

5587. A good many members of the universities and public schools used to come there?—Certainly.

5588. On Eton and Harrow match day, it was pretty full?—Yes; all the scholastic meetings, and matters in any way connected with universities and great public schools, more or less, are celebrated at my place.

5589. Are those songs published?—So far as I know, entirely; there may be exceptions, but as a rule, yes.

5590. Who has published them?—I cannot say. I believe there are some published in Rathbone-place, and some have been published at Cramer's in Regent-street, and some in other places.

5591. But there is no collection of them?—I never saw or heard of a collection of them; they are published singly.

5592. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] I understand you say that no ladies or women are allowed at Evans's?—Never.

5593. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you not think that the present system of restriction is detrimental to the interests of dramatic authors?—Yes; but it requires some consideration to qualify that. The power that I have is enormous; the power that the public caterers have for the entertainment and amusement of the public is simply and really immense. It is a system of education in itself. There are 40,000 people who go to theatres and places of entertainment in London every night; that is, 240,000 people weekly, and in London alone one-third of the population, or over 1,000,000 of the inhabitants, go to places of entertainment annually; for what? It is in the power of the Executive to make the people better.

5594. What Executive?—Those who have the charge of making Acts of Parliament.

5595. You would be very sorry to see the music-halls thrown open for dramatic performances, I suppose?—No, on the contrary. I vote most cordially for free trade in those places; but let us trade in a respectable and proper article. Do not degrade or damage our fellow-creatures.

5596. Would you object to a burlesque or a pantomime at music-halls?—Not if they are refined: not coarse.

5597. You would submit them to a censorship?—Certainly; I would have them most severely watched, that the people may be refined and made better. I mean, if we watch over and purify these things we do service to our fellow-creatures, and it would be doing a noble act.

5598. Would the present censorship of the Lord Chamberlain be sufficient, in your opinion?—I should say that it should be considerably enlarged.

5599. You think that it is not strict enough?—I do not say that it is not strict enough, but I think that it might be enlarged. The entertainment of the people is education; the drama was a gigantic system of education; and the entertainment of the people should be cared for, watched for, and so their condition would be improved.

5600. But the ordinary run of burlesques given in London are perfectly unobjectionable, are they not?—Certainly.

5601. You would not object to have these burlesques at music-halls, would you?—No; but I do not see how that could be done.

5602. *Chairman.*] Why not?—Because the places are not large enough. I think that I have the largest area in London, but it is not fit for a theatre.

5603. Colonel *Sturt.*] What do you think of the "Alhambra"?—That is a very large place, with capabilities, and I think it should be a theatre.

5604. Would you have smoking, eating, and drinking put down there?—I do not believe in the morality of sex gatherings under the influence of drink. I would not have smoking, eating, and drinking. I would appeal to the intellect; I would have no smoking, eating, and

Mr. *J. Green.*

11 May 1866.

drinking in that particular part, but as much as you like in places proper for it.

5605. *Chairman.*] But you have smoking, eating, and drinking at your place, have you not?—Yes.

5606. But why not have it in music halls?—Because there are women there; mine is a supper house, it has ever been advertised as a supper and music room.

5607. Mr. *Locke.*] What time does your performance begin?—At eight o'clock.

5608. *Chairman.*] Smoking, eating, and drinking you do not mind, but smoking, eating, and drinking in the presence of women you object to?—Yes, I object to smoking, eating, and drinking in the sex gatherings. I do not believe in the morality of men and women getting together under the influence of drinking and smoking.

5609. But you are aware that that takes place abroad?—Yes, I know it does take place on the Continent, but that is a different thing.

5610. You put it down to the difference in education?—Certainly, the women are educated differently.

5611. Do you think that they are more moral abroad than they are here?—Without undertaking to say what they are elsewhere, the women abroad publicly are as moral as they can be.

5612. You say that the caterers for public amusement have hold of a great engine for education?—I think it should be education; if it be not education, it is nothing.

5613. Do you look to that in the selection of songs at "Evans's"?—Yes, I print every one.

5614. Do you think it is more than an amusement going to "Evans's"; do you think that a man is wiser or better the next morning for having been there?—I will not undertake to say that, but I know this, that he can do no possible harm at "Evans's."

5615. But do you think it is an education for him?—Yes, in music, and by printing the poetry; I print everything but the comic songs.

5616. Those you do not print?—No, but there is no reason why I should not do so.

5617. Mr. *Locke.*] Little books of the words are put on the table for the public?—Yes, I give them to the public.

5618. *Chairman.*] But you think that it is a better educational exercise to go to a supper room such as "Evans's" than to go to a music hall such as the "Alhambra"?—There is very little music heard there.

5619. I thought it was music of a very high character?—Where the sexes go and meet, art is neglected; treated with contempt, and frequently despised.

5620. Is art neglected at the Opera house, do you think?—No.

5621. But the sexes meet there?—That is another affair.

5622. What is the difference?—The difference lies in this, that to the Opera house people go purposely to be charmed with the choicest possible musical entertainment; at the other places, I take it for granted, they do not go for anything of the sort; it is merely a place for the gathering of the sexes.

5623. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Would you go the length of saying that the sexes should not meet there?—I say decidedly that the sexes should meet, but under certain restrictions.

5624. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you mean that those places are a sort of casino?—Decidedly.

5625. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] You think that smoke has a great effect on the morality of the female sex, do you; and, in fact, that smoking and drinking injures the morals and the intellect?—No, I did not intend to say that.

5626. I think your words implied as much; but at all events, I suppose you think that women have now-a-days become accustomed to smoking; certainly in the middle class?—I am afraid that they have.

5627. Pretty nearly as much as they are abroad?—Yes.

5628. Smoking does not really injure the female character, does it?—Certainly the smoking cannot; it has nothing to do with character.

5629. Mr. *Clive.*] Seriously, you object to the music halls as at present conducted?—Just so; I object to the conducting of them; not to the music halls; I want a larger entertainment for the people; I think it is vitally important that the people should have abundance of entertainment and amusement, but it should be of a healthy character, a character that may do them good.

5630. In any changes of the law that may be made, you would think that the supervision now given to theatres should be extended to the music halls?—I think so.

5631. You think that the character of public entertainment should not be left to the taste of the public, but that there should be a certain amount of Government supervision over them?—Certainly.

5632. You do not think that you could with safety leave the proprietors of music halls to conduct their establishments entirely as they liked?—No; I think it is a power which should not be conceded to any individual.

5633. Then do you object to the present system of licensing?—I have not given that much consideration.

5634. You have a license from year to year, I suppose?—I have a license for music; and I have the ordinary Victuallers' license.

5635. That license for music is given you by the magistrates?—Yes.

5636. Mr. *Locke.*] Is your license only for music?—That is all; not for music and dancing.

5637. *Chairman.*] Have you heard of any inconvenience being experienced from that system of licensing by the magistrates?—No; I think the only liberty that should be extended to music-halls is to perform what they now do; that is to say, dancing and dialogue. I have no doubt that dialogues according to the Act of Parliament, are illegal, and I have no doubt that dancing in the larger form is a theatrical representation. If it is not, where there are dresses and action, I do not know what is meant by theatrical representation.

5638. You are not one of those who complain very much of the existing legislation, on the whole?—I do not complain at all; all I desire is to try to give my humble views, and all I want is to make people better. I want to have public entertainments under such a supervision of the Government as should make our fellow creatures better. I think all the amusements of the people should have a healthy moral tone. I think that the refinement of the people should be a matter of considerable importance in the eye of a Government.

5639. With regard to songs, you have any songs sung that you choose, I suppose?—Surely.

5640. If you had different views from your present

present views, you might have objectionable songs instead of having very proper songs at Evans's; there is no law to prevent you, is there?—I think that if any one were to sing indecent songs the law would have the power to prevent it.

5641. Have you heard of cases of indecent songs being stopped?—The police have never noticed them, that I know of.

5642. Do you think that that is a satisfactory state of things?—No, surely it is not desirable that any one should be at liberty to sing improper songs; 30 or 40 years ago, the standard, the model of entertainments of that sort in London, consisted of songs of a questionable character. I do not know that I should be giving pain in mentioning it (I certainly do not want to give pain to any one), but Sam Hall, and other songs of indecent and questionable character were, in point of fact, the stock-in-trade at the music-halls in those days. I was the first, I think, who introduced glees, in order to purify the system. I had my share in those things (I am speaking with candour, of course), and I was part and parcel of that system of smutty and indecent songs that were sung in those days, in so far as I was concerned for those establishments; but when Sam Hall came, I thought it was arriving at its very consummation, and I then said that these sorts of things must be purified; and I think that I deserve credit for being the first to dismiss from public places every sort of indecency and obscenity.

5643. You did that by appealing to the public taste?—Yes.

5644. But not by force of law?—Not by law; the public never knew it, or at least never felt it, because I printed the words and I introduced proper music; I quietly, so to speak, wedged out the smutty songs, and the public never knew that they had lost them.

5645. You proceeded by appealing to the public taste only, and not by the help of the law?—Just so.

5646. Do you think that the law ought to have interfered at the time, and stopped some of those indecent songs?—Certainly, on the ground of indecency.

5647. You think that was a defect of legislation?—Certainly.

5648. You think that all the music-halls should be under the same sort of supervision that the performances on the stage are?—Certainly.

5649. You do not think it is sufficient that the police should see that the conduct inside among the audience is orderly?—No; the question lies entirely in what is done on the stage, I think; I think that the question of vital importance lies on the stage; the other could be provided for easily and simply, but to give an entertainment on the stage is another question altogether.

5650. All plays are submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, and licensed by him?—Yes.

5651. Do you think it is necessary to submit the performances of the music-halls to the Lord Chamberlain?—If they were literary, or merely verbal, yes; but as they are not literary, or merely verbal, I do not know how you are to provide for them.

5652. Take your own songs, they are not submitted for any license whatever?—No.

5653. You could not rely on every one taking the same view as you do of the nature of a song, could you?—Very few I suspect would.

5654. Then do you think that at those music-halls, where comic songs are sung, the songs should come under the same license as plays?—I do not say the same license, but surely they ought to come under some sort of supervision.

5655. You would not rely on the public taste?—I should not rely on it, unless you educate it; it is just as likely to go wrong as anything else.

5656. Do you think that the public would hoot off anything that was improper, is that your view?—I would not undertake to say that for all places, but I am satisfied now, if songs of an indecent tendency or smutty character were sung at Evans's, half the people would go away.

5657. Is that because your establishment has got the reputation of being a decent one?—But why not all decent?

5658. Colonel *Sturt.*] It is rather a superior class of persons that come to your house?—Yes, the entertainment has been provided for that phase of society: but why not for all; why should not all share in the good?

5659. Mr. *Locke.*] You do not often go to other music-halls, I suppose?—I have gone to all of them.

5660. Whoever or whatever may have educated the public taste, is it not very much improved at all places of entertainment in London?—I believe the general tendency has improved wondrously, but there have been exceptions, and, I am very sorry to say, arising with women.

5661. In singing songs?—Yes.

5662. Do you mean improper songs?—Not precisely improper, but songs with *inuendos* and *doubles entendres* in them.

5663. You sometimes have that kind of thing on the stage, do you not?—Certainly.

5664. Quite as frequently as elsewhere?—No doubt, and we know, humanly speaking, that it is generally very well liked, but you can have fun without filth.

5665. You can have fun without those improper songs you mean?—They are not improper songs, but they are a little coarse.

5666. But at all events the Lord Chamberlain has the power of interfering with those things at the theatres?—Surely the Lord Chamberlain has.

5667. *Chairman.*] You mean that you have heard things on the stage which the Lord Chamberlain ought to have stopped?—Yes, certainly.

5668. If you were the Lord Chamberlain, you would be rather more strict than he is?—I should insist on the decencies of life before women.

5669. Do you think that that is not done now?—I am an old actor. We have all taken some little license; things were spoken that were never in the text at all. We have all had our share in it; we said things that were not quite up to the mark, and I remember that sometimes some of the actors were absolutely coarse.

5670. Mr. *Locke.*] But that is altered now, is it not?—For myself I do not know. I have not been in a theatre for some time.

5671. But you have been in music-halls?—Yes, and in theatres too, but some time since.

5672. Are you aware of any improper songs being sung in any of the music-halls?—Certainly not, what would be called an improper song. I believe that there is not one that could be fairly called improper. I have not heard such a thing.

5673. Do you not attribute that to the improvement of the public taste?—Certainly.

5674. You spoke of Sam Hall as the "consummation"?—Yes, but his song was very much misunderstood.

Mr. *J. Green.*
11 May 1866.

5675. Was there anything very improper in it?—No; but it was revolting in its blasphemy.

5676. But nothing indecent?—No; on the contrary, I think it was greatly misunderstood.

5677. That represented a chimney-sweep going to be hanged?—Yes; the performance was of the same type as Hogarth's (the first of humorists, satirists, and moralists) paintings are; as Churchill said (if the Committee will permit me to quote anything so coarse), "Hogarth looked at the back-side of everything." But why? That he might show up vice and wrong, and expose it, in order that it might be detested. If you look at Hogarth's paintings only for their coarseness and want of refinement, you do injustice to him; and so it was with Sam Hall.

5678. Sam Hall was misunderstood, then, you think?—Yes; many people went to see him, and looked at the song as merely a comic song, received it as blasphemous, and, indeed, there were blasphemous words in the song; but it was a piece of real tragedy of the kind, and was the only way in which a man like Sam Hall could develop his meaning.

5679. Colonel *Sturt.*] But still you objected to that song?—Yes, I objected to the blasphemy; the end of every verse was blasphemous; and a man who had no taste wrote something for that song which was very wicked, very very shocking.

5680. Did not the public taste reprobate that?—No; that was a verse written specially; that verse where the parson came, and so on.

5681. The people cheered that song a good deal, did they not?—Yes, the song brought all London to hear it; and for five years it supported the house, but it ruined the man and ruined the place.

5682. Mr. *Locke.*] Who was that song sung by?—Ross; I brought him to London.

5683. Colonel *Sturt.*] How do you mean that it ruined the place?—When the song lost its popularity the place lost its popularity.

5684. *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to add to your evidence?—No.

Mr. John Poole, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Poole.*

5685. *Chairman.*] What is your connection with the music-halls?—I am Manager and Musical Director of the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road.

5686. Before you came to London had you any experience in the provinces?—Yes; I was manager and musical director of Mr. Holder's establishment in Birmingham.

5687. How long ago is it since you left Birmingham?—Two years ago.

5688. You were eight years in Birmingham, I believe?—Yes.

5689. Where were you before you were at Birmingham?—I was musical director and composer to the Theatre Royal, Norwich, and Ipswich, and all that district; and also Lynn and Colchester.

5690. At the theatres?—Yes.

5691. You have experience, therefore, both of theatres and music-halls?—Yes.

5692. Your experience of music-halls is a recent experience, because you were engaged in provincial theatres before?—Yes.

5693. You were at Norwich and at Lynn?—Yes.

5694. Did you hear the evidence given to day with regard to some decision at Norwich?—No.

5695. Are you acquainted with those circumstances?—No, not at all.

5696. You were engaged in those provincial theatres as musical composer?—Yes, I used to lead the band.

5697. You are a musician and not an actor?—Just so.

5698. Have you followed at all the fortunes of those theatres with which you were formerly connected?—No, not since I have left; I know that the Norwich theatre is still open and doing pretty well.

5699. Is it in the same hands?—Yes, the same lessee.

5700. Who is he?—Mr. William Sydney.

5701. I suppose he has had great experience there?—Yes.

5702. Have you been engaged in theatres in other parts of the country?—I was in the Birmingham theatre.

5703. Is Mr. Sydney one of the chief theatrical managers in that part of England?—Yes, he has three or four theatres.

5704. Were you engaged in some of the large music-halls in Birmingham?—Holder's is the largest.

5705. When was that music-hall founded?—I should say about 23 or 24 years ago; perhaps not quite so long; 20 years ago.

5706. Now what performances were there at that music-hall during the eight years that you were connected with it?—When I first went there I produced operatic selections; they were the chief portion of the entertainment.

5707. In the nature of a concert, I suppose?—Yes.

5708. Not in character or costume?—No.

5709. Have you had any experience of those difficulties with regard to the performances of the stage?—Yes, once or twice in Birmingham we produced a ballet there, two years and 10 months ago, and the lessee of the theatre, Mr. Simpson, sent us notice to stop the ballet.

5710. What happened?—We stopped the ballet.

5711. Did you fear that he would succeed in an action?—Yes, we felt fully assured that we were going past our license.

5712. You had a license for music and dancing, I suppose?—For music alone, I believe.

5713. Mr. *Locke.*] You have a license in Birmingham?—Yes.

5714. Under a local Act?—Yes.

5715. *Chairman.*] Did you have dialogues?—Yes, we used to include them.

5716. You had music and dialogues?—Yes.

5717. Did you ever go so far as to have three or four performers on the stage?—Yes, we have encroached that much.

5718. Did you become more careful after this threat of an action?—Yes; they did not so much mind so long as we did not introduce certain dances; Mr. Simpson meant on one occasion to introduce a rifle dance that we had been doing, and Mr. Simpson said that we must discontinue that.

5719. He took the dance from you, and then asked

asked you to discontinue it?—Yes; we went on after that, and he never interfered with us.

5720. But what was the view of your public?—They thought it was very mercenary, when there was only one music-hall and one theatre; at that time there was only one house; there are three now.

5721. Did you have large audiences generally?—The place, when I first went there, would hold 600 or 800, now it holds 2,500; it has been enlarged.

5722. Is it generally full now?—It does not fill quite so well at the present time.

5723. Not since you left?—Not since I left.

5724. Is there smoking, eating, and drinking there, just the same as in the London Music Halls?—Just the same.

5725. In the body of the building?—In every part.

5726. Have they tables?—Yes.

5727. And they call for their drink during the performances?—Yes.

5728. What are your performances at the Metropolitan Music Hall?—We are performing ballets, four-part songs, duetts, acrobatic entertainments, comic songs, and duologues.

5729. Have you ever had any trouble there with regard to performances of the stage?—No, not since I have been there.

5730. If you were not restricted by legislation, would you have the same performances that you have now, or would you change them?—We should change them, most decidedly.

5731. What would you do?—Farces, operas, burlesques of light characters, and ballets.

5732. Do you think that operettas would succeed?—Yes.

5733. Would they succeed with the same audience that you have now, or would you get another class?—Why not the same audience?

5734. You do not think that smoking, eating, and drinking, and the rushing about of waiters, and so on, would interfere with the listening to one of Offenbach's best songs?—No, we do not allow any waiters to move about while a song is being sung.

5735. Have you tables?—Yes.

5736. It is not like the Alhambra, I suppose?—It is not quite so large, but it is a very fine hall.

5737. What class of audience have you got?—It is a mixed audience; tradespeople.

5738. Do they come with their wives and daughters?—Yes.

5739. Have you got any views with regard to the desirability of any change in the law?—What I have stated, because I think it would be made a better entertainment, and more worthy of support.

5740. Mr. Stanley gave some evidence, and he said that he represented a good many of the music-halls; did he represent you among them?—I think not; I believe we do not belong to their society; Mr. Meacock does not.

5741. Are you sure that Mr. Stanley does not represent you?—I should say he does not.

5742. You have a little doubt, have you?—Yes, I had, because I heard Mr. Meacock say he intended to; but when he heard Mr. Stanley say that, he said I must withdraw.

5743. He did represent you then?—Yes, but he had no authority.

5744. For what?—For representing that establishment; Mr. Meacock had not paid the money or attended at any of the meetings.

5745. He does not feel that Mr. Stanley has compromised him in any way?—No.

5746. But if he had paid his subscription, Mr. Stanley would have represented him?—Just so.

5747. It is rather fortunate then that he had not paid his subscription?—Quite so.

5748. Mr. Meacock differs from Mr. Stanley?—Yes.

5749. In what particulars does he differ?—Mr. Stanley wishes a restriction to six people; I maintain that it would be very difficult to give a representation in a creditable manner with six individuals, especially a burlesque or ballet; consider a ballet with six people!

5750. Mr. *Locke.*] Mr. Stanley suggested six people, unless they were Ethiopians?—Yes.

5751. *Chairman.*] Have you heard that any of the other music hall proprietors object to his evidence?—I do not know that I have.

5752. You wish for perfect competition?—Yes.

5753. Mr. Stanley said he thought that if the music hall proprietors had permission to act larger pieces with eight, or nine, or 10 people, they would do so?—I have no doubt they would.

5754. Mr. Stanley maintains that they would ruin themselves?—If the law permitted it. I do not think they would be so foolish as to do it; if they thought that it would not pay they would withdraw it.

5755. Mr. Stanley thought that they required a law to prevent them from ruining themselves?—It is very kind of him.

5756. But that is not your view?—No.

5757. Is your establishment a company?—No; it is the property of Mr. Meacock.

5758. Was it ever a company?—Yes.

5759. What was the capital?—20,000 *l.*

5760. Does the building and the whole establishment represent a capital of about 25,000 *l.*?—Yes.

5761. Could you at all tell us the profits derived from it; what is the price for admission?—One shilling stalls, 9*d.* balcony, and 6*d.* area.

5762. With regard to the consumption of liquor, have you any objection to state the average receipts from liquor?—That is a department I have nothing to do with.

5763. You only know about the musical department?—Yes; I only know about the musical department, not about the refreshment department.

5764. You are there every evening, I suppose?—Yes.

5765. And I presume you see every man taking something?—Yes.

5766. Should you think that anybody took less than 6*d.* worth?—I think that is about the average.

5767. About the same as the price for admission?—I think so; about 6*d.* every person.

5768. Have you got any interest in the concern?—No; I am a paid servant.

5769. You think that every one spends about the same sum of money there, as the price of entrance?—Yes, about the same.

5770. Mr. *Locke.*] Where is your hall situated?—It is the Metropolitan, in the Edgeware-road.

5771. How far up the road is it?—About 12 doors past the Harrow-road.

5772. You say that if you had the power to do so, you would introduce light pieces, farces, operettas, and ballets?—Yes.

Mr. *J. Poole.*
11 May 1866.

5773. You think that that would answer?—I am sure of it.

5774. Heavy tragedy, I presume, would not answer?—No, we should not do anything in the sensational drama style, or play, or tragedy.

5775. Was not there some question at Birmingham about Pepper's Ghost?—Yes.

5776. When was that?—It was in my time; perhaps three years ago, or a little more.

5777. Did the manager of the theatre take action with regard to that against the music hall?—Yes.

5778. What took place then; first of all, what was the performance in which this ghost was introduced?—There were several illusions; in fact, we played little plays.

5779. What was the piece?—It was a man coming home late at night, and coming into a room he sees a ghost; he rushes to the chair; he sees a female in his bed-chamber; he makes a rush at her, and, of course, she vanishes.

5780. The manager of the theatre objected to that as being a performance of the stage under the 6 & 7 Victoria?—Yes.

5781. What proceedings were taken?—Mr. Simpson had made an arrangement with Mr. Pepper to produce a ghost at his place, and we made an arrangement with a gentleman of the name of Sylvester, who was in some way connected with Mr. Pepper.

5782. He had a ghost of his own?—He had an improved ghost, and this ghost we advertised to come to Holder's; we announced it.

5783. Then did you announce it as Sylvester's ghost?—Yes, "The ghost will appear every evening"; Mr. Simpson served us with a notice that he would sue us.

5784. Did you proceed with the ghost?—Yes, we did.

5785. How many times did it appear?—It ran eight months.

5786. And at the end of eight months, proceedings was taken?—Proceedings were threatened.

5787. But not taken?—I think not.

5788. I thought there was a decision in one of the superior courts with regard to Birmingham?—No; we were served with a notice, but the performance was continued.

5789. You continued the ghost until it had left off drawing?—Yes; we continued it for eight or ten months.

5790. Then no proceedings were ever taken by Mr. Simpson, they were merely threatened?—Yes.

5791. On one occasion you gave way, but with the ghost you did not?—Just so.

5792. Mr. *Clive.*] Are the refreshments at the Metropolitan Music Hall let out to any person?—No.

5793. They are supplied by the owner?—Yes, by the proprietor.

5794. Colonel *Sturt.*] Did you ever hear it alleged that the principal profits of music halls were derived from the sale of liquors?—No.

5795. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Bearing in view the difficulties which have arisen in the interpretation of such words as stage plays and so on, would you think if you wished to enlarge your power that you should have a general power to act what you chose, or could you safely draw a line such as to enable you to act burlesques, operattas, and certain specific light things?—I think it might be done.

5796. You think you could express that safely in words?—Yes.

5797. Colonel *Sturt.*] It would take a very clever lawyer to define a burlesque, would it not?—I do not know, really.

5798. Mr. *Locke.*] What should you say to the "Critic," in which a burlesque is introduced?—I do not know.

5799. *Chairman.*] Has the quality of the music given at your hall improved during the last two or three years?—Yes.

5800. And do you think that the public taste has improved?—Yes.

5801. You find that they prefer music of a higher class than they did six years ago?—Yes.

5802. To what do you attribute that improvement?—We have striven to give the public a musical education.

5803. You attribute it to your having gradually given a higher class of performances?—Yes.

5804. In vocal as well as instrumental music?—Quite the same.

5805. And with regard to the character of the songs, has the taste of your public improved?—Yes.

5806. Songs that would have been voted dull five or six years ago are popular now?—Yes, and quite appreciated.

5807. You distinctly state that you have varied the character of your entertainment for the better?—Yes.

5808. Would you think it a pity to substitute for good music indifferent farces?—I should make it all musical if I had my own way.

5809. If there were any change in the law, you would not yourself substitute farces for music?—No.

5810. But you would substitute operettas?—Yes.

5811. In place of what would you put them?—I should take out such things as tumbling, and all that description of thing.

5812. You would not give up the concert music that you give now?—Oh, dear, no!

J. Stirling Coyne, Esq., called in; and Examined.

J. S. Coyne, Esq.

5813. *Chairman.*] You are Secretary to the Dramatic Authors' Society, are you not?—Yes, and I am a dramatic author myself.

5814. Have you followed at all the inquiry that has been going on before this Committee?—I am tolerably well acquainted with the subject, but I cannot say that I have followed the evidence of the different witnesses.

5815. With regard to the dramatic authors, there are two points that have occupied the attention of the Committee; first, the effect of the Lord Chamberlain's license on the plays, the necessity of a censorship, and the other point is the effect on dramatic authors of the present limitation of the number of theatres. Now, with regard to the censorship of pieces, have you heard that there has been much inconvenience felt by the dramatic authors with regard to the necessity of submitting plays to the Lord Chamberlain?—I think myself that the system of the censorship is

bad in principle, but that it has been administered with very great tenderness, and in a judicious manner, by Mr. Donne.

5816. You think it is bad in principle; do you think that the public taste would be sufficient to correct any pieces of immoral tendency that were performed?—No, I do not think so, but I would have the power placed in different hands.

5817. You do not object to the censorship in principle then?—No; I would have it more extended than it is now.

5818. Will you state your views on that subject?—I should suggest, that to make the censorship efficient it should be placed in the hands of an officer wholly independent of the Crown, or any other influences; that his powers should extend not only to the London theatres, but to the provincial theatres.

5819. Those provincial theatres cannot now act a play which is unlicensed, can they?—No, but the Lord Chamberlain has no control over the conduct of the theatres.

5820. But confining ourselves to the question of the censorship of pieces only, I understand you to say you think that that should be maintained in the hands of some officer?—Yes.

5821. As a dramatic author you have no objection that the pieces you write should be submitted to some public authority to see that there is nothing in the piece that offends against morality or against religion?—I see no objection, but I would have that power defined by law very strictly.

5822. Have you ever had passages struck out of some of your plays?—I am not aware of it. Some years ago I wrote a piece called "Lola Montes"; that that was a *piece de circonstance* about one of her escapades. It was licensed in the first instance, and played for two nights at the Haymarket Theatre. It was then suppressed by the Chamberlain; but afterwards, having been sent in to him with no alteration but a change of title to the "Pas de Fascination," it was performed again. That seemed something arbitrary and capricious, and all authors, of course, are subjected to the risk of the same excess of authority.

5823. The Lord Chamberlain passed the piece in the first instance?—Yes.

5824. And there had been no change in the office in the interval?—No, the piece was reproduced in about four or five days.

5825. What reason was alleged?—No reason was alleged.

5826. Then how were you or the manager of the theatre aware that a change of title would be sufficient if that had not been suggested to you?—Mr. Webster, who was lessee of the theatre, made the alteration. The title was changed, I believe, on consulting with Mr. Donne. The King of Bavaria was supposed to have been alluded to in the piece; on its reproduction, he was simply made a Russian count.

5827. In what year was that?—That must have been in 1848.

5828. Was that piece supposed to allude to a particular king?—That was not intended, but it was at the time when Lola Montes was driven out of the country.

5829. The process was probably this; that Mr. Webster went to Mr. Donne and had a consultation with him, and pointed out to him what alteration would be sufficient?—Yes, I think an application was made.

5830. Do you think that was a capricious decision on the part of the Lord Chamberlain?—I think the thing should have been objected to in the first instance; or else, being admitted, that it should have been permitted to go on.

5831. But no great harm was done?—The run of the piece was stopped.

5832. Could you quote any other instances of grievances on the part of any other dramatic authors against the censorship?—No, I cannot call to mind any; I know that pieces have been subjected to the pruning knife of the censor.

5833. Do you know of cases where authors have been indignant at what has been cut out of their pieces?—I have heard complaints, but not to such an extent that the piece was supposed to be injured by such excisions.

5834. On that point, do I understand you to mean that the censorship in itself is not an evil, provided it can be placed in proper hands, and be sufficiently independent?—I think it should be in independent hands, and should also be limited as to points of morality and religion.

5835. One point of the censorship seems to be, that the direct representation of living persons on the stage is objected to, for instance, to put the King of Bavaria on the stage would be objected to by the Lord Chamberlain?—He was not put on the stage as the King of Bavaria, you might have suggested a resemblance, but it was not so in the piece; other pieces have been produced frequently with what might be called caricatures of living personages.

5836. Suppose a play were performed, where one of the sovereigns of Europe was put on the stage, would the Lord Chamberlain stop it or not?—I cannot say; this is the only instance that has come within my own knowledge that I recollect at present.

5837. Now, with regard to the licensing of more theatres, do you think that the present system stops the market (if I may so say) for dramatic pieces to any great extent. Taking what is called the monopoly of theatres, do you think that it prevents dramatic authors from finding a good market for their pieces?—Yes, certainly; I am for free trade, but let it be confined to theatres; I certainly say it should be extended without any limit; only I do not include music halls in that extension.

5838. You mean that you would like to see as as many theatres as possible?—Yes, certainly, as many as possible.

5839. Do you think in practice that there are sufficient theatres to meet the public demand now?—No; the fixed and floating population of London are more than sufficient to fill half as many more.

5840. Then, how is it that the present theatres are not always full?—The theatres may be badly situated, or badly conducted; a place may be conducted in a manner so as not to deserve the patronage or support of the public.

5841. Do you think that there are not enough good theatres?—There are not enough good theatres; I do not mean with regard to size; whether large or small if they were properly conducted, and with adequate companies, many more theatres than there are now in London would pay in my opinion.

5842. Are there actors enough to supply any more theatres, do you think?—There is a very great scarcity of actors, which I attribute to the manner

J. S. Coyne, Esq.

11 May 1866.

manner in which they are distributed amongst music halls and small places of entertainment.

5843. Would you be in favour of throwing open the music halls for theatrical performances?—Certainly not.

5844. I was under the impression that some dramatic authors thought there would be more demand for their pieces if the music halls were thrown open?—I believe if the music halls were thrown open to the drama, that instead of elevating the drama, it would be the means of lowering it as an intellectual entertainment.

5845. But would it create a demand for more pieces?—Certainly, pieces of such a character that dramatic authors would not write them; I do not see that they could perform pieces of such an intellectual character that dramatic authors would write them.

5846. The society that you represent, more or less, is not in favour of throwing open the music halls, you think?—That is a matter of individual opinion.

5847. But you, yourself, are not favourable to it?—No, certainly not; it would be most injurious to the drama, I think.

5848. But would it be most injurious to dramatic authors?—Yes, I think it would; it would prevent a greater number of regular theatres being opened, and stop the market for pieces by the better class of authors. In the music halls there would be pieces hashed up by any person; it would require no talent whatever to concoct such pieces, if we may judge by what they do at present. There may be exceptions at one or two of the halls; but I am speaking of the bulk of them.

5849. Are you acquainted with all the different actors?—Yes.

5850. What is their general view, so far as you can judge, with regard to the performance of theatrical pieces at music halls?—I think they are opposed to it entirely.

5851. Do they not think that it would create a great market for their services?—No, I think they would be very glad of an extension of theatres, but not of an extension of the music halls.

5852. The Committee have been informed that the salaries of actors have greatly increased in consequence of the music halls offering high salaries; is that your opinion?—I would not attribute it altogether to the music halls; there are more theatres now in London than there used to be, and there are various causes for the increase in salaries. The remunerations in all professions are higher than they were formerly, and I think that the remuneration to actors has risen in the same ratio.

5853. We have been told that a clever singer can make a good deal of money at a music hall by what are called "turns"?—That is true.

5854. Would not actors prefer getting a good deal of money at music halls to getting less at the theatres?—Singers can do it, I believe; but I do not see how actors could do it. You assume that an actor should go into one of those music halls and act a scene that would not occupy more than 20 minutes, and then be off to another place. A singer can do so, but I do not think that an actor could do it, at least not with advantage to himself, or his profession, or the drama generally.

5855. Now, in your view, would it be good policy to allow music halls to perform small pieces?—No, I think not.

5856. No pieces whatever?—No; I cannot reconcile the drama with smoking, eating, and drinking.

5857. Have you heard that abroad in the summer theatres they have smoking, eating, and drinking, and a very high class of theatrical performances too; do you see any incompatibility in the two things?—Yes, I have seen that abroad myself; but I can hardly think that the morals of this country would be benefited by copying those of Paris.

5858. We heard from one of the witnesses that public morals were better abroad than in England.—There may be a good deal of outward decency covering very great immorality.

5859. You would object to such a change, then, on the ground of morality?—Yes, on the ground of morality, and on the ground of upholding the drama.

5860. But cannot the drama hold itself up without legislation being specially made to prevent its degenerating; if there were no restriction on the music halls at all would not the drama be strong enough to be able to keep at a certain standard?—Yes, if you leave it to itself; but do not make it an inducement at a pot-house, where people drink and smoke; you prostitute the drama by doing so.

5861. But would you have the music halls restrained from giving those pieces?—I would restrain the drama from being given at a pot-house; I would restrain the music halls from having the drama as an additional inducement.

5862. You would not allow the manager of a music hall to act the pieces which he thought would be to the advantage of his public, because you feel that a dramatic performance at a music hall would interfere with the drama?—I do not think that the Legislature would be right in giving to a public-house or tavern any extra inducement for people to go there and to remain there, because they would be undoubtedly drawn by dramatic performances to those places. They are very well in themselves, but leave those persons who require to sit and take refreshments to enjoy themselves that without the extra inducement of the drama to keep them there.

5863. You do not think that dramatic authors would find much market among music halls for pieces of high character?—No, certainly not; I think it would be impracticable to perform them in music halls.

5864. Take farces?—Even farces would be reduced to duologues; they would be cut down, and all the best parts taken out, so that a man and a woman might talk for 10 or 15 minutes.

5865. That is the case now, is it not?—Yes.

5866. But suppose they were permitted to give the whole of a farce, would not that be an improvement?—No; because anything that requires attention beyond duologue or song would go for nothing.

5867. Then they would not act such pieces; people would not go to see them?—Still, they would attempt something of the kind.

5868. But you say that now they take a portion of a piece which is as objectionable as it can be?—They generally take the broadest part.

5869. Is the public taste such that they like the broadest part of a farce the best?—Yes, in such places; but not in theatres.

5870. But at the music halls they like the broadest part the best?—Yes; there is more excitement and less restraint.

5871. Now,

5871. Now, with regard to the value of the pieces that are written, are the profits of dramatic authors larger now than they used to be?—Much larger. Do you speak with regard to the first sum which the author receives, the purchase-money, for the piece?

5872. Taking it in the most general way; is he better off on the whole; can he make more money in the long run than he could some time ago, or is he worse off?—He is better off; but that is to some extent, attributable to his now receiving fees for the representation of his plays in the country, which was not the case formerly. However, it is the management of the affairs of the Dramatic Society that has worked that result, and not to any great extent the number of theatres.

5873. The Committee would like to hear a little about the system in which dramatic authors are remunerated?—A dramatic author receives from the manager of a London theatre a certain sum for the right of acting a piece in London, either for a limited number of years, or for the entire copyright, and that piece belongs to the manager in London during the term of the arrangement, whatever that may be, but the copyright belongs to the author in the provinces. The author gives, through the secretary, permission to the managers of theatres in the provinces to play all the pieces on the list of the Dramatic Authors' Society for a certain sum per year or per month, according to the duration of the season. He sells the London right, and the London manager reserves the piece for his own theatre, generally for a term of three years, and then it reverts to the author, but the provincial right is in all cases reserved by the author himself.

5874. Then, how does he dispose of that right?—Take a given theatre: he agrees with the lessee of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, or rather the associated authors agree, that the manager of the Manchester Theatre shall have the right of playing all the pieces in their list for a certain sum annually.

5875. Then the author gets his share in the common fund. Suppose you have written a piece, and your piece is performed in the Theatre Royal, Manchester, do you get the money direct from the Theatre Royal?—No, it passes through the Society.

5876. Do they collect it for you, or do you get a share in the common fund?—The Society receives the sum agreed upon in bulk, and it is distributed among the authors *pro ratâ* according to the number of pieces that each author may have had acted during the year at that theatre.

5877. A successful author gets more, I suppose?—A successful author gets more, and the author who has had no pieces played gets nothing.

5878. The proportion is fixed according to the number of times that a piece is performed?—Exactly.

5879. Is that under your control?—Yes, in accordance with our rules.

5880. The manager of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, would send up so much money to the Dramatic Authors' Society, and then you analyse the number of nights which a play has run?—He sends the files of his bills of performance, and from those we know what pieces have been played, and they are entered to each author whose pieces are played, and are divided into *pro ratâ* shares for each piece; farces, dramas, comedies, and five act pieces, according to a scale we have agreed on. Those shares are added together, and they are divided among the authors according to the number of times each author's piece has been played.

5881. Is Mr. Dion Boucicault a member of your Society?—No.

5882. Is Mr. Tom Taylor?—Yes.

5883. After three years a piece usually goes back to the author in London?—If it be played in London he receives fees for it; he gives permission, perhaps, that it should be played at any theatre.

5884. He makes a separate agreement?—It is a matter that we settle through the Society. A piece that is free to be played by a London manager may be played at as many theatres as the managers may choose, on the payment of a fixed fee for representation.

5885. I suppose that no one can tell the Committee more about these matters all over the country than you can?—I should suppose not.

5886. It is your duty to watch the performances over all the theatres in England?—Yes.

5887. You watch for the authors to see that no pieces are performed without being paid for?—Yes.

5888. You are in relations with all the managers of theatres throughout the country?—No; I am sorry to say that there are certain managers, disreputable and dishonest men, who go about from theatre to theatre, and do not pay. There is a penalty for performing a piece without the written permission of the author; yet the mode of recovery is by common law, and if a man goes from one place to another we often lose the money.

5889. But have you an arrangement with all the permanent theatres?—Yes; but sometimes a case of dispute may arise.

5890. You make a separate agreement with each manager?—Yes.

5891. Suppose you cannot make an arrangement with him, what then?—It is like any other bargain, a manager may say you ask too much.

5892. Then he cannot perform the pieces if you do not make an arrangement with him?—Just so.

5893. I suppose you do not know anything of those pieces which were written before the Society was in existence?—Pieces that are not copyright can be performed of course without hindrance:—all pieces produced 10 years previous to the passing of the Act in 1833 are free.

5894. Was this Dramatic Society instituted as soon as that Act was passed?—Yes, I may say so; in an imperfect manner; it has only grown up, within the last six or eight years, to be a regular working society on a fixed system.

5895. Can one of the country managers make an arrangement, specially, with one of your authors, without buying all those copyrights?—No.

5896. He cannot buy a particular piece?—He may engage an author to write a piece for him.

5897. But he must pay so much a year for all copyrights. Suppose one of your authors has put his plays amongst the list of plays of the Dramatic Authors' Society, and a manager performs that special play, but does not pay so much per year to your Society, can he do that?—No, he cannot, if the author be a member of the Society.

5898. The Dramatic Authors' Society is a kind of Mutual Protection Society?—Yes; it was

J. S. Coyne, Esq.

11 May 1866.

established at the desire, and by the wish and suggestion, of the managers themselves; they said that they had so much trouble in applying for permission to play each piece that they would prefer to pay a fixed sum for all the list.

5899. Are theatres increasing or decreasing in the country?—In large towns, where they can afford to play pieces moderately well, I am pretty certain that the theatres are in a prosperous condition; but there are many theatres in small towns which are going back and are disappearing. For instance, in many places where there are no railroads, and which places are at a great distance from London, the population does not support a theatre. The audiences occasionally see London pieces, or see pieces in Manchester or Birmingham, and they are not satisfied with the performances that can be given in those very small theatres, as they used to be in former years, when one scene, with a table and two or three chairs, was thought sufficient. The theatres decay in those towns, but they are improving vastly in the large towns.

5900. Now, with regard to the institutes. We hear that a good many literary institutes give theatrical performances?—Yes, they pay fees to the dramatic authors when they play any of our pieces.

5901. Do you keep a sharp look out for such cases?—No, it is understood that they will not attempt to play anything without permission, because they are always under respectable control; they send us their bills, and pay the fees.

5902. Do you know of any great literary institution that is licensed for the performance of stage plays?—No, I cannot answer that with certainty.

5903. Are the fees derived from literary institutes large in the course of the year?—No, they are very small; they have what they call an elocution class, once a quarter perhaps, and they play a little farce. I do not think that they interfere with theatres; it is not a parallel case with the music halls.

5904. I believe that the literary institutes are rather anxious for a change in the law, to enable them to perform stage pieces?—I think there could be no objection to that, because no refreshments are taken while the performance is going on; in fact, they would only be small theatres.

5905. And only occasional theatres?—Only occasional theatres.

5906. Do you know whether they take money?—They usually do; they take it in this way. Sometimes the members of the institute are admitted free, and strangers pay a small fee at the doors.

5907. That is enough to bring them under the law, is it not?—Yes.

5908. Mr. *Locke.*] Take any play of Shakspeare's; suppose an institution were to put one scene on the stage, they would infringe the law, would they not?—Yes, they would infringe the law if two people spoke, but not if one person read.

5909. If a man went round with a book in his hand, in a plain suit of clothes, that would not be an infringement of the Act?—One person would not, but if there were two that would be an infringement.

5910. But suppose a man were to give the soliloquy in Hamlet?—That would not be a dramatic performance, in my opinion.

5911. Unless there were two people, you think there could be no dramatic performance?—I think not.

5912. But, however, as the law now stands, it is impossible for the proprietors of those institutions to have anything beyond reading or recitation by one individual?—Not within the law.

5913. Do you not think it would be very beneficial if that law were altered, so that a person might act a play wherever he liked. What is there so extraordinary about the acting of a play that there should always be these paraphernalia about it. A licence for the play, and a licence for the building?—In every place professing to give public entertainments, where there are written words, and gestures, and costumes, it should be always under a censorship, I think.

5914. What description of censorship would you advise?—An independent censorship in the first place, and, if necessary, that that officer should have the power of sending his officers or deputies into a theatre, or place of public entertainment, to see that nothing *contra bonos mores* in dress, gesture, or words spoken, should take place, and that that censor should have the power of closing the theatre or inflicting a fine, but I would give to the managers or directors the power of appealing.

5915. That is with regard to any immorality on the stage?—Yes.

5916. Subject to that, would you suggest anything further in any respect. Provided any person gave a performance in a room, or in a music-hall, or in a literary institution, or in a theatre, anywhere, not being immoral in any way, what restriction would you have put on the person who produced that performance, except simply that which you describe, namely, that there should be a censor to ascertain whether it was a proper performance. You would require nothing beyond that, would you?—I should certainly not permit drinking and smoking to go on.

5917. Why not?—Because I think that the drama, although it may be said to be able to stand by itself, is most decidedly degraded by the presence of such things.

5918. That is a sentimental view of your own, is it not?—No; it is a practical view.

5919. The drama would be degraded, you think, by the smoking and drinking?—It would be no longer an intellectual performance.

5920. Have you any experience or data to go upon which would show that that would be the result?—Go into the music halls, and you will see.

5921. But I cannot see, because they are not allowed to give performances on the stage, seeing that they do nothing at present in the shape of acting, how do you infer that if they were allowed to act, their performances would become worse instead of better?—I know that attention cannot be concentrated under those circumstances.

5922. Suppose it is not concentrated, but that the article on which attention *should* be concentrated is a better article than that which they are now restricted to, what harm could it possibly do?—If you take that view, I do not know what harm it could do.

5923. Has your attention ever been directed to the question of what *good* it might do; if it tends to no harm it might do good, perhaps?—

You

You seem to be leading me to an answer that I cannot give.

5924. That you do not *want* to give?—I want to give an answer exactly as I feel.

5925. But I want an answer, not according to what you feel, but to what your intellect, on due consideration of the question, leads you to; probably you have not looked very carefully into this question of the "degradation of the drama," as it is called?—Yes, I have.

5926. You never saw at the music halls any improper performance of a stage play, because they cannot give them?—I remember when the Grecian gave theatrical performances, they smoked and drank in front of the house, and they played pieces of various kinds. I do not think that that was at all either serviceable to the drama, or creditable to morality.

5927. Were not very good pieces played there?—No.

5928. What did they perform?—Farces; I speak of some years ago; I cannot remember the titles of them, but they were certainly pieces of the lowest class.

5929. That is where Robson performed?—Since then.

5930. Then they improved, did they?—They improved by removing gin, beer, and tobacco.

5931. You think that that improved them?—That was the means of improving them.

5932. But probably now they might improve along with tobacco, smoking being much more general than it was 20 years ago?—Yes, smoking is more general.

5933. Have you not seen pieces abroad where they accompany almost every entertainment with tobacco?—Yes, out of doors in the Cafés Chantants in the Champs Elysées.

5934. But I mean in Germany, more especially?—Yes, in the gardens.

5935. Have they theatres in the gardens?—Yes, in the open gardens.

5936. Where they have smoking, eating, and drinking?—Always in an open garden.

5937. Then if it is an open place, the smoking does not have the same effect on the mind?—It is not so offensive to those who do not smoke.

5938. A person who does mind smoking, is very foolish to go to a place where there is smoking, is he not?—Yes.

5939. But there is no law to compel him to go there?—No.

5940. Still you would protect that man by law, and not let him run the chance of being made uncomfortable; you would really make a law to prevent any one smoking where there was acting?—Yes, where any one was acting.

5941. Mr. *Clive.*] You say that this play about Lola Montes was prohibited after it had been played twice?—Yes.

5942. Then was it suspended on account of any immorality in the play, or merely because any of the crowned heads of Europe were supposed to be alluded to?—Not on account of any immorality, because so far as the dialogue went, the piece was played *verbatim* afterwards.

5943. Then what was the cause?—I imagine it may have been supposed that there was some allusion to one of Lola's escapades with the King of Bavaria; she was supposed to be escaping from the country.

5944. Was that a highly intellectual drama?—I do not want to characterise my own drama; it was what is called an assumption piece; the principal character was not Lola Montes but a young woman supposed to be Lola Montes.

5945. You knew her character when you wrote the piece?—Yes.

5946. You know that she was a smoker?—Yes, and she had a bull-dog and used a horse whip.

5947. The selection of her name would rather induce the public to suppose that it was not a very intellectual performance, would it not?—Yes; I dare say.

5948. Was that a piece much too good for a music-hall?—I think it was a piece that would not suit a music hall; it might be too bad or it might be too good, but I do not think it would suit a music-hall.

5949. Mr. *Miller.*] Would you require one license to be given for theatres, and one license to music halls, for the performance of their respective pieces all over the country, or would you make it all a system of free trade?—I would prevent the drama being represented in music halls; you might make free trade in other respects.

5950. Would you require that the music halls should take out an annual license for such things as you would permit?—I have not said that I would permit any dramatic performance.

5951. Would you not permit the existence of music halls?—Yes, I would permit the existence of a music hall, where it was simply confined to pantomimic performances such as dancing, and to music so far as songs or concerted pieces go.

5952. Would you require the music halls to take out a license for that purpose?—I think it would be better. Where there is any public entertainment, especially of the character that it would assume in music halls, I think it would be desirable to have some supervision.

5953. Are you satisfied with the license now given by the magistrates to music halls?—I think it ought to be improved; it ought to be clearly laid down what they can and what they cannot do in the halls.

5954. To whom would you give authority to grant the license?—I have not thought who would be a fit person for that purpose. I think that it might come under the censor who would also have the control of the theatres.

5955. Would you make the censor the person who would also grant the license?—I call him the censor because no better word suggests itself to me at present; he should have the control of all the theatres so far as morality is concerned, and of the class of performances given.

5956. But surely you would not give to the censor the control of the theatres. You would give him the control of the plays performed, but not of the theatres themselves?—I would give him the control so far as that he should be responsible for the performances in every place of public entertainment in the kingdom; or the metropolis, if you choose to confine it to the metropolis, and then he might send his deputies to the provinces so that he could stop a performance if there was anything contrary to the law.

5957. Do you mean that you would give him the control of the performances or the control of the theatres; for instance, would you give to the censor the power to determine whether a theatre was strongly enough built?—There would be no objection to one central officer responsible for all that took place in a theatre; the license to be granted on application so soon as the requisitions were complied with.

J. S. Coyne, Esq.

11 May 1866.

5958. But we have had a diversity of opinion expressed here about the person who should grant the license; to whom would you give the power to grant a license to a theatre or music hall; would you give it to the Lord Chamberlain as it is at present?—No, certainly not; I think he is not the proper person because he is in an anomalous position.

5959. To what officer would you give it?—I would create an officer.

5960. Would you propose that he should grant licenses to both theatres and music halls?—Yes.

5961. Would you have an appeal?—Yes.

5962. Colonel *Sturt.*] Whom would you have an appeal to?—I should think to the Home Office.

5963. Mr. *Miller.*] What is your objection to the Lord Chamberlain?—He is not an independent man, and he changes with the Ministry.

5964. Does not that apply to the Home Secretary too?—Yes, but the recourse to him would be in the nature of an appeal.

5965. Suppose a theatrical manager applies for a license to the Lord Chamberlain and is refused a license, I want to know whether he should have the power of appeal, and if so, to whom?—If the law were laid down that he should grant a license if the theatre was properly built, and all the preliminaries complied with, he should be compelled to grant the license; then it would be only a question of the fitness of the building.

5966. But how would you exercise the coercion of the law supposing he refused to give the license?—That is rather a legal question; it might be referred either to the law courts or to the Home Office.

5967. If there was any appeal at all you would recommend the Home Office?—Yes.

5968. You see no objection to the Home Secretary, he being a changeable officer, although you do see an objection to the Lord Chamberlain, he being also a changeable officer?—Yes, but the Home Secretary would be applied to only in cases of appeal.

5969. Then would you extend the powers of the Lord Chamberlain, or the officer who takes his place, throughout the whole country, or would you confine it to the metropolis?—I would extend it throughout the whole country.

5970. Now, if distinct licenses were issued for theatres and music halls, could you give me such a definition of the two as to fix decisively what is theatrical and what is musical?—Yes; where dialogue takes place on a stage, dialogue spoken or sung, and you have scenery or properties, that is a theatre.

5971. Would you allow smoking and drinking at ordinary theatres?—No, I have already said not.

5972. Then does smoking and drinking constitute one of the differences between the two things?—Yes.

5973. If a theatre introduced them into its auditorium you would take away the license?—Yes, it would be the same as a music hall then.

5974. Although dramatic pieces were performed within that building?—Yes; all that constitutes the difference between the music halls and the theatres is the smoking, eating, and drinking in the auditorium.

5975. Can you point out any harm that would result from giving the music halls the same privileges which the theatres possess, subject to the license and the censorship?—I must refer to what I have said already with regard to the degradation of the drama; it may seem to be a mere matter of feeling, but I do not think it is so, for I think also that morality has a great deal to do with it. I cannot understand in what music halls differ now, except in their extent, and in their meretricious adornments from what were called in old times 'Cock and Hen Clubs;' the songs may be of a better description in the large halls, but they are to all intents and purposes the same thing.

5976. Do you consider that the music halls contribute more to the immorality of the public than the theatres?—Certainly.

5977. Now what is it in a music hall which produces more immorality than a theatre does?—The excitement of the audience, composed of men and women; drinking going on; and sometimes an exciting performance on the stage.

5978. I want to know whether the immorality which you attribute to the music halls is, in your opinion, owing to the assemblage of people eating and drinking together, or to the performance which is exhibited there?—One depends on the other; the two things combined; people eating and drinking are not under the same restraint as they are under in the theatres; no one minds what his neighbour says and does while the performance is going on upon the stage; it cannot tend to morality, but quite the reverse.

5979. Then if that be so, if you improve the exhibitions at music halls, do you not think that to that extent, the public morality would be improved, if you gave them full licence and power of performing a comedy or a respectable play, would not that be better?—No, I think people would neglect the performance; they would be a little better perhaps, more strictly dramatic, but they would not be better in character; I do not think that you could bring up an audience where there was smoking, eating, and drinking going on to the intellectual standard of the drama.

5980. Suppose every arrangement of the music halls to remain as it is now, except the eating, smoking, and drinking, that is to say, that people might walk about or sit down, and so on; in that case, would you allow them the same latitude as they have got at the theatres?—Certainly, or even with coffee and refreshments, such as you get in coffee houses, which cannot be provocative of any excess.

5981. I suppose the low price of admission at some of the music halls, is partly owing to the profit which the proprietors get from sale of drink during the evening?—Yes, undoubtedly.

5982. Do you think that it would be possible to abolish drinking and keep up all the other characteristics of music halls?—Yes; it has been said that the drama should be able to stand alone, and I say, let the tavern stand by itself.

5983. You think that you might give to a music hall the license which a theatre now gets, if you abolish the smoking, eating, and drinking?—Yes; certainly.

Mr. DAVID FRANCIS, called in; and Examined.

5984. Mr. *Locke.*] ARE you manager of the Beaumont Institution in the Mile-end-road?—Yes; I am manager of the concerts and entertainments, and secretary to the institution.

5985. By whom was that institution founded?—It was founded in 1840 by the late John Thomas Barber Beaumont, of the County fire office; it was his gift to the neighbourhood, "for the purpose of affording persons in the neighbourhood the means of meeting together for mental and moral improvement, and for innocent amusement in the intervals of business, without being subject to the baneful effects of intoxicating liquors." The institution cost the late J. T. Barber Beaumont, Esq., and his son (who much improved the building after his father's death in 1841) about 20,000 *l.* It is managed by trustees, who appoint a committee of assistants from the subscribers.

5986. That institution is in a square there?—Yes, in Beaumont square.

5987. It is a very large building, is it not?—Yes.

5988. There is a very good stage there, is there not?—Yes.

4989. With good galleries round it?—Yes, round the room.

5990. And seats in the centre of the building?—Yes.

5991. How many persons would it accommodate?—There have been 1,500 people there, but we say 1,400.

5992. Is it used for the purpose of public meetings?—Yes; frequently.

5993. Concerts and other entertainments?—Yes.

5994. Would it be an advantage to you, who conduct that institution, and likewise to the neighbourhood, that the present restriction upon you, of not being allowed to give performances of the stage should be withdrawn?—A very great advantage.

5995. Will you explain to the Committee how that restriction under the 6th and 7th Victoria has affected the Beaumont Institution?—We used at one time to give entertainments by means of the elocution class, who performed scenes from plays. Mr. George Cruikshank once took the chair; and the late Mr. Albert Smith, and Mr. Apsley Pellatt; Mr. Ayrton, M.P., and other gentlemen have also taken the chair; but we were threatened with legal proceedings two years ago for giving dramatic performances. I should tell you that we charged a price for admission. At our institution and other institutions Mr. Toole, the actor, made his first appearances.

5996. Did he belong to the elocution class?—No; he belonged to a society called The City Histrionic Club.

5997. What was he then?—He was a clerk in the city.

5998. Not on the stage?—No. Here are three programmes of the Beaumont Institution, in which you will find his name (*producing programmes*).

5999. This is very much in the nature of a play-bill:—"Beaumont Institution, Beaumont-square, Mile-End. The Committee respectfully announce that they have made arrangements with the City Histrionic Club, who will, on Monday, October 27th, 1851, submit for the approval of the subscribers and the public, the first series of drawing-room entertainments, to consist of selections from the most renowned British authors in the various branches of poetical and dramatic literature, very carefully arranged, and, in the impersonation of which such attention will be shown that all tastes may be gratified, 'from grave to gay, from lively to severe;'" and then follows the programme, which includes adapted farces and scenes from the Hunchback, the Lady of Lyons, and other things of the kind, there being several performances on the stage at once?—Yes.

Mr. *D. Francis.* 11 May 1866.

6000. Was any objection taken to that?—No, it was some years before any legal objection was taken.

6001. When was it taken, and to what was it taken?—I cannot precisely ascertain.

6002. Were any notices given to you?—Yes, we received a notice from the Lord Chamberlain to warn us against the consequences, and also a legal notice from Mr. Jerwood, who acted on behalf of the theatres. We let the room occasionally, and last year when we had let the room for a literary and musical entertainment in aid of a charity, I received this notice from the Lord Chamberlain. (*The letters were delivered in,* vide *Appendix*).

6003. What letter is referred to in the Lord Chamberlain's letter?—There was a previous communication, warning us against a dramatic performance which was about to be given. I wrote to say that we were not aware that such a thing was to take place. I believe that a farce was announced ultimately, but the programmes were not brought out until the very day. Here is the letter protesting on behalf of the theatres, from Mr. Jerwood, dated the 7th of March 1861.

6004. That was a notice from the theatres?—Yes.

6005. What performance was about to be given then?—That applies to the performances generally.

6006. Do you find yourselves restricted from giving any performance of the stage whatever?—Yes, entirely; and our elocutionary class is broken up partly in consequence.

6007. How is that elocutionary class formed?—Of the members of the institution; young men who amuse themselves by meeting once a week, or rather I should say they did meet once a week. It is broken up now, because there are so many restrictions, on giving public performances, that having no means to defray the expenses except by a charge for admission, they gave it up. The rule was to meet every Friday evening; the young men recited, and the recitations were subject to the criticisms of those who were present, and when they were perfect they gave a public entertainment; they were well attended, and were extremely popular, particularly among those classes who would not attend theatres.

6008. What is your license?—For music and dancing.

6009. But you have no spirit license?—No.

6010. Nor are any refreshments taken within that building?—No.

6011. Nor do you wish to have it?—No, we do not want to turn the place into a theatre; we merely want to give those entertainments which are so extremely popular at all places, and which are given at most institutions; they evade the law by having contributions, but we do not want to do that.

6012. The law under which notice was given to you would apply throughout the whole of England?—Yes.

6013. That is to say, the 6th and 7th Victoria;

Mr. *D. Francis.*

11 May 1866.

it is infringing that Act to have dramatic performances in a literary institution?—Yes.

6014. Whether you have a music license or not, as it is not necessary in the country, except under some local Act, still no performance of the stage can be given without infringing that Act?—Exactly; I am rather inclined to think that even concerts come within the Act, which says opera, or any part of an opera. Mr. Santley and Mr. Sims Reeves have sung "All's Well" many times; now that is a duet from "The English Fleet," and is, therefore, part of an opera.

6015. In fact, there is scarcely anything which that Act does not forbid. I believe that there is a legal decision that tumbling is not within the meaning of the Act, but cannot almost every other conceivable form of entertainment, particularly if it is of a literary character, be made to come within the 6th and 7th Victoria?—Yes; even Pepper's Ghost has been decided to come within the meaning of the Act.

6016. That was where they made somebody talk to it, I suppose?—Perhaps so.

6017. Now, what would you propose should be done?—I would propose that permission should be given for literary institutions to give those descriptions of entertainments; but they need not be theatres. I should say that they might be restricted as to time; say, not oftener than once a week; that would be a sufficient check to prevent their being turned into theatres, because it would never pay to get up a performance for one night in a week.

6018. But do you see any harm in turning it into a theatre if it would pay?—That opens another question, as to whether a much greater number of theatres are worth keeping up than are necessary.

6019. Do you think there are a sufficient number?—Yes, I think so; we applied for a license, and, although the Lord Chanberlain gave no reason, Mr. Donne has written within the last few days, in which he gave his reason: that there was no objection to the Beaumont Institution; but that there would be a great objection if all the little lecture halls called upon him to grant a license.

6020. Did he state what the objection would be in that case?—He merely stated that as his objection; that if he granted it to us of whose respectability he had no doubt, he should be applied to by all those small lecture halls and other places, which would be called literary institutions for the purpose of obtaining a theatrical license.

6021. They might not give proper performances he thought?—Exactly.

6022. But the Lord Chamberlain saw no objection to giving you a theatrical license?—No, not in particular; but he considered it advisable to give a general refusal.

6023. Mr. Donne seemed to express an opinion that the Act allowed the Lord Chamberlain to grant licenses for theatres, but that as the literary institutions are not theatres, his powers did not extend so far, and therefore, that if he gave that license, he would make such an institution a theatre?—No doubt.

6024. Mr. Donne hardly said that there was any law of the land which prevented a building changing its name and object?—A question was asked Mr. Stirling Coyne, whether he knew any literary institutions that had a theatrical license, I may mention Greenwich; Greenwich being out of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, they obtain a license from the local magistrates.

6025. What license have they?—A theatrical license, which is granted, they being in Kent, by the magistrates.

6026. What is that place?—The Greenwich Literary Institution.

6027. What do they do there; do they act plays?—I think not now, but they have power to do so. There has been a theatre opened lately at Greenwich. Such dialogue entertainments as we are liable for are given by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, and Mr. and Mrs. German Reed. Mr. German Reed has a license himself.

6028. Mr. German Reed has a license to perform at his own place?—Yes.

6029. That would not enable him to perform at the Beaumont Institution?—No.

6030. There he would be liable for having the performance in an unlicensed place?—Yes; and I think there is a clause in the Police Act too. They stopped a performance at Buckhurst Hall about a fortnight ago. That was for the purpose of establishing a hospital, and the leading gentlemen and magistrates would have attended, but it was stopped by the police.

6031. Have you any further observations to make on this subject?—I think not.

Friday, 18*th May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. O'Beirne.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Locke.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Lusk.	

THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DAVID FRANCIS, recalled; and further Examined.

6032. Mr. *Locke.*] YOU have sent me some other programmes of performances at the Beaumont Institution?—I sent you one in particular, upon which we received a notice from the Lord Chamberlain.

6033. "Programme of an elocutionary entertainment by the members of the elocution class, who have kindly consented to give their gratuitous services in aid of the library, on Thursday evening, March 27th 1856, to commence at half past seven o'clock; Mr. Alfred Carder will preside at the organ and pianoforte; hall 6*d.*, balcony 1*s.*, reserved-seats 1*s.* 6*d.*, double reserved-seats tickets 2*s.* 6*d.*;" was that advertised?—Yes.

6034. In what was it advertised?—It was advertised by circular, principally.

6035. Was any objection made to that performance taking place?—Yes.

6036. By whom?—By the Lord Chamberlain.

6037. Did you receive notice from him?—Yes, the notice which I have given to you; that notice was sent the day before the performance was to come off; it is signed J. C. March.

6038. Who is he?—He was a gentleman in the Lord Chamberlain's office at that time; I went and saw him afterwards.

6039. "Sir, I am directed by the Lord Chamberlain to inform you that it has been brought to his notice that dramatic performances are announced to take place to-morrow in the Beaumont Institution, Beaumont Square, Mile End, and tickets to be sold for the same; his lordship desires me to acquaint you that such performances at an unlicensed place are illegal, and would subject those who take part in them to the penalties of the 6 & 7 Vict., c. 68, if information is laid against them. I am, sir, your obedient servant, *J. C. March.*" Now, in consequence of that notice, what steps did you take?—We gave notice immediately to the subscribers that the performance would not take place, and it did not take place.

6040. By whom was that performance to be given?—It was to be given by the members of the elocution class; young men who amused themselves every week by meeting in the class room for the purpose of reciting and studying pieces of poetry, principally.

6041. What use was intended to be made of the proceeds of that entertainment?—The proceeds (it had taken place on several times before) were applied to the purchase of books for the library of the institution.

6042. Since that, have any performances been given?—Yes; here is another programme when a performance took place for the same object in 1859, when Mr. Ayrton, the Member for the Tower Hamlets, took the chair at the entertainment.

6043. "Programme of an Entertainment in aid of the library, by the Members of the Elocution Class, on Thursday Evening, April the 28th 1859, commencing at 8 o'clock"; Mr. Ayrton is advertised as taking the chair, and he did do so?—He did.

6044. The performance comprised a scene from "The Wife," of Sheridan Knowles, and so forth?—Yes.

6045. You received no notice in respect of that, did you?—No.

6046. That performance took place?—Yes.

6047. Were there any entertainments given between the years 1856 and 1859?—Yes.

6048. Have you got the bills?—Not here; here is one where Mr. Apsley Pellatt took the chair (*producing the bill*).

6049. He was a serious man, was he not?—I think he was generally considered so.

6050. I see by the programme that you give the borrowing scene from the "Merchant of Venice;" would that come within the 6 & 7 Vict., and make you liable to a penalty?—No doubt.

6051. And make each of the three actors liable to a penalty?—Yes.

6052. I see here, too, the "One Legged Goose," Mr. Haslam; I suppose, he would not be liable?—I think not, unless it was taken in conjunction with the others, as forming part of the same entertainment.

6053. A scene from "The Gamester," with three performers, and then a farce, "Friend Wiggins," that would clearly come within the 6 & 7 Vict., there being no fewer than six performers in it?—Yes.

6054. Then what other performances have you given?—I can scarcely say how many; but I should say, that we have given two or three every year; we gave one very recently, in 1865, but we did not charge for admission in that case.

6055. But in those other instances, you charged for admission?—Yes.

6056. Is the money collected for those performances always given to the same purpose, or

Mr. *D. Francis.*

18 May 1866.

does that vary?—The funds are first appropriated to the payment of the expenses, and they generally do very little more than that, excepting they are given for the library or some local charity, and then they are profitable, because every one pays; at other times a subscriber can come in with a lady, free of admission.

6057. They very seldom pay more than the amount of the expenses?—Very little indeed; I may say that they have not for years.

6058. Do you think it would be a great advantage that you should have the privilege of giving those performances at the Beaumont Institution?—Yes, it would be a great advantage; but the law prohibits even other things, such as Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's, Mr. Howard Paul's, and other accomplished artists giving those performances, which the public are very fond of; we run a risk with them too; we do not care so much about dramatic performances at the Beaumont Institution, but we want liberty to provide innocent amusement; we live at a part of the town where first class theatrical entertainments are not to be obtained; there are not theatres which the respectable persons of the neighbourhood usually attend, and we are now carrying on business under a fear and a dread.

6059. Mr. *Powell.*] To whom do you sell the tickets for those entertainments?—We do not sell the tickets now for the entertainments which we give, because we are afraid of the consequences; but we used to sell tickets to anyone who applied, only we were rather particular. We liked the subscribers to buy them and sell them to their friends.

6060. You sold them to the public, with a preference for the subscribers?—Yes.

6061. With a certain selection, so as to avoid the intrusion of improper characters?—Yes.

6062. Mr. *Lusk.*] The Beaumont Institution is a semi-educational institution; it is half a mechanics' institution, is it not?—Yes.

6063. That is the main object of it?—Yes.

6064. It was built for the purpose of giving instruction and entertainment to the neighbourhood?—Yes; there are French classes there and other classes.

6065. And large meetings are held there at which Mr. Ayrton takes the chair sometimes?—Yes.

6066. Do you think it would be desirable for your neighbourhood and that district that you should have the liberty to perform anything you like in a reasonable way in the shape of any little piece that you fancy?—Yes; I think so.

6067. You think that it would be desirable for a sort of semi-educational place like that to have that freedom?—Yes; we cannot very well exist without. The desire for amusement is so strong now at such institutions that to apply ourselves entirely to scientific objects would be a total failure.

6068. You think that pure matter-of-fact and science would not answer?—Not anywhere.

6069. You want a light entertainment to combine with those more serious matters?—Yes.

6070. As things are now, you cannot represent even "Box and Cox" without infringing the law if you charge for admission?—Just so; and the funds of the institution compel us to make some charge.

6071. You cannot even get Mr. and Mrs. German Reed down there without infringing this law?—Just so.

6072. You are far away from any good theatres, you say?—Yes.

6073. You have to put up with niggers with bones, and things of that kind?—We do not have many of them.

6074. But in the neighbourhood, I mean?—Yes, just so; we have them because they are profitable, and because it is necessary to raise funds sometimes.

6075. You consider it would be a great advantage for that neighbourhood if you had the liberty thus to vary your serious performances with something light?—Yes; it would be a great advantage with restrictions.

6076. Yours being a very respectable institution, do you think it is necessary in entertainments for the public that you should have smoking, eating, and drinking?—No, certainly not; we do not allow anything of that kind.

6077. But do you think it is necessary in general?—No; I think it deteriorates a place very much to have such things.

6078. You think that people could get on for hours without smoking, eating, and drinking?—Yes, very well; they do it now; we give concerts; Mr. Sims Reeves has sung 62 times at our institution.

6079. You do not smoke at your institution?—No; Mr. Sims Reeves would not sing at a place where there was smoking going on; the trust deed of our institution would also prevent it.

6080. As a man of experience, you think it is necessary to have these entertainments for the public?—Yes.

6081. But do you think it is necessary to combine the eating, drinking, and smoking with the entertainments?—No; it deteriorates the entertainments very much indeed, in my opinion.

6082. Mr. *Locke.*] Your institution was founded by Mr. Beaumont, was it not?—Yes.

6083. What is the expense of carrying it on; you pay no rent, do you?—No; our expenditure is 1,300 *l.* or 1,400 *l.* a year; our concerts cost us 300 *l.* or 400 *l.* a year; we give four concerts.

6084. Your entertainments are not nightly, are they?—No, they are about once a fortnight; we have lectures on the other nights.

6085. But if you were to give entertainments night after night without refreshments, the place would be empty, would it not?—No doubt it would; the neighbourhood would not approve of it.

6086. If you were to give night after night the entertainments which you now give once a fortnight, and there were no refreshments, they would not draw, would they?—No.

6087. *Chairman.*] You might now give amateur performances if you liked, if you did not charge admission?—Yes.

6088. You can act any light pieces for the amusement of the members of the institution now if you do not make any charge for admission?—Just so; but we should not have them because of the expense.

6089. What expense would there be?—There are the expenses of dresses, and there are the fees of the ladies who are actresses; they are a class of women who get their living partly in that way; they are respectable; they have other occupations; I have nothing to do with the management of that part of it; it is generally done by the elocution class; but I think that they give half a guinea or a guinea for the services of an actress.

6090. What

6090. What would be the expense of a small performance?—£.9 or 10*l.*

6091. And it is to defray that expense that admission is charged?—Yes.

6092. Have those performances been profitable?—No.

6093. They do not swell the funds of the Institution?—No.

6094. If a piece were performed without much costume the expense would be very small, I suppose?—It would be very much less, but still there is printing, actresses, lighting, refreshments; the costume makes about 3*l.* difference in the night.

6095. Do the members themselves have any pay?—No, they are generally very respectable young men.

6096. What do the members of the Institution pay?—Nothing, but they sell tickets among their friends.

6097. You have said that you thought there should be restrictions with regard to the class of performance?—Yes.

6098. What kind of restriction do you propose there should be?—I think there ought to be restrictions to prevent literary institutions being turned into theatres. I should say that the proper limit would be not to allow those performances to take place oftener than once in six days, some check to prevent their being made theatres with scenery, and so on, that would be detrimental.

6099. In what way?—It would turn the attention of the young men too much to theatrical amusements, and interfere with their business in the day time.

6100. You would not leave that entirely to the discretion of the managers of the institutions?—No, I would not generally. I would in most institutions that I know of, but I do not think it would be judicious to do so generally.

6101. Mr. *Selwin.*] Have you ever tried, as they often do in the country, to give select readings, as a means of collecting people?—Yes, we tried it for some years, but they were very dull affairs after a time.

6102. They were not successful?—No, they were not; they introduced a farce, and then the elocution class found it extremely popular; and they gradually got more into acting and less into reading and recitation.

6103. Mr. *Lusk.*] Suppose you had a class of young men for other purposes; suppose there were meetings among themselves, and they tried to enact a little piece, could they do it without infringing this Act?—Not if they were to take money.

6104. But you cannot get up those small things without a charge?—No.

6105. That is the obstacle?—Yes.

6106. Practically you cannot do that?—Just so.

6107. Suppose that in a working man's club some intelligent men were trying to enact any little piece, could they do it without infringing on this Act?—Not if they charged admission.

6108. But they cannot get on without that?—Just so.

6109. And therefore, practically, they cannot do it all?—Just so.

6110. *Chairman.*] But if they subscribe (and the expenses are very small) they would be able to do it, would they not?—I do not know; the Act says, "directly or indirectly;" it is a question for lawyers.

6111. You have heard of private theatricals, have you not?—Yes, they are given everywhere now.

6112. They must be paid for in some way or other?—Yes.

6113. In the higher classes certain people bear the expense together?—They are not interfered with among the higher classes.

6114. Do you think that a working man's class would be interfered with if they did not charge admission at the door?—In some cases they would, I think; I am not able to answer that question, but I think that the Lord Chamberlain never interferes unless he has some private information.

6115. Mr. *Lusk.*] Private theatrical entertainments are among the upper classes mostly, are they not?—There are plenty of private theatrical entertainments everywhere now, but there are more among the middle classes than the lower classes.

6116. Not among the working classes?—I think not.

6117. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] What is the class of people who compose your audiences?—The middle class.

6118. Have you none of the working class?—Very few of the working class.

6119. But there are some?—There are some; the working classes are attracted by the concerts.

6120. How many concerts have you in a year?—We have four or five during the season.

6121. *Chairman.*] Have you any further observations to address to the Committee?—No, I think not.

JOHN KNOWLES, Esq., called in; and Examined.

6122. *Chairman.*] You are the proprietor of a theatre at Manchester, are you not?—Yes; I built it in 1845.

6123. Had you been connected with theatres before that?—Yes, for years.

6124. Where?—The old Theatre Royal, Manchester, prior to its being burnt.

6125. What is the name of your theatre now?—It is the Theatre Royal; it is a patent theatre.

6126. Will you be good enough to give the Committee the history of that theatre?—The commencement of my theatrical career was at the time that the theatre in Manchester was at its lowest ebb. I then came forward and took a theatre in Manchester, and kept it until it was burnt down; after that period, the proprietors of the old theatre refused to rebuild it; and when they gave me a public dinner, I stated that if they could get no one else to build a theatre I would build one myself; I am not an actor, and never was.

6127. In what way is yours a patent theatre?—The old theatre was a patent theatre; I purchased the patent from the proprietor of the old theatre, and since then I have had it renewed.

6128. What is the nature of your patent?—Now it is merely nominal.

6129. Originally it was of greater value, perhaps?—Yes, it was of great value.

6130. Originally it was a monopoly, was it not?

J. Knowles, Esq.
18 May 1866.

not?—Yes, it was a monopoly entirely; there was no other theatre allowed within six miles.

6131. In what year did the change take place?—About 1842, I think.

6132. Then the patent had no value when you bought it?—No further than having a license, there was no magisterial license required. I have no magisterial license now.

6133. Is your theatre less valuable than it was at the time when it was a patent theatre?—Yes, certainly it is much less valuable.

6134. How many theatres are there in Manchester now?—There are four; there is the Theatre Royal, the Prince's Theatre, the Queen's Theatre, and the Free Trade Hall, which has a theatrical license.

6135. Are the performances at the Free Trade Hall constant?—No, they are occasional.

6136. Do you keep your theatre open all the year round?—I have it open 10, or 11, and 12 months sometimes.

6137. Is it generally full?—Not always; we are doing very badly just now.

6138. Are there four theatres with licenses, in Manchester?—Yes.

6139. Are there other theatres that remain open as long as you do?—Thereabouts; one is a new theatre, built within two years.

6140. When were the other two theatres built?—Mine was built in 1845, the old theatre was built in the last century, and the Queen's Theatre was the Theatre Royal.

6141. I suppose that was a patent theatre too?—I do not know.

6142. Did you find a falling off in the attendance at your theatre when the new theatre was built?—A very great falling off.

6143. But still the proprietor of that theatre?—Yes.

6144. Do you think that Manchester will bear all the theatres there are now?—No.

6145. You think there are more theatres than are necessary?—There are.

6146. Is the taste for theatrical performances going off in Manchester?—No; it never was a great theatrical town for the population.

6147. It is very musical, is it not?—Very musical.

6148. Have you got more difficulty in obtaining good actors now, than you formerly had in Manchester?—Certainly.

6149. Since when?—Since free trade began.

6150. You are not very much in favour of free trade, I suppose?—I have no objection to as many theatres as they think proper to license, but I think that there has been a fall in the drama.

6151. Now, the actors are not so good, you mean?—No, they are not so good; you do not get men of education on the stage; there was an ambition to get to the two patent theatres in London; they served their time in the country on 3 *l.* and 4 *l.* a week, in order to fit themselves to get to London; they served their apprenticeship, but now there is nothing of the sort.

6152. Are their salaries higher than they used to be?—Yes.

6153. Then, the provincial actor is better off, so far as that goes?—He is a little better off, not a great deal.

6154. The Committee have heard that actors are considerably better paid than they used to be?—Not that I know of, the salaries are a little higher, but not much for the better actors; but the lower class of actors you can have in any quantity.

6155. How do the theatres in Manchester obtain their licenses?—They apply to the magistrates, who grant the license.

6156. Is it annual?—Yes.

6157. Have you heard that the theatres have had any difficulty in obtaining a license?—Yes, at one time, but not lately; when I built my theatre I had protection given me in a great measure by the magistrates.

6158. The magistrates have made difficulties in some cases, have they?—Yes, they refused licenses for theatrical entertainments where smoking, eating, and drinking was carried on.

6159. Now, with regard to the theatres, have you had complaints in Manchester of the present system of licensing?—No, there is no difficulty.

6160. But you do not require a license yourself?—No, but there is no difficulty.

6161. The other theatres require the license to be renewed every year?—Yes.

6162. But have you ever heard of any difficulties about the license being renewed?—Not any now.

6163. Suppose the proprietor of a theatre has 5,000 *l.* or 6,000 *l.* invested in it, do you consider it rather hard upon him to be dependent on an annual expiring license?—No.

6164. If there were any caprice on their part, could the magistrates take the license away?—No.

6165. They could not?—No.

6166. Neither legally or otherwise?—Neither, I should say.

6167. Colonel *Sturt.*] You do not surely mean to say, that they would not have the power to take away the license at all?—Not during the twelve months.

6168. But the proprietor has to apply again at the end of the twelve months?—Yes.

6169. And if the magistrates say that they will not grant the renewal, he has no redress?—No, the decision of the magistrates is final.

6170. *Chairman.*] Have you ever heard of a case of a manager having built a theatre, and then the license being discontinued?—No.

6171. Now, with regard to the music-halls, are there many music-halls in Manchester?—Yes; in every street, almost.

6172. Do they fill well?—Yes, I believe so.

6173. Have they smoking, eating, and drinking, at those music-halls?—Yes.

6174. Has this controversy between music-halls and theatres existed in Manchester as well as in London?—No, I think not.

6175. But have the music-halls given any theatrical representations?—Yes; I should say so, decidedly.

6176. But they have not been interfered with?—Not at all.

6177. The local opinion in Manchester, with regard to those music-halls, is that they should be allowed to perform stage pieces, I suppose?—No.

6178. But still the managers of the theatres do not feel inclined to interfere with them?—I do not see that it is possible for a theatrical entertainment to take place where there is eating, and drinking, and smoking.

6179. Where there is smoking and drinking they might, might they not?—No, not well; a dramatic entertainment requires all their senses.

6180. What licenses do those music-halls have in Manchester?—I do not know that they require any, they are not under the same law as they are here.

6181. They

6181. They cannot have any music and dancing without a license, can they?—Yes; they have no license whatever.

6182. They can give whatever performances they please, can they?—No.

6183. Mr. *Locke.*] The check is this, that if they were not conducted with propriety, the magistrates would take away the wine and spirit license?—Certainly.

6184. And of course a music-hall could not be carried on without refreshments?—Just so.

6185. *Chairman.*] But you know of no case where the performances at the music-halls have been interfered with in Manchester?—Not any.

6186. Mr. *Locke.*] I suppose, in your theatre the magistrates make no regulations?—Not any.

6187. But, with regard to the other theatres licensed in Manchester, the magistrates give directions, do they not?—Yes.

6188. Here is a paper that I have had sent to me from Sheffield (*producing a paper*); the magistrates are empowered by 6 & 7 Vict. not only to grant licenses at their discretion to theatres, but likewise to make rules and regulations with regard to the mode in which the theatres are conducted?—Yes, something like those in this paper.

6189. They make those rules and regulations at their own discretion, do they not?—Yes.

6190. Now, with regard to the music-halls, the magistrates give a wine and spirit license?—Yes.

6191. But is it not the fact that in the country towns, unless there is a local Act, anybody that pleases may have music and dancing?—Yes.

6192. Dancing, and anything of that sort?—Yes.

6193 But if the place is misconducted the magistrates can take away the license, and if there is any riot they are amenable to the law of the country?—Yes.

6194. But there is no special Act of Parliament which applies to music and dancing in the country?—Not any.

6195. You say that there are four theatres in Manchester?—Yes.

6196. Which is the largest?—Mine is the largest.

6197. How many people will your theatre contain?—Three thousand.

6198. How many people will the other theatres contain?—I should think not much less than that; about 2,000 each.

6199. That is 9,000 persons altogether?—The Free Trade Hall would hold 4,000 or 5,000.

6200. What is the Free Trade Hall?—Where they hold large concerts and meetings.

6201. But that is not a theatre?—They have a theatrical license, and they have performances there; operas, and so on.

6202. Is it used as a music-hall, too?—Yes.

6203. Are there refreshments?—No.

6204. There are no refreshments at the Free Trade Hall?—No.

6205. Now, with regard to the music-halls, you say that there are a great many all around you?—Yes.

6206. Some large and some small?—Yes, some public-houses are built entirely as music-halls.

6207. You would hardly call those public-houses music-halls, would you?—Yes, I would; they are the same thing.

6208. Have they a stage?—Yes, perhaps not a large stage, some are larger than others.

6209. Which is the largest music-hall there?—The London.

6210. How many will it contain?—I do not know; it is in Bridge street; it was formerly Hayward's Hotel.

6211. What performances do they give there?—A musical entertainment, nigger dances, men on ropes, and ballet; and they have been doing lately a ballet called "The Gathering of the Clans."

6212. The theatres have taken no notice of it?—I believe not.

6213. To your knowledge, have they given any other performances besides ballets?—No.

6214. Any acting, I mean?—I think not.

6215. You have not had Pepper's Ghost there, I suppose?—Yes, we have at the Free Trade Hall.

6216. But have you had that illusion at the music-halls?—No.

6217. You say the local opinion is, that the music-halls should not give theatrical entertainments; how did you get at that local opinion?—Because there are plenty of theatres as it is.

6218. That is your own opinion, but when you speak of the local opinion do you mean your own opinion?—Perhaps so, but I do not think that any one can consider it advisable to have smoking, eating and drinking, where a performance of the drama is going on.

6219. But there has been no meeting, with resolutions drawn up and passed?—No.

6220. You think so yourself, and you believe that other people think so too?—I believe it is the opinion of every man who wishes to witness the drama.

6221. But do you not think that the performances at those music-halls, in Manchester, might be improved by permitting them to give a better description of entertainment than they do?—If you make them theatres, but I do not think there is anything between a theatre and a music-hall.

6222. Would you allow them to perform light pieces?—No.

6223. A little singing in character?—It would not answer their purpose, and it would fall back to what it is now.

6224. Then there could be no danger in giving them the privilege, could there?—I would let them be either music halls or theatres, if they had a theatrical license; I think it would be very wrong to let them drink and smoke, it would be lowering the drama in the estimation of the country, and it is low enough, heaven knows, at this moment.

6225. But if they had that privilege, you think they would fall back to the old thing?—Perhaps worse.

6226. Then, in fact, it would make no difference to grant it them?—None at all.

6227. Mr. *Du Cane.*] What is your opinion with regard to the censorship?—I think that the public are sufficient, but if it is necessary to have a censor of theatres, I think it should be adapted to all things. I think there is more mischief in the songs that are sung than anything that you can put on the stage of a theatre. I have no objection to the censorship, but I think that every thing should pass under it.

6228. Mr. *Locke.*] Every place where there is a public performance?—Every place. I think that no song should be given to the public which is not licensed.

6229. Mr. *Du Cane.*] Do you think that the existing censorship has a good effect on the drama?—I do not think it has any effect whatever.

J. Knowles, Esq.
18 May 1866.

6230. Would you prefer to see it abolished, or retained, or altered?—I would have it all, or none; there is less chance of the drama doing mischief, than those double meanings which are repeated every night.

6231. Supposing the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain were retained, you would like to see it extended to music halls?—Yes, certainly; to every public entertainment; it cannot do any harm.

6232. Do you ever visit the music halls at Manchester?—No; I never was in one.

6233. Do you know from general report that they are well conducted?—I do not think that there is any fault to be found with them.

6234. Do you ever recruit your staff of performers from music halls?—Never.

6235. Do you know any instance of any good actor having sprung from a Manchester music hall?—No; I do not myself.

6236. Do you have any drinking in your own theatre?—There is one saloon in the theatre, but no spirituous liquors are sold, whatever.

6237. Have you any refreshments handed round in the audience part of the house?—Never; my theatre is conducted merely as a theatrical speculation, without pandering to the tastes of anybody.

6238. Mr. *Locke.*] You have a wine and spirit license, I suppose?—No, we have no license whatever.

6239. Have you refused it?—No, I have never required it.

6240. Mr. *Du Cane.*] You would rather not have it?—Yes.

6241. Mr. *Locke.*] But you can have it, if you please?—Yes.

6242. Mr. *Du Cane.*] You would rather exclude refreshments altogether, perhaps?—Yes, you do not want them in concerts, and why should you in theatres.

6243. Mr. *Powell.*] Do you not even sell wine?—I believe they have English wines.

6244. Do you mean to say that a man cannot get a glass of sherry in your refreshment room?—No, he cannot.

6245. Mr. *Du Cane.*] What class of entertainment answers best in your theatre?—At the present day, I am sorry to say that it has descended very much to sensational pieces.

6246. You call that a descent in the drama?—A very great descent.

6247. Are the bulk of your company provincial actors?—Yes.

6248. But you have stars occasionally, I suppose?—Yes, Mr. Charles Matthews plays with us now.

6249. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do you think that dramatic authors would be at all benefited by the music-halls being thrown open?—No.

6250. You think that there would be no more demand for pieces in that case?—Not the slightest.

6251. Do you find great difficulty in getting good pieces to act at your theatre?—Yes.

6252. You find that pieces fail sometimes, I suppose?—Yes, very often; Mr. Boucicault's last new piece has failed.

6253. When was that?—Within the last three weeks; it was a piece written specially for Mr. Jefferson, called "The Parish Clerk."

6254. Have you any objection to state the arrangement which you make with authors who write for you?—I generally purchase the piece entirely; when Mr. Boucicault and his wife played in the "Colleen Bawn" they shared the receipts equally with me after 25 *l.* a night for expenses.

6255. Did that 25 *l.* include lighting and everything else in the expenses of the house?—Yes.

6256. You have been to music-halls in London, I suppose?—Yes.

6257. Did you ever hear or see anything improper or immoral on the stage at the London music-halls?—I did not go with that idea: but if you go to any public building in the kingdom you will find that if you look for it; I make no exception.

6258. My question referred to the performances; do you object to the music-halls being thrown open on moral grounds?—No, not at all. I object to it with regard to the smoking, eating, and drinking. It is a disgrace to the profession.

6259. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] You have spoken of some of the songs not being of a proper character; does that apply to Manchester?—All over the kingdom. What is done in London is done in the country.

6260. But you have never heard them yourself?—No.

6261. You take it from the reports of others?—Yes; from people who come and say they have been and heard so and so.

6262. You would apply the same censorship to songs as to plays?—Yes.

6263. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Have you visited any music-halls in London?—Yes; I have been to the Canterbury and I have been to the Alhambra.

6264. Do you now express your opinion as the result of that personal experience?—No, I did not go with that view. I went to the Canterbury to see the place, and to look at the pictures. I did not wait to see the entertainment.

6265. What in your opinion is the difference between the audience of a London music-hall and the audience of a Manchester music-hall?—I have never been in a provincial music-hall.

6266. You can give no opinion on that point, then?—No.

6267. What, if any, is the difference in kind between your own audiences in Manchester and the audiences in the London theatres?—They are about the same class of people.

6268. Is there no larger amount of working people in Manchester than in London who visit theatres?—The town is very differently situated. We are all workers.

6269. But I mean the labouring classes specifically?—No. I should think if you went to Drury-lane you would see just as many.

6270. There is no appreciable difference, you think?—No.

6271. Mr. *Selwin.*] You stated that you would submit songs as well as plays to the censorship?—Yes.

6272. Supposing a department was created for the supervision of that matter, with inspectors who should have the power of visiting at any moment those music-halls, do you not think that that would be a sufficient check on anything improper taking place?—I only say this, that if it is desirable to license a dramatic entertainment, it is quite desirable to license everything that is given to the public, whether in the shape of a lecture or anything else.

6273. You think that there would be no difficulty in submitting those numerous songs to the censorship?—Not any.

6274. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] Has it ever been the practice

practice to submit songs to a censor?—Yes, in operas.

6275. Not the individual songs?—No.

6276. Mr. *Miller.*] Are not the music-halls in Manchester, in fact, public-houses, with large rooms attached to them?—There are both sorts.

6277. Were not the majority originally public-houses which, following the tastes of the age, attached large rooms to themselves, from time to time, as they found their interests required it?—Three of the largest have been built expressly.

6278. With the exception of those three, all the rest were public-houses with large rooms?—Yes.

6279. Can you give the Committee some idea of the number of those houses?—I cannot.

6280. But it is very large?—It is very large.

6281. You were saying that in the country those halls do not require any license for music and dancing?—Not any.

6282. But the hold upon them consists in their requiring a license for excisable articles?—Yes.

6283. Do you know of any instance where a music-hall carries on its performances without drinking?—There is no such thing.

6284. I suppose we may infer from that that it would not answer for any music-hall to give music and dancing unless they had a spirit license, and gave their audience the opportunity of drinking?—Yes, just so.

6285. I do not think that you gave the Right Honourable Chairman the date of the origin of your patent?—I cannot tell you that; I should say it was 100 years ago.

6286. Then that patent has been continued from that time to the present?—Yes, it is renewable every 21 years.

6287. Has it been renewed from time to time?—Yes.

6288. Mr. *Locke.*] Who renews it?—The Lord Chamberlain.

6289. Mr. *Miller.*] You can call upon the Lord Chamberlain by right to do that, I suppose?—I have made my application upon the payment of fees, which are a great deal more than an annual license; it is ten times as much.

6290. What special privilege does that give you?—Not any, it is all wiped away, it was very valuable at one time; no theatre could open in Manchester at the same time as the Theatre Royal was open within six miles of it.

6291. Then how do you account for the fact, that during the existence of the patent, you have lost that right; has it been by the operation of the 6 & 7 Vict.?—I suppose, it was the new law that came into operation.

6292. Then, since the abolition of your patent rights, do you find that your property has deteriorated in value?—No, not the theatre itself.

6293. That is to say, supposing you hired the theatre, instead of being the freeholder, you would pay the same rent now as you did previously to the abolition of the patent rights?—Quite.

6294. Sir *Arthur Buller.*] Do you consider a ballet a dramatic performance?—Yes.

6295. Does your horror of seeing the drama desecrated by smoking, eating, and drinking, extend to ballets?—Yes.

6296. I think you said that you required all your senses for witnessing a drama?—Yes.

6297. You do not require many of them for witnessing a ballet, do you?—No.

6298. Why then does smoking, eating, and drinking, desecrate a ballet?—Because it has always been considered a theatrical entertainment.

6299. That is a mere word, but does or does not smoking or drinking desecrate a ballet?—I do not think it does.

6300. A ballet looked at through the medium of smoke, is a mere simple ballet?—Yes.

6301. There is no great harm in that, is there?—Not at all.

6302. You might, perhaps, extend that to such sacred pieces as burlesques, or would they be desecrated too; perhaps, however, the drama in your opinion is desecrated by allowing such things at all?—I am certain of it.

6303. Then you would not grudge to music-halls the performance of a ballet while smoking, eating, and drinking, was going on, or even the performance of a burlesque?—I should on the broad basis, that I would either make them theatres or music-halls; there should be nothing between.

6304. In what way?—I think it interferes very much with the theatres.

6305. Do you mean that it interferes with your profits?—To keep a theatre going night after night requires a great diversity of entertainments for all classes of the public, and especially a stationary public like Manchester.

6306. Do you think that those music halls filch from you your audiences?—Yes, certainly.

6307. We have been told, on the contrary, by a well-informed witness that the music-halls feed the theatres; that you do not believe?—Not the slightest. Oh, dear no, that is an impossibility.

6308 Mr. *Lusk.*] I am very glad to hear you say that your property is as good as ever?—Perhaps it is worth more money because the land is more valuable.

6309. You have still a well-to-do theatre; respectable audiences and a good connection?—Yes.

6310. You were saying just now that the old monopoly was very valuable?—Yes.

6311. Do you mean valuable to yourself or to the public?—To myself.

6312. It was of value to you?—Yes, certainly.

6313. But the Committee look at the question from a public point of view; you understand that, no doubt?—No doubt.

6314. When the other three theatres started in Manchester, that did not at all demoralise your theatre, did it; I mean in point of standing and character?—It is an impossibility.

6315. Mr. *Miller.*] As a matter of fact, is your theatre demoralised?—No.

6316. Mr. *Lusk.*] The opening of three other theatres did not demoralise yours?—No.

6317. You are just as good as you were then?—No, not in profit.

6318. You were making money too fast before, perhaps?—Very likely.

6319. Seeing that it did not demoralise you in any way, and that the increase of the theatres pleased a great many more of the public, do you not think that there should be free trade in theatres?—I have no objection to your granting every building properly erected a license; you may license 50 buildings in Manchester, only let it be either a theatre or a music-hall. Free trade has come, and it is impossible ever to return from it.

6320. You say that the salaries of actors are as good as ever?—They are better, because there are fewer actors.

J. Knowles, Esq.

18 May 1866.

6321. Fewer of what kind?—Of good actors or actresses.

6322. But you stated that there were more of the bad kinds?—Yes; you can have any quantity of them for about 1*l.* a week.

6323. May we not often hear people say "It is the stormiest day, or the coldest day, or the hottest day, that ever was," when all the while their own memories are at fault?—I do not say anything of that sort.

6324. Perhaps actors, on the whole, are just as good as ever they were?—Nothing of the sort.

6325. There is a dreadful lot of bad ones, you say?—Any quantity.

6326. Therefore, there is a better chance for the good ones?—Yes.

6327. There is no check on the music-halls in Manchester, is there?—None, except the police.

6328. You say that they conduct themselves very well indeed?—I do not know anything to the contrary.

6329. On the whole, do you think it would be as well to leave them alone pretty much?—I have no objection.

6330. As they conduct themselves so very well, why should we interfere with them in any shape, by license or censor?—I do not ask you to interfere; I am satisfied.

6331. Would it not be better if we were to take away all restrictions, and let all of you do as you like?—I think that the public would suffer; I should not complain.

6332. But why should the Legislature interfere with you at all if you get on so well?—I am satisfied with things as they are.

6333. Mr. *Powell.*] You have stated that you have no objection to any number of theatres, provided they are erected and managed as theatres?—Yes, erected and conducted as theatres.

6334. You would include in your free trade any building which, though not erected as a theatre, was fit for theatrical purposes, and conducted as such?—Yes.

6335. Is there a regular stage at the Free Trade Hall, at Manchester?—Yes.

6336. Is there machinery for moving the scenes?—No.

6337. Then the scenic effects at the Free Trade Hall must be of a most limited character?—Just so.

6338. Have you not a circus at Manchester which has almost become a permanent institution?—There is a wooden circus, which has been there two or three years.

6339. Is it always used as a circus?—No; it is now a music-hall.

6340. Under what license is it conducted as a music-hall?—I do not know; it is only a short time ago since it became a music-hall.

6341. Is there any other circus in Manchester?—No.

6342. But is it not the fact, that there is generally one circus at least performing in Manchester?—Sometimes there are two, but they are only temporary.

6343. But usually there are one or two, are there not?—Yes; but there is none at this time.

6344. Do you know the Lancashire district?—Yes.

6345. Can you give the Committee any information with regard to the theatres in the manufacturing towns of Lancashire?—Yes.

6346. Select your own example of a theatre which you can describe; or take Rochdale, is there a theatre there?—They are building a new theatre there now.

6347. There was one there last winter, was there not?—Yes.

6348. Was that a permanent theatre?—Yes.

6349. Is the new theatre an additional one, or in substitution for the old one?—It is in substitution for the old one, I believe.

6350. Is that theatre at Rochdale a flourishing speculation?—I cannot say.

6351. Is it large?—I should say, no.

6352. Do you know the nature of the audience in that neighbourhood?—No; it is some years since I had any connection with it.

6353. Take the Bolton Theatre; can you give any information about that?—The Bolton Theatre is behind a public-house, and connected with it.

6354. Do you mean to say that it is connected with the public-house?—It is.

6355. What is the size of that theatre?—It is a pretty good size.

6356. Can you approximate to the number of spectators that can be received in it?—Perhaps 1,200.

6357. What is the association between that theatre and the public-house?—I do not think that they have any real connection, though you have to pass almost through the public-house to get to the theatre.

6358. Are ladies, visiting the theatre, compelled to pass through the public-house?—It was through a passage of the public-house that they went to it; there was formerly a theatre independent, but I think that is closed and done away with.

6359. Do you know anything with regard to the Wigan Theatre?—I know that I sent Mr. Charles Matthews there to act, and he refused to go a second time.

6360. Was that on account of the audience?—No, it was on account of the uncomfortableness of the theatre.

6361. During how many weeks in the year are there performances at that theatre?—I should think that it is not continuous at any time, it is just as it happens, I think.

6362. During how many weeks is that theatre open at all, whether spasmodically or continuously?—It is in spurts, I should say.

6363. How many people does it contain?—I cannot say.

6364. Is there any other theatre that occurs to you?—There is a very good theatre at Preston.

6365. Can you describe the size of it?—It is middle sized.

6366. What size is that?—It would hold 1,200 or 1,500 people.

6367. What is the character of the performances?—Proper dramatic entertainments.

6368. Including burlesque, and the lighter drama, no doubt?—Yes, burlesque is a dramatic entertainment, though not a very good one.

6369. Can you state anything more about the drama in the minor towns in Lancashire?—There is a theatre at Oldham, which I believe has done very well.

6370. Can you give an approximate estimate of the contents of that theatre?—No.

6371. What class of drama is performed there?—It is the regular drama, and it has been very well conducted.

6372. Should you say that, in those theatres, the

the higher class of drama answers, or is successful speculation confined to pantomime, burlesque, and kindred pieces?—I am sorry to say that, in most country towns, pantomime is the attraction throughout the kingdom; it is the sheet-anchor of the drama at the present moment.

6373. Now, returning to Manchester, you have made use of the term "music-hall," which is perhaps in one sense understood, but which is certainly not a legal phrase; what do you mean by a music-hall in Manchester, speaking of the building itself?—I mean a building that is built the same as they are here in London, with galleries, and things of that kind, it is the next thing to a theatre.

6374. How many music-halls of that class are there in Manchester?—There are not more than three or four of that description.

6375. Can you name them?—The "London," in Bridge-street, the "Alexandra" in Peter-street, and the People's Concert Hall, or the Casino, in Lower Moseley-street; those are the three principal ones.

6376. Then, in public houses which are used with or without law for music and dancing, there are probably performances in places innumerable which may or may not be theatres?—Yes, there are all sorts.

6377. Between mere rooms in public-houses and the music-halls proper, there would be probably a considerable number of places?—A great number.

6378. How should you describe the performances which take place in the music-halls in Manchester?—Singing and dancing; I do not know that there is anything else.

6379. Have they a ballet ordinarily?—Yes.

6380. Ordinarily or exceptionally?—Ordinarily, yes.

6381. Would it be merely an incidental ballet, or would it be a ballet with a supposed story and elaborate scenic accessories?—I only speak from report; I have not seen them.

6382. What, in your judgment, should be allowed in music-halls?—The same as they have in France, singing and dancing.

6383. Do you include the ballet in dancing?—No.

6384. What is stage dancing without a ballet?—There are plenty of dances without a character.

6385. In using the term ballet, you mean a ballet with character?—I mean a character dance.

6386. If you had 12 young ladies on the stage, in the ordinary dress of ballet dancers, you would not describe that as a ballet?—I should not without scenic effects.

6387. If you had 20 young ladies on the stage with a mere landscape behind them, you would call that a dance and not a ballet?—Just so. A ballet requires a story of some description.

6388. You would not prevent that kind of dance in a music-hall?—No.

6389. You would allow a ballet divertissement, but not a ballet d'action?—Just so; they are two distinct things.

6390. Do you know the Belle Vue Gardens in Manchester?—Yes.

6391. They may be described as a local Cremorne, may they not?—Yes.

6392. Are you acquainted with the class of performances that take place there?—I think not any.

6393. Have they not a panorama of the "Falls of Pekin," and all that?—There is only an illumination at night, the same as there used to be at Vauxhall.

6394. Their attractions do not extend to ballets, or any performances approaching a theatrical character?—I think not; but at the Belle Vue, they have a dancing saloon for the people, who go there, and they give them fireworks, which is a very popular amusement.

6395. How many visitors is there room for at the Belle Vue Gardens?—It covers some acres of ground; I should think that they could take 40,000 or 50,000 people.

6396. Are there many low class entertainments in Manchester, such as penny gaffs?—No, I think not; I do not think they would be permitted in Manchester.

6397. Not permitted by whom?—They would not be permitted by the police.

6398. Mr. *Locke.*] About your patent in connection with 6 & 7 Vict., c. 68, I see the 2d section runs, "It shall not be lawful for any person to have or keep any house or other place of public resort in Great Britain, for the public performance of stage plays, without authority, by virtue of Letters Patent from Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, or predecessors, or without license from the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's household, for the time being, or from the justices of the peace, as hereinafter provided;" was that patent of yours a patent from the Crown?—Yes.

6399. It was not from the Lord Chamberlain, merely?—No, it goes through the Patent Office here, I believe.

6400. It is a patent signed by the King or Queen, is it not?—It is a thing with an immense big seal to it.

6401. A regular patent?—Yes.

6402. It is renewed every 21 years?—Yes.

6403. The patent runs that it shall be so, I suppose?—Yes, the patent states that it is granted for 21 years.

6404. It is renewable?—Yes, mine has been renewed, the only value that patent is to me is that one has not to go to the magistrates.

6405. But it costs you more to renew your patent than it would to go to the magistrates annually?—Yes; ten times more.

6406. But there is a distinction between having a patent theatre?—Yes.

6407. I suppose they have left off mounting guard at your theatre as they did at Covent Garden and Drury Lane?—They never did it at my theatre.

6408. Mr. *O'Beirne.*] With regard to the question that was put to you as to the interference of the Legislature with places of public amusement, do you, as a man of much experience, think it is desirable that they should be left entirely free, or that there should be proper supervision over them?—There should be proper supervision decidedly over all public entertainments.

6409. *Chairman.*] Have you anything more to suggest to the Committee upon these subjects?—No.

Monday, 28th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Goschen.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Clive.	Colonel Sturt.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

Captain EYRE MASSEY SHAW, called in; and Examined.

Captain *E. M. Shaw.*

28 May 1866.

6410. *Chairman.*] YOU are at the head of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, are you not?—Yes.

6410*. The Committee wish to hear your views as to the present arrangement in theatres with regard to danger from fire; do you think that the present system of licensing by the Lord Chamberlain is sufficient in that respect?—I am not aware of any arrangement which the Lord Chamberlain has for regulating the safety of the buildings from fire; he may have such an arrangement, but I am not aware of it.

6411. You are aware, I suppose, that theatres are surveyed before a licence is given, with a view to the danger from fire?—I have heard something of that kind, but I am not actually aware of it, and I do not know what system they have adopted or whether they have adopted any.

6412. Do you consider the present arrangement satisfactory with regard to precautions against fire in enlarged theatres?—Speaking professionally, I should say there are none at all, inasmuch as they are different in all the theatres. I see no system anywhere.

6413. There is no officer connected with the Fire Brigade who has anything to say at all to those arrangements, is there?—None whatever.

6414. Do you consider that improvements could be made in the arrangements at theatres with regard to danger from fire?—Yes, there could be very great improvements made.

6415. Without increasing the expense very considerably?—That would all depend on the time at which the improvements are taken up. When a theatre is being built it could be made comparatively safe without much expense, but it would be very expensive indeed to alter some of the old theatres, and some of them are not worth it.

6416. Have you ever considered the music halls with regard to this question of danger from fire?—That subject has never come before me professionally, but I have considered it.

6417. Take the Alhambra. Have you had the arrangements at that place before you in any way?—No, not in any way. I have gone in to see them, but I have not made any special survey.

6418. Do you think that the arrangements in music halls generally are such that great improvements could be suggested for their safety from fire?—Certainly, I think they could be made of average safety, but I do not think that any of them have any really good arrangement against fire now.

6419. What would you call a really good arrangement against fire?—I think there should be a system laid down for all these public buildings; there should be a water service laid on with constant pressure or some means of producing high pressure immediately, and the whole thing should be systematised so that any person who was acquainted with any one theatre would have a pretty good idea what to do in any other theatre in case of fire.

6420. Is there not water laid on at the large theatres at present?—I think so; but they are not at all what they might be with regard to the water supply; for instance, water on or under the roof is of very little use; the roof is one of the most dangerous parts of a theatre.

6421. Is water laid on in the music halls?—Not that I know of; I think there must be a few of them which have some.

6422. You think that in licensing a new music hall, it would be well that the license should include certain arrangements which should be made in case of fire?—I do, decidedly; I think that before a license is granted there should be a special survey with regard to fire, distinct from all other surveys.

6423. Colonel *Sturt.*] Is there not a good water service at Covent Garden?—There is a service there, but I am very slow to offer an opinion, unless I have made special surveys recently; I have seen the arrangements at most of those places, but not very recently.

6424. *Chairman.*] Have you had many cases of fire originating in music halls?—No, not many.

6425. Would that be any proof to you that the arrangements were satisfactory?—No; the origin of a fire, and the stopping of a fire, are two totally different questions.

6426. What you have been saying up to this time is with regard to stopping fires, rather?—Yes, and also with regard to people getting out in case of alarm. Facility of exit is a most important point.

6427. Do you think anything could be done in the licensing to check the danger of fires being originated?—Yes, I think that something might be done in that way; but the most important point is to provide for the safety of a large number of people during the fire; to have the means of checking it immediately so far, that though the building may be burnt down the people may have time to get away.

6428. Is it possible to make satisfactory arrangements

rangements in very large buildings for that purpose?—I think so, decidedly.

6429. With regard to the hanging lamps, and the internal arrangements, and so on, is not there much to be done in that way with regard to checking the danger of a fire breaking out?—Decidedly; the whole of that should be under the inspection of a competent person inside the theatre.

6430. Is there any kind of survey to your knowledge, after the license is once granted, or any kind of inspection over the music halls, and places of amusement, with regard to fires?—So far as my knowledge goes, there is not; there may be, but I do not know of it.

6431. It is not in the hands of the police?—Not at all; I am clear about that.

6432. There is no inspector, to your knowledge, who watches over that in the metropolis?—I do not know of such a thing.

6433. Could it go on without your knowledge?—It is just possible, but I should have heard of it, I think.

6434. Have you ever been in communication with the Lord Chamberlain's Office with regard to the question of fires in theatres?—Yes; immediately after the fire in the Edinburgh Theatre I had some communications with him, but they came to nothing.

6435. Were you invited to make suggestions on that subject?—Yes.

6436. What were the difficulties which occurred?—There were a great many difficulties in the way.

6437. Those difficulties arise with regard to any change in the arrangements of existing theatres?—Yes, chiefly, and the danger of creating unnecessary alarm by expressing very strong opinions on the subject.

6438. Colonel *Sturt.*] Surely the Lord Chamberlain regulates the lights in the theatres, with a view to safety?—I think not.

6439. I always understood that it was the Lord Chamberlain who ordered wire shades to be put in front of the foot-lights after the accident to a columbine at a theatre in the Whitechapel-road?—I have no doubt it was he; I dare say that the proprietors of theatres are very willing to adopt any suggestion that is made by any person for the safety of the public.

6440. Mr. *Locke.*] I do not know whether you saw the Bill which I introduced last Session to amend the law relating to theatres and other places of public amusement?—No, I have not seen it.

6441. Will you kindly look at the schedule to that Bill (*handing a copy of the Bill to the Witness*)?—"1. Every hall and corridor shall have a clear width proportionate to the number of persons to be accommodated in that part of the building to which such hall or corridor leads, not being less in any case than five feet; and for each 100 persons over 500, one foot more in width. But this rule does not apply to private box lobbies or corridors to which the public have not free access. 2. There shall be in each part of the building, doorway access of six feet at least for each 500 persons to be accommodated in such part, and one foot in addition for each additional 100 persons to be accommodated in such part; and no box or other internal doorway shall be less than three feet wide. 3. All doors shall be so hung as to open outwards, that is, towards the way of egress. 4. During all times when the building is open to the public, all halls and corridors shall be maintained free and clear in the direction of egress, and in that direction unobstructed with barriers or other impediments. 5. All alleyways and gangways in those parts of the building where the public are placed shall, during the times when the building is open to the public, be maintained free and clear of seats or other obstructions, to the free ingress and egress of the public, and shall be used for passage only. 6. All gaslights in any part of the building which are, or may be at any time within two feet of any inflammable substance, shall be efficiently guarded with wirework or other proper means of security against the communication of fire."

6442. Do you think that the arrangements contained in that schedule would tend to the security of life against fires in theatres?—Decidedly.

6443. And where any sudden fright occurred so that persons rushed out of the theatre, do you think that those arrangements would be beneficial?—Decidedly, as far as they go.

6444. What would you propose in addition to the regulations contained in the schedule to that Bill?—I had not been told to what points this examination would tend, else I might have come prepared to answer these questions; but if I had time I think I could add a great many suggestions.

6445. Do you think that those suggestions, as far as they go, are good?—I think that they go in the right direction, but many of them are much too limited; for instance, the doors should be made to open both ways; and many other improvements might be suggested.

6446. Now, with regard to the avenues, do you think that the proposal in that schedule makes them wide enough?—Yes, I think it does; but those passages are chiefly stopped in the doorways; the passages themselves are wide enough, in many cases.

6447. I suppose you have observed the passages in theatres, going down to the stalls?—Yes; I think they are, in some cases, very dangerous.

6448. A person like myself touches each side as he goes down; in fact, people even thinner than I am might do so?—Yes; in some cases there are wooden partitions which are exceedingly unsafe.

6449. No two people, were they ever so slender, could get out arm in arm?—There are places in which they could not, certainly.

6450. Now, with regard to the present theatres, you say that there would be a great difficulty in altering many of them; in fact, there would not be space to make sufficient alterations; but what is your view with regard to any new theatre which should be built; do you think it would be an advantage that a plan should be submitted to some competent authority before a building is commenced at all, and that particular attention should be paid to the accommodation for ingress and egress from the theatre?—I do think so, very decidedly; in fact, that is what is done in France at the present moment.

6451. But I observed in France that, although they have a clear space all round the theatre, they leave you only one place to come out at; take the *Châtelet*, for instance; are you aware of any mode of egress from the three sides of that theatre?—I think you can get out both back and front.

6452. But

Captain E. M. Shaw. 28 May 1866.

6452. But not at the sides?—Not at the sides, I think.

6453. Everybody enters in front, I believe?—Yes; but I think there are very large means of exit at the back.

6454. The sides are taken up by shops, I think?—Yes; at all events, in two opposite directions there are entrances and exits.

6455. Is that the same as at the *Gaiétés*?—I am not sure.

6456. I mean the new theatre in the Boulevard Sebastopool?—The Théâtre Lyrique.

6457. No; the Lyrique is built pretty much in the same way as the Châtelet; and so is the new theatre in the Boulevard Sebastopool, but there is not any mode of egress or ingress at the sides, is there?—I dare say such is the case.

6458. It being an advantage that there should be ingress and egress at the sides, and the only theatres that I know of in London where there is that accommodation, being Drury-lane, and perhaps Covent Garden, by way of the Floral Hall, do you not think that the avenues which supply the side exits ought always to be used every night the places are open?—Yes; I think so, in order that everybody should get used to them.

6459. Do you think it sufficient that there should be those modes of ingress and egress unless they are in constant use, since an accident might occur to the person who had the care of the door (who might have gone away with the key in his pocket), and since, if persons were delayed only two or three minutes, the most terrible accidents might occur in case of fire, would it not be better that those modes of ingress and egress should be always used?—Decidedly; I think so. The means of egress are not, in my opinion, sufficient in any of the theatres.

6460. Has your attention been called to the Adelphi Theatre?—I should be very sorry to offer a professional opinion on any of those theatres off-hand.

6461. Have you formed any opinion about them?—I have formed a great many opinions about them all, but to give an opinion off-hand, when they have been built up carefully by competent gentlemen, is more than I am willing to do.

6462. But an architect builds a theatre with the materials he has, and cannot make excellent modes of ingresss and egress, if the theatre is between two houses?—I do not see that.

6463. How are the people to get out without going through the sides of the houses?—The architect ought to reduce the size of the building in order to give a sufficient passage way on each side.

6464. But that in some cases would make the theatre extremely small, would it not?—No doubt.

6465. You gave evidence, I think, before the Committee on Fires in the Metropolis two years ago?—Yes.

6466. A question was raised there with regard to the benefit which would be derived from, I think, what you call high-pressure service?—Yes; constant high-pressure service.

6467. That would obviate the necessity for the use of a fire engine, would it not?—Yes.

6468. It would only be necessary to apply the hose to the hydrant, and there being high-pressure service you could play over any part of the building you pleased, at the top, or the sides, or anywhere else, and that could be in a minute, I suppose?—It depends on the pressure, of course.

6469. It would be extremely beneficial, of course, if in every theatre or place of public entertainment there were this high-pressure service?—Of course it would.

6470. But could it be done for those places in particular, omitting the neighbours?—No, it could not, unless they did it for themselves. The only way in which they could have this high-pressure service in the present state of the water supply of London would be to build their own tower on their own theatre, and get their pressure off that tower.

6471. If the water companies were to give them high-pressure service, they must give it to everybody else in the neighbourhood?—Yes, in order to make it constant. Until the other cisterns were all filled they would not get the pressure on the highest point.

6472. Therefore the theatres must have their own service?—Yes; they must make their own special arrangements at present, in order to get a constant water supply.

6473. Now, with regard to the question as involving theatres and other buildings, what, in your opinion, should be the course pursued in granting the license?—I think before a theatre is licensed they should be bound to show to the satisfaction of a competent person that they had made proper arrangements, not only with regard to sufficient means of ingress and exit, but also with regard to the water supply, or rather that proper arrangements were either made by them or made by the public.

6474. In what do you think those proper arrangements should consist?—Taking a large theatre, in the first place, there should be stairs and passages of sufficient size to enable the whole of the audience to get outside within five minutes of an alarm being given; and, secondly, there should be the means of getting in each minute, say 1,000 gallons of water under a pressure of at least 100 pounds to the square inch; this may seem a large quantity, but it would not be a gallon too much in case of a heavy fire.

6475. Where would it be, at the top of the building?—Very much above the top of the building.

6476. I thought you said that a water supply on the top of a building was of no use?—Yes, if it is merely on the top; but if it is very much above the top, and the theatre has supplied itself with its own stand pipe, it would have sufficient pressure.

6477. Are you aware that there are 150 tons of water all round the top of the building at the Alhambra?—I believe that there is a very large quantity.

6478. But your objection to that is, that it is not far enough off the top?—Yes, it can have no pressure for working on the top, if it is on the same level.

6479. There are firemen kept there, are there not?—I cannot say.

6480. And pumps and hose?—There may be men whom they call firemen, but I do not know that they are men whom I should call firemen.

6481. You have never seen them put out a fire you mean?—No, the mere marking a man's collar "Fireman," is not sufficient to make him one.

6482. But have you ever examined any of those men with regard to their capabilities?—No, I have not.

6483. You

6483. You merely look at their outside, and seeing that they have firemen's clothes on, you do not recognise them?—What I meant to convey was, that I am not aware that they are firemen, I could not answer for that. In some theatres I could, because I happen to know the men, but at the Alhambra I do not know them.

6484. In some theatres they have firemen whom you know as experienced men?—Yes, at some theatres they have taken men from me, and of course I can be answerable for them.

6485. Have you seen that they have a patent *extinctor* at the Alhambra?—No, I have not observed that.

6486. What is that invention?—It is an invention for having immediate supply of water, containing a substance which is supposed to destroy fire much quicker than water without it. It is a large Seidlitz powder mixed in an enclosed space, and when it is allowed vent by turning a tap, it extinguishes a fire, so far as the pressure within the vessel enables it to do.

6487. Is it an advantageous thing to use?—It is better than nothing.

6488. What do you call nothing; do you mean no water at all?—No water at all; it is a little better than plain water.

6489. Then it is more than better than nothing?—Yes, it is a little better, but in most buildings they have plain water.

6490. But that is an improvement on plain water?—Certainly it is.

6491. Have you ever known it to be used?—Never, except for experiments.

6492. But not in an actual fire?—I have never heard of its being used in an actual fire, but it may have been.

6493. Colonel *Sturt.*] You do not know whether your predecessor was consulted by Mr. Gye when he constructed Covent Garden Theatre, and whether he expressed his approval of the plan they adopted with regard to that theatre?—I cannot say exactly. I think it is very likely, but I do not know that he gave any professional opinion on it.

6494. Mr. *Powell.*] I suppose you do not go so far as to recommend the tower which you spoke of for every theatre?—I think in building a new theatre some arrangement should be made, and the simplest way of doing it in the present state of the London water supply would be to put a tower on the top. I could suggest other and perhaps cheaper modes, but none more simple, or more readily available.

6495. Have you calculated what would be the expense of such a tower as would be sufficient?—It would be very heavy, but I have made no actual calculation of it. It would have to hold a very great weight.

6496. There would be a considerable expense in lifting the water to that height, would there not?—No, very little; the town water supply would deliver it at certain times, sufficiently to keep it full.

6497. Would there be any practical difficulty in building the tower in such a manner as to be itself fireproof, and having the cistern also fireproof, supposing the theatre were on fire?—No, not the slightest.

6498. *Chairman.*] Do you remember the report of the Committee on the Fire Brigade, which sat two years ago?—Yes.

6499. Was it not recommended by that Committee that there should be high pressure throughout the metropolis, on a large scale?—I do not know that that was recommended; I do not think it ever came forward as a recommendation, but it was spoken to by many of the witnesses; besides it is obviously desirable; it is merely a question of expense which would, no doubt, be enormous.

6500. Mr. *Locke.*] That system is pursued at the London Docks, is it not; they have high pressure there, have they not?—No, not actually; they have a certain amount of high pressure, but not at all sufficient to make them independent of external help.

6501. But still they have it?—Yes, I think they have it, but I am not sure that it is reliable at all times; I should be very sorry to be answerable for it. I believe it is their desire to have it, and so far as one jet, or even two jets go, perhaps they have it; but I doubt their having high pressure according to my view.

6502. If a building had that high pressure, according to your view, would it make fire engines unnecessary?—Certainly.

6503. Entirely?—Almost entirely; a town like London should never be without engines, as accidents may happen in the mains at any time.

6504. *Chairman.*] Are you acquainted with the French system in these matters?—Yes.

6505. Is that better than our own?—There are systematic precautions taken, and it is all under one head.

6506. In all the theatres alike?—In all the theatres, as nearly alike as it is possible to make them, without interfering very much with the architecture of the building.

6507. And, consequently, everybody is well acquainted with the system?—Every one connected with the Fire Brigade; it is part of their instruction.

6508. That is not the case here?—That is not the case here; here each theatre manages for itself; each theatre in Paris is under the chief of the *Sapeurs Pompiers.*

6509. In respect to fire?—Yes, and also with regard to his putting a veto on many things done during the performance; he can stop any part of the performance.

6510. As chief of the *Sapeurs Pompiers*, does he correspond to your own position in London?—In some ways he does, but he is a military officer; he is under a general.

6511. I understand that, in France, the head of the Fire Brigade, whoever he may be, is brought into direct relations with the proprietors of the theatres, and that it is part of his business to overlook them?—Yes, they cannot open without his certificate; and he can stop any part of the performance that seems dangerous to him.

6512. Some officer of his has access to the theatres during the performance?—A great number; there is always one officer or sub-officer, and from 10 to 50 men, according to circumstances. On the night when the emperor goes to the opera, I think they have had as many as 200 men in attendance.

6513. Are they sappers and miners, or firemen merely?—They are called *Sapeurs Pompiers*, but they are taken from the general army; they are common soldiers; they obtain a slight advance of pay, and they are liable to be returned to their respective regiments; they are more like a depôt battalion in this country.

6514. Have they got any fire brigade in Paris independent of that?—None whatever; they form a fire brigade; there are 1,300 of them.

Captain *E. M. Shaw.*

28 May 1866.

6515. And a portion of that is settled every night in every theatre?—Yes, in every theatre.

6516. Is any charge levied on the theatre on that account?—Yes, they pay in full for the services of those men; they pay into the treasury of the *Sapeurs Pompiers*; they are obliged to have them in attendance before they can open their doors.

6517. Is that the case only at the theatres, or is it so at other places of public amusement?—I think it is the case everywhere.

6518. Is it so at the dancing rooms?—Yes, there are some of them at every such place in Paris, at least one of them.

6519. It is part of the business of the head of the *Sapeurs Pompiers* to look after that, to see what dancing places are open, and to station men there?—Yes.

6520. There is nothing analogous to that in London, is there?—Nothing whatever; there is no general system in London.

6521. Are there any men belonging to the Fire Brigade attending at any of the theatres?—Not men actually belonging to them, but there are men who have left me and taken service in the theatres.

6522. Who act, as it were, as firemen to overlook things in the interest of the proprietor of the theatre?—Precisely.

6523. But it is not in consequence of any regulations imposed on the theatres; it is optional?—I think it is their plan, when they cannot get themselves insured for the whole amount; they find it desirable to protect themselves to some extent; in fact it is a private arrangement; it is not compulsory on them at all.

6524. Are your functions confined entirely to the extinction of fires, or in the case of any other buildings, are you consulted with regard to the means of taking precautions against fire?—I am very often consulted with regard to the means of taking precautions against fire; but it is not my business to give advice. I am always very happy to do so; but my time does not in all cases allow me to give advice as to altering old buildings.

6525. You are not consulted officially?—No, not at all; my functions are to extinguish fires. It is no part of my business at present to take any precautions against fires.

6526. You are not consulted when the theatres are surveyed?—Not necessarily.

6527. That is considered to be rather the business of the architect?—Yes.

6528. Are you aware whether any precautions are taken in the small theatres at the east end of London, and in the dancing places, and so on?—I think, generally speaking, there are not.

6529. Would it not be difficult to extend such regulations as we have been speaking of to some of those small places?—I think that every place where a large number of persons are congregated should be under some general rule; some of the risks in London are now exceedingly heavy.

6530. Could you give the Committee any idea as to what you would call a large number?—Say 1,000 people, or 500 or 600 people. I think the danger of a panic in many places in London is very great indeed. The result of a panic might be as bad as the result of a fire.

6531. Do you think it would be desirable to fix the limit at, say, upwards of 300 people?—Upwards of 500 people, I should say.

6532. In framing any system of licensing it would be very difficult to impose the same conditions on places that hold 200 people as on the large places, would it not?—Yes, I think 200 is too low a limit, but from 500 upwards; there should be some systematic precautions.

6533. Could you prepare any suggestions on this subject, taking as your groundwork the schedule which the Honourable Member for Southwark showed you?—Yes, perhaps I might, if I were allowed time over it; but my time is exceedingly limited. I am at work every night throughout the year, and my time is short during the day; but I will endeavour to do so, and if it should be necessary I can come and be examined again. I do not know whether it would interest the Committee to be informed that there have been only 50 theatres on fire within the last 33 years in London, and that out of that number only seven were seriously damaged.

6534. Mr. *Powell.*] With regard to the loss of life, what have been the facts?—I think there has been very little loss of life; exceedingly little; at the last two or three fires there has been no loss of life.

6535. *Chairman.*] When was the last fire?—The last fire was at the Surrey Theatre.

6536. There was no loss of life there, was there?—None.

6537. Were the means of exit good?—Yes, the means of exit were very good and very numerous; the whole place was totally destroyed in 10 minutes.

6538. Colonel *Sturt.*] The people had left the theatre before the fire was discovered, had they not?—No, they were in it.

6539. Very few?—No, the whole of them; I believe every one.

6540. Mr. *Locke.*] The means of egress at the Surrey Theatre were all in front, were they not?—I believe so; there was a means of exit from the back, but I do not know whether it was used or not.

6541. *Chairman.*] Which was the fire before that?—Covent Garden.

6542. There was loss of life there, was there not?—I think not; that was before my time; but I think if any people were killed, they must have been those who went to assist.

6543. Mr. *Locke.*] You say that there are 1,300 men belonging to the fire brigade in Paris?—I believe they are not allowed to have 1,300; but they have 1,299.

6544. I see at Question 694 of the Select Committee on Fires in the Metropolis, you were asked if you knew how many men were employed in that brigade in Paris: and your reply was, "I think now 800; but I believe they vary from 700 to 1,200 according to the force on home duty"?—That was correct at that time.

6545. What did you mean by "the force on home duty"?—I meant the army at home; each regiment at home contributes a certain number of men towards the *Sapeurs Pompiers*, chiefly for the purpose of having men when they go abroad who will understand something of that duty.

6546. Do you consider those now taken in Paris from the different regiments haphazard, and who go into the *Sapeurs Pompiers* for the purpose of learning the business, as efficient as your men, who are always engaged in it?—They are decidedly not as competent firemen, but they are under exceedingly good officers, men of intelligence and good education, but their duties are totally different from our duties, and they do their work very well.

6547. Their

Captain *E. M. Shaw.*

28 May 1866.

6547. Their duties in Paris are of a very ordinary description. Paris not being a place of trade they have nothing to contend with like our large warehouses by the water side, full of combustible goods? — Nothing of the kind; the principal risks are in the theatres.

6548. Another reason being, that the houses in Paris are much better built than the houses in London. The party walls are thicker, and they can usually confine a fire to one house?—Yes, a fire can be stopped in one room generally, but they have no possible means of dealing with a large fire in Paris.

6549. Their engines are small?—Exceedingly, and their water supply is nothing; except by the river side there is none.

6550. Suppose there is a fire on the *Boulevards*, where do they get water from?—They get it on the Boulevard, but it is in exceedingly small quantities; it would take 10 of their largest hydrants to supply one of my smallest steam engines.

6551. But still they do manage to put out fires?—Yes, the houses are exceedingly well built; I think they are very successful there, but they would be no use at all in London.

6552. How many firemen have you?—The number is increasing every day; it is at present 170; it used to be only 130.

6553. Do you consider that number sufficient?—No; I expect there will be about 300 or 350 next year.

6554. You think that would be sufficient?—No, I cannot say it would be sufficient, but I think it is as many as we can have for the tax that is about to be raised. Our men never pump the engines, but the men in Paris do; in the theatres they have no high pressure, but they have a fixed engine down below which is pumped by the *Sapeurs Pompiers*.

6555. You have always volunteers to pump the engines, have you not?—We pump now almost entirely by steam.

6556. But before you did so, there were always volunteers?—Yes; not exactly volunteers, but men paid for doing it.

6557. But they were not men attached to the Fire Brigade?—No.

CHARLES KEAN, Esq., called in; and Examined.

C. Kean, Esq.

6558. *Chairman.*] YOU will, doubtless, be able to give the Committee some valuable evidence as actor and manager of theatres with regard to the questions before the Committee; you have just returned from the Colonies and America, have you not?—I came from America last.

6559. You are well acquainted, no doubt, with theatrical arrangements in America?—I cannot say that I am particularly well acquainted with the arrangements in America, because I was so occupied myself, that I had little opportunity of seeing any other theatre than the one I was engaged in, as I acted almost every night in the week. I do not think I ever entered a theatre to see a play while I was in America but three times.

6560. Were you at New York?—In every part of the continent where there are theatres. I arrived in California from Australia.

6561. You have seen a good many of the theatres in America?—Yes.

6562. On the whole, would you say that the drama stands higher in America or not than it does here?—I can hardly answer that question in a direct way, because the habits of the people are so different from our own; they dine early, and living, as many of them do, in large hotels, they have nothing to occupy them in the evening, and they become greater theatre goers than is generally the case in England.

6563. They are greater theatre goers in America than they are here?—Yes, decidedly, for those reasons.

6564. Are there more theatres in America, compared with the population, than there are here?—No, I think not. In New York, including Brooklyn, and the other places in the neighbourhood, there is a population of over 1,000,000. I think they have about eight theatres altogether; but say 10, I think that would be the extent.

6565. There are no restrictions with regard to building theatres in America, I believe?—None that I am aware of; anybody who has got the means of building a theatre, and can purchase the ground, has the right of doing so.

6566. But the result has not been to create more theatres in America than there are here?—No; I believe that we have 23 theatres, or thereabouts, whereas they have not a dozen theatres in New York, that I can remember.

6567. Then it does not seem that being without a licensing system for theatres has created a larger number?—I think that arises very much from the expense of the ground, because all the upper classes in New York have moved to the other end, the new part. They are building a new theatre for French opera. The ground is very dear.

6568. Are the theatres generally very full in New York?—They are so now, but under peculiar circumstances. Since the civil war broke out the theatres have been crammed. Whether it be Shakspeare or Mazeppa, the theatre is equally full.

6569. That is since the civil war?—Yes, since the civil war; that which would prevent the attention of the public here to theatres has the effect of aiding them there, the state of the currency; people spent their greenbacks almost as they might halfpence.

6570. There is scarcely enough accommodation, is there, for theatre goers?—I think that now gold is coming to the proper value, they will return to their former state; that is the general belief; and already, I believe, the audiences are beginning to fall off.

6571. On the whole, are the American audiences more fond, or less fond, of a high style of dramatic performance than audiences here?—I think it is a matter of indifference to them; I think they go much more out of curiosity than out of love for the drama; they have nothing to do in the evenings; one of the great drawbacks to our theatres is the late dinner hour.

6572. Have you heard the managers discuss in America at all what kind of pieces pay the best, and have the longest runs?—I should think from all I have heard, but I have not heard them say much, that their houses were very full; they seemed quite contented.

6573. What class of piece do they perform; is it

C. Kean, Esq.

28 May 1866.

it legitimate drama?—Yes, some of them do; not as a general rule; there are two or three favourite Shakesperian actors, who are very attractive, but as a general rule it is the sensational drama that they play.

6574. Are they as fond of burlesques as the audiences are here?—I cannot answer that question, because I have not seen them; there is only one theatre I believe that is devoted to that class of entertainment; that is Mrs. Wood's theatre; she is an English actress.

6575. So far as you can judge, in the theatres where you have acted, they have not had burlesques to follow?—They never played anything but the one piece; there was neither a farce before nor after; if I acted a Shaksperian play, that was the one thing of the evening; they are fond of getting out early; many live out of town, far from the theatres, and the cars go at certain hours, and do not go after those hours; the people like to get out by 11 o'clock.

6576. With regard to the pieces performed in America, are you able to tell the Committee whether there are many original dramas written in America, or whether they generally perform English pieces?—My impression is, that in America they have very few high class dramas, and very few melodramas or sensational dramas of their own; almost all are from England.

6577. To what do you attribute that; is it the deficiency of dramatic talent, or that it is much cheaper to pirate English pieces?—It is much cheaper to pirate English pieces, the same as it is to pirate English novels.

6578. Do you think that America furnishes us with any evidence with regard to their getting on very well without any censorship of the pieces that are performed?—I cannot say that now, because the war has so completely changed the whole aspect of affairs that it is impossible to give an opinion. When they settle down, and are calm again, that is the time to judge; but now it is all excitement, or it was when I left. I do not think that the theatres will flourish so much when gold comes to its true value.

6579. With regard to the colonies, can you tell the Committee at all what legislation there is in the colonies with regard to the theatres?—I am not aware of any.

6580. It is perfect free trade, is it not?—I think so, but I never asked the question. I never was inside an Australian theatre but when I acted, except on two occasions.

6581. Anyone can build a theatre that likes, can he not?—So far as I know.

6582. Did you hear anything at all about the music halls in the United States?—No; I never heard of such a thing; and I do not believe that there are any.

6583. Colonel *Sturt.*] Not Niblo's Gardens?—That is all over now; there is no garden there; Niblo's is a very handsome theatre.

6584. *Chairman.*] Is smoking allowed in the small theatres in any part of the United States?—No, such a thing is never attempted; and if people were to attempt it they would be immediately stopped or taken out; it is against the rules of the theatre; at least where we were engaged with my little party it was so.

6585. In all places in America?—Yes.

6586. And in the colonies too?—Yes; I had a company of five, including Mrs. Kean and myself.

6587. Do you know the regulations at all with regard to the supply of drink in the American theatres?—No; there was a saloon in every theatre, but the people generally went out, I think, to the adjoining taverns.

6588. Were there bars close by?—Yes.

6589. Is there not a kind of bar in every theatre?—Yes, I believe there is; but as I never was in front of a theatre more than once or twice, I do not know.

6590. Have you noticed in any of the smaller theatres that they supply refreshments in the pits?—They supply none at all; and nobody walks among the audience selling oranges and fruit. They are the quietest audiences in the world, by far the quietest. I never met such quiet audiences.

6591. Colonel *Sturt.*] Do the "gods" behave themselves in the American theatres?—The prices were doubled during our engagements; the consequence was that the usual occupants of the gallery were not there; they were a better class of people; but I believe there are certain towns where the galleries are extremely noisy.

6592. *Chairman.*] Is smoking, eating and drinking excluded by law in the American theatres, or by rules laid down by the managers?—In some of the States it is, I believe, by law; in New England, I think, it is so; but in New York, I believe, there is no prohibition whatever. I was amongst the audience of Niblo's Theatre one night, and although that theatre is called a garden, I saw nothing of the sort.

6593. In the colonies, are there many theatres, and are the theatres well supplied with audiences?—In Melbourne, which is the largest city in Australia, there are three theatres; there are two theatres that may be placed on an equality, the Royal Theatre and the Haymarket Theatre; and there is a small theatre which is usually occupied by Christy Minstrels, and so forth. In Sydney there are two theatres. Melbourne has a population, including the vicinity (for almost everybody lives out of town that can afford it), of 125,000. Sydney has 90,000. They have a very fine theatre at Sydney.

6594. You had your own company with you in the colonies?—No, not my own company entirely; I took one lady and two actors, independently of my wife and myself.

6595. Does the drama flourish pretty well in Australia?—Not as a general rule; it is a great place for anybody with a name to visit for a short time; but the population is too limited for a long success.

6596. Are there music-halls in the colonies?—I never heard of such a thing in the colonies; if there are, it is quite unknown to me.

6597. Can you tell the Committee of any existing regulations, whether by police or law, with regard to theatres in the colonies?—I do not think there is anything of the kind; I never saw a policeman in a theatre there.

6598. But there are police regulations, I suppose; who would look after the question of whether there were any dangers from fire?—I should say nobody. I do not think it was ever inquired into, and I do not think they ever had a fire in a theatre.

6599. But do you know that there are regulations made in the United States for that purpose?—There are none that I know of but such as the managers themselves make, by having watchers in the theatres. Pike's Opera-house in Cincinnati was burnt down before I left; which, they said, was caused by an explosion of gas; I was told that

that there was a million dollars lost, because some of the shops underneath were burnt as well.

6600. Then there are no regulations by the municipal or State authorities?—I never heard of them.

6601. And in the colonies there are none at all?—None; there are so few theatres. There are the Melbourne and Sydney Theatres, which I have already alluded to, and there are a few in the interior, such as Ballarat, Sandhurst, in Bendigo, where the gold mines are; and there is a theatre at Geelong, but that seldom succeeds, and few actors go there.

6602. Therefore the Legislature has not troubled itself with the question, so far as you are aware, in Australia?—Just so.

6603. What is your opinion with regard to the performance of stage plays at music halls?—I am quite against such a thing.

6604. Will you state your reasons for being against it?—I think the drama should not be mixed up with smoking, eating, and drinking; it should be entirely exclusive of any such attractions.

6505. But would you make that compulsory by Act of Parliament. Do you think it is right to nurse the drama in that way if people like the music halls?—I think the drama would sink much lower than it is already. The greatest blow the drama ever received was the doing away with the patent theatres; from this it has never recovered, and never will.

6606. You mean the high character of the drama?—Yes, the character and tone of the drama; what is understood to be the legitimate drama.

6607. But there are more people who go to the theatre every night than there were at the time when there were only two theatres?—Yes, but London has vastly increased. I do not mean to say that the theatres could always have remained on exactly the same footing. The number of patent theatres might have increased with the increase of population, but in consequence of doing away with patent rights, you have no school for acting. In those days, when young actors came up to London, it was a home for life; they became members of a fund, and there was a settlement for old age. They had the example of the old actors before them; but now a young man gets at once raised into a part far beyond his ability, on account of the small number of actors.

6608. Are there not enough actors?—There are not enough good actors. You can get an unlimited number of bad ones.

6609. Do you think that the drama requires special legislation more than any other art?—I do not know anything about special legislation; but it requires cultivation, and actors cannot spring into experience without going through a training. In my boyhood, we never considered that a man had gone through his probation until he had been on the stage for seven years; but now an actor plays the leading parts of Shakspeare before he has been on the stage two years.

6610. That is in consequence of there being more theatres, is it not?—That is in consequence of there being more theatres, and worse actors; you cannot play pieces as you did 35 years ago. I have seen the old comedies played with a completeness that you could not touch now. Take Julius Cæsar: you had Mr. Young, one of the most celebrated of actors, Mr. Macready, and Mr. Charles Kemble, with Mr. Fawcett, in what would be now considered the subordinate part of Casca; or you would, in Othello, have my father as Othello, Mr. Young as Iago, and Mr. Kemble as Cassio. These are impossibilities now, even supposing the talent existed, because each of these artists would be a centre of attraction at a separate theatre.

6611. It would be special legislation if the law said that there was only to be two theatres, surely?—I would not say that, with so large a population as we have now.

6612. But limiting theatres to any number is special legislation?—I think a number of theatres is very detrimental to the interest of the drama, if you mean to have good acting, and good plays, but if you simply look at it as a pecuniary speculation, I believe it has flourished, and will continue to flourish, but not with the same completeness and perfection that existed in former days.

6613. You think that the number of theatres should be limited by law, in order to secure the high character of the drama?—Let them remain as they are; but I would not increase the number by turning drinking shops into theatres.

6614. Would you allow anyone to build a proper theatre if he liked?—You may build theatres without number; but the fact is, that you cannot make actors; there must be an education for them as well as for singers; there is an academy of music for singers, and schools for painting, and for everything but acting. A man wrote to me five or six years ago that he was in great distress, and had failed in everything, and that nothing was open to him but to enlist or become an actor, and he begged my assistance to bring him out.

6615. You think the other arts have already a certain amount of advantage from schools, and that a school would be an advantage to the drama?—Yes, certainly; I think it would be the greatest possible advantage.

6616. But the drama has now no "advantage," except a limitation of the number of theatres?—None. When the patent theatres existed there was then protection to the actor and manager. I do not say that they could now continue in the same way as they did in those days; the increase of London would oblige you to make more patents, but there is a certain limit required if you mean to have good acting.

6617. But you cannot have good acting without limiting the number of theatres, you think?—No, certainly not, because the performers are scattered. Look at the old comedies: I saw the "Poor Gentleman," acted at Drury Lane Theatre in 1827 or 1828, with Dowton, Liston, the elder Mathews, Harley, Cooper, Mrs. Davison, and my wife, then Miss Ellen Tree; you could not see such a cast now.

6618. Those would now be distributed over 10 or 12 theatres?—Yes.

6619. Are there no other causes to which you can attribute the falling off in the number of good actors than to the throwing open of the theatres?—No, that is the bottom of it all; there are so many theatres now. One great point in a theatre is to have a company together for a good many years; they may not be people of very great talent, but they become so accustomed to each other, and get into such training, that they harmonize.

6620. But it is surely natural to think that there being a larger market open, more actors must be called into play?—Bad ones.

C. Kean, Esq.

28 May 1866.

6621. But if the good ones were better paid it would create a demand for good ones, would it not?—No actor with any respect for his profession would ever go into a music hall.

6622. But take the 20 theatres, exclusive of music halls, would not the fact that there are 20 theatres to which a good actor can go, tend to create a larger class of good actors, than if there were only two theatres?—I doubt it very much indeed; there might be four or five, or six theatres; I would not limit it to two.

6623. You do not think that the greater the demand for good actors the greater the supply?—No, there is no education for them.

6624. The demand comes too early?—Yes, the demand comes too early; a man comes on the stage a thorough novice; he acts for two years, and gets a situation when he is not fit for it.

6625. There are not enough seasoned actors you think?—There are not enough seasoned actors, and there cannot be when there are so many theatres.

6626. But may it not be that this is a transition period—the period when the change is taking place?—The change is going on every night; we are going deeper into the mire.

6627. But, taking all those young actors who go on the stage too soon, do they not become good actors when they get older?—I do not know of any. All the good actors of my day have more or less been brought up in a good school.

6628. The fact of throwing open the theatres has created a sudden demand; but, by-and-bye, the supply will adjust itself to the demand; is not that possible?—I do not believe that; I believe that if you go on licensing theatres you will drive the higher class of drama off the stage; the art will vanish.

6629. Then there is no analogy between any other art and the drama?—I go back to the want of training.

6630. In fact, you think actors get paid too soon?—Yes, they do get paid too soon. In every other class of life a man is apprenticed, works for nothing for some years, and learns his trade; but an actor does nothing of the sort now-a-days; he comes on the stage, and demands so many pounds a week for inefficient acting.

6631. But if there was a great rush of young actors to fill the theatres, that would be corrected by-and-bye, because the salaries would go down?—I do not think that the present system can possibly end in an improvement of any kind.

6632. The salaries of good actors are immensely greater than the salaries of indifferent actors, are they not?—Yes, to some extent; but bad actors get more than good actors used to get.

6633. But there is all the greater stimulus now for actors to become good actors, is there not?—Young actors find the profession so much easier, on account of there being so many theatres, that they do not like the trouble of study; they think, like Dogberry, that reading and writing comes by nature.

6634. You attribute the decline of the drama to actors coming too early on to the stage in good parts?—That is one cause; and the other is that they want training. The old patent theatres were the best school that they could possibly have; the French actors have the Théâtre Français as a sort of goal to reach.

6635. Suppose there was any arrangement (which is very unlikely in this country) that there were a theatre, pre-eminent in every respect to which an actor looked forward as a goal that stamped him as an actor, the same as it is at the Théâtre Français, would not that have the same effect, even though they had many other theatres going on side by side with them?—Yes, but it would take some time to do it. You would have to bring up young actors to it. You have 12 leading actors now where you used to have only two; of course people see very second-rate acting in leading characters, which very much vitiates the taste of the public.

6636. With regard to dramatic literature, do you think that the limitation of the number of theatres acts injuriously on the writing of pieces?—No; the reason why we do not get good plays chiefly arises from the fact that there are now so many other channels that are easier for authors to make money by. In writing a play, an author has so many risks to contend with; there was the opinion of the manager, which perhaps did not agree with his, and then the actors might not come up to his standard, and then the public might be capricious and not think as well of his work as he did himself; he gets more money for writing in a magazine than he does for writing a drama.

6637. But still for a good drama an author gets a good price?—I believe that the usual price for a five act tragedy or comedy is 500 *l.*, but sometimes the amount is dependent on its run. I believe that Sir Bulwer Lytton gets, or did get, more than that.

6638. Take Mr. Dion Boucicault; he obtains very large sums for his dramas, does he not?—Yes; I think (but I do not know it personally) that he divides the profits, and therefore it is the success of the piece that gives him the money.

6639. It is not only Mr. Dion Boucicault who makes that arrangement, I suppose?—I do not know; I know that in my own theatre I generally paid a settled sum.

6640. Do you find any difficulty in getting good pieces?—Yes, great difficulty. I was manager for nine years, and I suppose that during that time very nearly 500 pieces were sent in to me. I employed a gentleman in the theatre on a very high salary to do little else but to read them, and when he picked out what he thought was good, it was sent to me, but if it was utter trash he sent it back himself.

6641. I suppose you know that some of the dramatic authors think there is not a sufficient opening for good plays, and that the limitation of the number of theatres and the restriction on music halls prevent them from finding a proper market for their pieces?—I do not think that any good author would write a play for a music-hall; he might write little dramas or scenes, but you could never get them acted properly; no five act or three act drama could be acted at a music-hall.

6642. Is there a prejudice on the part of professional actors generally against acting in music-halls?—I must answer you indirectly, because I have been away for three years. That subject has sprung up since my absence, and I have never entered into any conversation on the subject with anybody. I am only speaking as an old actor of what was the feeling some years ago, but what the feeling may be now I cannot pretend to say.

6643. But were there not saloons before the present

present music-halls sprang up; was not that a very analogous thing?—Those were all drinking and smoking places.

6644. But they acted pieces there, did they not?—Yes, they did, but they were indifferent pieces; it was not a high class drama.

6645. But did actors mind acting at those places, or is there a prejudice in the profession against them?—I think so among the better actors.

6646. But would your objection extend to the performance of light pieces, such as farces at music-halls?—My objection would extend to everything beyond singing and dancing.

6647. Would your objection extend to the ballet?—I should not object to that. If I had the power of directing it one way or the other, I should say let them have a ballet, and anything that is dumb show.

6648. Colonel *Sturt.*] Pantomime?—Yes, pantomime.

6649. *Chairman.*] But not a light operatic piece?—No.

6650. But you do not object to singing?—No; but I should object to it if it was put in the form of a drama.

6651. But your only objection is that it would degrade the drama?—Yes.

6652. But would it not do the reverse if some of the lighter pieces were to go to the music halls, leaving the higher pieces to the theatres?—That would be all very well if you were sure they would be left to the theatres; but perhaps the theatres would not forego the opportunity of making money by light pieces.

6653. Can a theatre make more money by light pieces than by legitimate drama?—It depends on circumstances; I cannot give a positive answer.

6654. But you still think it would be degrading if even the smallest pieces were acted at music halls?—Yes; because it would be a stepping stone to increasing the privilege, until at last they would be acting the regular drama there.

6655. But do you not think that a line could be drawn?—No, they would encroach upon that line.

6656. Now, if small pieces should be acted at music halls, that would create a still greater demand for actors than there is now, would it not?—Yes.

6657. And in that case the salaries of actors would rise, would they not?—I do not know that; they would get so many young actors that they would be very cheap; they would not get old actors to go there at all, unless they were very broken down men.

6658. So far as you are aware there is no desire on the part of actors to have the music halls throw open, in order to have a greater demand for their services?—No, I never heard that.

6659. Mr. *Locke.*] You say that the most you would allow music halls to perform would be a ballet, and not a burletta; that is to say, opera where there was any dialogue. You would have it strictly music and dancing, and the dancers should only be allowed to do ballet?—That is all.

6660. That being so, what restriction would you put on the theatres; if you keep down the music halls by confining them to this very moderate species of performance, how would you, on the other hand, exalt the theatres, remembering the old proverb of "The goose and the gander"?—But this is all new, the music hall is an introduction.

6661. But there is, in the case of the theatres, an introduction too, since the patents were withdrawn, and the legitimate drama, as it is called, is not confined to two theatres. But, besides that, is it not the fact, that at the theatres they have introduced every species of music hall entertainment; do they not, in the holiday burlesques, copy the songs and dances that have been introduced at music halls?—I can give no opinion, because I have never been in a music hall in my life; I never saw the inside of one, I only know about the music-halls by hearsay.

6662. But you know about the theatres; have you ever seen any of those burlesques that they give at the theatres?—Not for years.

6663. You being able to form no opinion with regard to that question, let us go back into antiquity, because both of us can talk about that. You have spoken about the patent theatres, and drawn a most lovely picture of the state in which the patent theatres were in the year 1827; do you recollect Madame Saqui?—Yes; I saw her when I was a child.

6664. Do you recollect her running up a rope from the pit of the patent theatre at Covent Garden to the 1 *s.* gallery?—I do, but that was in the pantomime.

6665. No, I think it was before the pantomime?—No, it was in the Christmas pantomime; and I think Joey Grimaldi, as he was familiarly called, was the clown on that occasion.

6666. But was that legitimate drama?—Yes, if you think that a pantomime is legitimate drama.

6667. In what part of the pantomime did Madame Saqui run up that rope?—It was in the comic business, just as you see a man come in with dogs and monkeys.

6668. We had every species of animal introduced by John Kemble, did we not?—I do not know about every species.

6669. You saw the elephants at the patent theatres, I suppose?—No, I do not remember John Kemble; I never saw him.

6670. What is your first recollection of the stage?—My first recollection of the stage is seeing my father in "Macbeth," when I was quite a child.

6671. In what year was that?—It must have been about the year 1818 or 1817; I was a very little boy.

6672. You do not recollect seeing the elephants on the stage of the patent theatres?—I never did.

6673. Not in the pantomime?—No.

6674. But you recollect Madame Saqui?—Yes, that performance of Madame Saqui made a wonderful impression on my young mind.

6675. It obliterated the impression of the elephants, perhaps?—No, I should have remembered them if I had seen them.

6676. You call that legitimate drama, do you, insomuch as it came in a pantomime?—I do not call that legitimate drama, but it happened as one of those things that were admitted into a legitimate theatre, because in the Christmas pantomime those things were considered allowable.

6677. They likewise introduced melodramas at those theatres, did they not?—Yes.

6678. In fact, they introduced every species of performance of the stage?—Yes.

C. Kean, Esq.
28 May 1866.

6679. They prevented anybody else from acting the legitimate drama, but they played exactly what they pleased themselves?—I should not have kept them on the same footing as they were in those days; times are changed, and the arrangement of theatres is quite different, but melodramas were certainly done and looked upon in those days as part of the business of the theatre.

6680. There was "Obi, or Three-fingered Jack," performed, was there not?—Yes, that was at the Lyceum Theatre, I think, not Covent Garden.

6681. "The Forty Thieves" was at Covent Garden, was it not?—Yes, and "Blue Beard;" and "The Castle Spectre" was at Drury Lane.

6682. And they played opera there?—Yes, they had an opera company.

6683. In fact, they played everything that suited them?—Yes.

6684. But their object was not to let anybody else do what suited them, was it not?—I do not know about that.

6685. That broke down, and the result was, first, the Committee which sat in 1832, of which I think Sir Bulwer Lytton was chairman; and then the passing of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 72, in 1845, which established the *liberté des théâtres*?—What I meant to convey with regard to the patent theatres was that it made a school of acting, and that the young actors improved there in a manner in which they do not improve now.

6686. Can you mention any illustrious actor, man or woman, who succeeded, and became a favourite with the public, and established a reputation, that ever commenced a career at either of those patent theatres?—I commenced my career there.

6687. At which theatre?—Drury Lane.

6688. Can you mention anyone else?—I cannot at this moment; I have not thought it over.

6689. You would hardly give yourself as an instance, because your father was one of the greatest actors that ever appeared in this country, and you had his name, and, of course, his reputation, even before you put your foot on the stage; but take any ordinary person who had to make his way in an ordinary manner, and about whose name there would be no prestige, can you quote any person of that kind who commenced his career at those patent theatres; was it not the fact, that such persons invariably came from the country?—They looked to the country for their recruits in those days; an actor in Bath or Liverpool knew very well that when a certain person had passed away, either through death or retirement, he would be brought up to take his place, and they came up from the country towns with a full knowledge that they would be brought out.

6690. Has not the patronage of the theatre very much diminished in the country towns?—Yes, greatly; so far as the dress-boxes are concerned, it has diminished in an extraordinary manner, because in former days the dress-boxes were as full as the pit and gallery; but that is probably due to the railways; people can now come up to town, and they reserve themselves for the London theatres.

6691. There is not, however, that country school of acting now?—No.

6692. Supposing there was a patent theatre, they could not now find any one in the country schools to engage, perhaps?—Certainly not, except here and there; of course they bring them up now the moment a man shows the slightest talent. The country managers can hardly keep anyone in their theatres who has any special talent.

6693. Then, in fact, if the country did produce the article, it would be taken up to London, just as it used to be?—Yes; but they are brought up prematurely now.

6694. But that arises from want of patronage for the drama in the country, does it not?—It arises from many causes.

6695. But people in the provinces have become very serious of late years, and some people would not put their feet in a theatre now (though they would go to concerts); there is more of that kind of feeling in the country of late years, is there not?—Yes, a great deal more.

6696. More people like what we saw in that piece called "The Serious Family"?—Yes; that arises in a great measure from the acting not being so good as it was, and from other causes.

6697. Probably you have only been in theatres in very large towns?—I have been in all the towns in England, Scotland, and Ireland where there is a theatre.

6698. In many of the small town, in England the theatres have been entirely shut up, have they not?—Yes, many have been.

6699. Then there can be no school for acting where there is no theatre?—There are very few large towns where there is no theatre, but the small ones are absorbed in the large ones.

6700. Take the Guildford Theatre?—That theatre was never well attended.

6701. During the assizes it was open (once in two years), and that was better than nothing?—Yes; there were circuits in my youth where there was a very good stock company, and very respectable managers, but these circuits are all gone now.

6702. You remember Mr. Barnett?—Yes.

6703. He had that circuit, Exeter, Guildford, and so on; but the places are all shut up and turned into shops or meeting-houses?—Yes, the Boston and Lincoln circuits also are broken up now; the Lincoln Theatre is only taken as a job; the Boston Theatre is pulled down altogether.

6704. Colonel *Sturt.*] The Doncaster Theatre is only open during the race week, is it?—I believe so.

6705. Mr. *Locke.*] That being so, does not the result do away almost with any school of actors; is not it precisely the same thing as if you were to do away with Eton and Harrow, and the large schools, and only leave the two Universities?—I do not think that those theatres are good training schools; there are many reasons why they should not be. There is one system in the theatrical world which has done great harm, and that is the loss of efficient stage managers; formerly, every theatre had a respectable stage manager, who knew everything connected with the profession, and who had seen all the old actors before him, and that gentleman directed the minds of the younger actors, and he had an authority which none of the stage managers of the present day seem to possess. For economy's sake, when the patent theatres were done away with, managers dispensed with them, and combined the duties with those of the prompter.

6706. Sometimes the stage managers used to perform as well, did they not?—Sometimes, and sometimes not; a brother of Mr. Farren was stage manager at the Haymarket when I was a young

young man; he did not act, but he had been an actor. Mr. James Wallack was the stage manager at Drury-lane when I came out, and he was a very good actor.

6707. Have the theatres no stage managers now?—They have prompters, promoted to that rank; but they can hardly be called stage managers, they have not the same authority.

6708. How was a stage manager educated?—From long use and practice with previous actors. Mr. Wallack knew all the business of the old comedies, and what was done by Mr. Kemble or Mr. George Frederick Cooke, and he could direct any rehearsal in consequence of that knowledge and his own natural ability.

6709. But with regard to the country it would be difficult to have stage managers when there are no stages, would it not?—But all the theatres are not closed; Liverpool has four theatres and another one building.

6710. They have a stage manager there, I suppose?—No, not a regular stage manager; there is one actor appointed to look after the stage business, perhaps.

6711. How do you account for that?—It is economy; throwing the theatres open forced managers to draw in their expenses, and the stage manager was an expensive gentleman.

6712. Take Liverpool before the theatres were thrown open, how was it then?—There was only one theatre; afterwards there was another one built, but it was a very minor theatre, and first class people never went into it.

6713. But they might have had more theatres, might they not?—I am speaking of long before the patents were done away with.

6714. But was there a patent theatre at Liverpool?—I think not; the only patent theatre that I knew of was Dublin, which is still a patent theatre.

6715. But Liverpool would be under the ordinary law at that time?—Yes.

6716. Therefore if they had thought a theatre would answer they might have had a second theatre, might they not?—I do not know. I have heard that the other one was partly built by the proprietors of the Theatre Royal, who subscribed to the new theatre against their own interests.

6717. Now, with regard to theatres and music halls, and other places of entertainment, do you not think that if there is a performance that amuses people they go to it, whatever it is?—No doubt; I do not know what they require the drama for, for I understand that they are full every night.

6718. What many of them require is what you kindly say you would concede, namely, ballet; and the question is whether a ballet is not a performance of the stage, which makes them liable to a very large penalty; are you aware what the restrictions are according to section 68 of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 23?—Yes.

CHARLES READE, Esq., called in, and Examined.

6719. You are a Dramatist and Novelist, are you not?—I am.

6720. Did you begin your literary life by writing plays, or by writing novels?—By writing plays.

6721. May I ask at what time that was?—About the year 1850 or 1849, I think. I gave great study to dramatic writing for some time; and I produced some few pieces alone and in conjunction with my friend Mr. Tom Taylor.

6722. You write still for the stage occasionally; a piece of yours was produced very lately?—That was an old piece written seven years before.

6723. You have not written any pieces lately, then?—No.

6724. Were you discouraged at all in your literary labours for the stage by the existing regulations?—Yes, I may say that I was driven off the stage against my will, and compelled to go into a sister art, for which I think I have not the same ability.

6725. Now, will you inform the Committee how it was that you were driven away from those labours for the stage?—It was in consequence of the extreme narrowness of the market, and above all, the competition in those days of the stolen goods from the French, under circumstances particularly unfavourable to dramatic inventors.

6726. To which of those two circumstances do you attribute the greatest weight; do you think that you suffered more under the restrictive legislation, or under the competition of the stolen goods from the French?—I do not know which I suffered most from, but I think I suffered rather the most from the competition of stolen pieces. The case was this: the play-wrights, who steal pieces from the French, are journalists, most of them (at least at that time they were so), and that gave them the power to shut the manager's doors to the inventor; it operated like this: the inventor asked the manager to read a piece, and at the same time a man who had taken a French piece without paying for it, and could get it praised in the newspapers by his colleagues, brought those two temptations to the manager, and he could undersell me, because you cannot invent a piece as cheaply as you can steal one.

6727. Now, first with regard to the limitation in the number of the theatres, do you think that the present law restricting the number of theatres and the performance of stage plays, acts injuriously on dramatic authors?—I think this, that there are somewhat fewer theatres than there would have been if that power of withholding the license at the last moment had not been in existence. I have observed that *bonâ fide* capital is very timid.

6728. You think that there would be room for more theatres than there are?—Plenty of room; that is a historical fact, as you may see by comparing Paris with London.

6729. But it is not necessary that you want the same number of theatres in France and in England; that would depend on the taste of the playgoer?—Yes, certainly.

6730. Do you think that, practically, there is not room enough in the London theatres for the audiences that would be ready to attend?—I think that more theatres would be filled if we had them.

6731. Would you, as a dramatic author, say that there is not a sufficient market for the pieces that might be written?—I think there is not a sufficient market.

6732. But still successful pieces are paid for as highly

C. Reade, Esq.

28 May 1866.

highly now as at any previous time, I suppose?—Very recently there has been a return in some cases to the old system of payment by shares in the profits; of course the person who produces an unsuccessful piece under that system would get nothing, and a person who produced a successful piece draws a large sum of money; but that system is not universal.

6733. But would a successful dramatic author get less money for his piece than at any previous time in the history of the stage?—No, I could not say that; successful pieces have been sold within my recollection for 4 *l.* or 5 *l.* out and out, which never did happen 50 years ago, when the author was paid by the overplus of three nights; but many piratical pieces are sold for 2 *l.* or 3 *l.* now.

6734. £.400 or 500 *l.* is now given for a good play, is it not?—I do not think it is ever given by a managerial speculator; I never heard of it; if the author is a man of substance and will take his share of the risk, and agree to share after a certain sum, on the piece being found profitable, he may draw a large sum; but I do not hear of managers paying *down* those large prices for a play which are paid for a novel.

6735. It is more remunerative to write a novel than a play, of course?—Yes, I should say so.

6736. Have actors ever paid for plays that have been written for them?—I think they do; I think I have heard of that.

6737. Could you cite any instance of that kind?—I am afraid not; but I am quite sure that actors have bought pieces, stars I mean.

6738. Are you of opinion that the legislation with regard to restricting the performance of plays at music halls, has kept such men as yourself, and Mr. Charles Dickens, and Mr. Wilkie Collins from writing plays?—No; the matter lies deeper than that, as far as we are concerned.

6739. Then where does it lie?—In piracy, in underselling the inventor by stolen goods.

6740. The grievance lies rather against the piracy than against the legislation, with regard to the licensing of the theatres?—I think it does, rather of the two.

6741. What would be your view with regard to the system of licensing the theatres; would you have it perfectly free, and would you allow every one to build a theatre who liked?—Yes, certainly; anyone who built a theatre ought to be positively secure that he can have a license to play plays; that point is not, in my opinion, even debateable.

6742. With regard to the licensing of plays, what do you say to that; would you allow every play to be performed without passing under the censorship?—No. I cannot agree with those gentlemen who put a play on the very same footing as a book.

6743. Will you state the reason why you differ from them?—I draw two main distinctions: a play reproduces a story in flesh and blood; it realises the thing in a different way to a book entirely. I do not find it very easy to make that clear; but things might be described in a book which could not be presented in a play, and which could not be even indicated without doing perhaps very considerable harm. Then another thing is, that a play does not creep gradually before the public as a book does. The theatre is thrown open to 2,000 people at once, and it is a pity that 20,000 or 30,000 people, who might happen to see the play, should hear or see the piece before we began to do anything to stop what was seditious or wrong. But I would not give the licenser too large a law; I would not have him arbitrary; I would have his function confined to what is seditious or against good morals; and there should be an appeal against his decision.

6744. Have you, as a dramatic author, ever come into collision with the Lord Chamberlain in pieces that you have written?—No; I am bound to say that he never did more than make a slight excision; and if I had paid him 10 *l.* for making it, it is no more than he deserved, because, if he strikes out anything that is questionable, he is a benefactor to the author.

6745. Practically, you think that the Lord Chamberlain's supervision has not acted injuriously?—Practically, I do not fear the present licenser; but I know, in fact, that it has been abused, and therefore it may be again. I should be sorry to fix my mind on a particular licenser, and to suppose that we shall have him to all eternity; I would not give his successor the chance of going very far wrong.

6746. Mr. *Locke*.] From what period do you date this licensing of plays?—I have not made any research into the matter, but there is a book in everybody's hands, the "Prolegomena to Malone's Shakespeare," in which are collected some very curious facts; in the third volume there are some instances proving that the Master of the Revels had very great power.

6747. You do not agree with those who view it as an office created by Sir Robert Walpole?—It was virtually a revival.

6748. But previously to the passing of the 10th Geo. 2, the pieces that were put on the stage contained political allusions; and, in point of fact, they represented political men on the stage?—Yes, no doubt.

6749. Sir Robert Walpole was represented in the "Beggar's Opera"?—Yes; it was thought to have been carried to excess.

6750. Foote introduced the identical character of Sir Robert Walpole as Sir Robert Walpole, or was about to do so, but that was stopped before the 10th Geo. 2 was passed?—Yes.

6751. The 10th Geo. 2 established, by a direct enactment, the licensing of plays?—Yes.

6752. And put it into the hands of the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

6753. But previously to that, whatever authority had been exercised by the Master of the Revels, that authority had never been defined by Act of Parliament?—Just so.

6754. That was an authority exercised by virtue of his office, the duties of which were not defined by any law?—That is my opinion.

6755. But at all events his interference had become very scanty; he could not interfere to any great extent, and it was not until this Act of 10th Geo. 2 was passed, that a direct interference took place between the Lord Chamberlain, as the licenser of plays, and the authors, and then it became a matter of course that every piece was submitted to him before it was put on the stage?—That is rather more than I am prepared to say, because I see that in 1641 the manager of a theatre was thrown into prison on the Lord Chamberlain's warrant for playing a play without his license.

6756. That was a Master of the Revels?—Yes.

6757. Was that for playing a play without a license, or for playing a play which the Lord Chamberlain

Chamberlain disapproved of, he having given notice that he disapproved of it?—The words are, "without his license, I believe;" but if you attach importance to that, I will insert the exact words afterwards.

6758. Who was Master of the Revels on the 4th May 1641?—Herbert, I think.

6759. He threw the manager of a theatre into the Marshalsea for playing a play without a license?—Yes.

6760. With regard to the licensing of the building, do you think that that question should be thrown open, and that a person should be allowed to perform what he pleased, and to act plays (for money) in any place which was a proper building for that purpose?—I am sorry to say that that is to me a very difficult point on which I am hardly able to make up my mind. I wish to hear what the provincial managers say on that matter. So far as the London managers are concerned, I think it might be done, but I have some misgivings with regard to the provincial theatres. However, I go to a certain length quite clearly. I think that where a law creates litigation on phrases and terms in the law itself, and not on mere disputed facts, the statute should be altered.

6761. In what way would you have it altered; you now speak of 6 & 7 Vict. I suppose?—Yes.

6762. The "Dramatic Licensing Act"?—Yes; "The Dramatic Licensing Act." It is sufficient for me to see that it creates constant litigation.

6763. Do you not find in the 23d section of that Act a definition of a stage play?—Yes, and I feel sure that it is too severe.

6764. It includes everything, does it not?—Yes.

6765. No person who has not a license from the Lord Chamberlain in particular districts, and the magistrates in other districts, can, where money is taken, give any performance whatever of the stage without being liable to penalties under that Act; what is your opinion on that subject; you say that you do not approve of it; how would you have it altered?—I am clear that the music halls in London might be allowed to play *ballets d'action* or short dramas by way of experiment, but with regard to going further and throwing it open, I have a misgiving with regard to the provincial theatres.

6766. Colonel *Sturt.*] Of course you would include pantomime?—Certainly.

6767. Mr. *Locke.*] What is it that you have misgivings about?—I have misgivings with regard to the interests of provincial managers. Many of them have a hard fight to live, and it would be harder if the music halls gave all that they can give; long plays, with an interest of a higher order.

6768. But do you think that the music halls would give long plays of such interest?—I think that in matters of legislation you must conclude that everybody will do whatever he can do; that is the only safe line to take.

6769. When you assume that everybody will do whatever he can do, the next question is, why should he not do so, provided that he does not do anything that is morally wrong?—There is a great deal to be said for that view of the subject.

6770. If people like to go to those places, and the performance is agreeable to them, why should they not go; why should the law interfere and say, "No, you shall only go to a particular place which does not amuse you at all, and if you do not go there you shall not go anywhere"; do you think that that is proper legislation?—My opinion is not sufficiently decided to argue the matter.

6771. You only look at it with regard to the interests of provincial managers?—That is the only misgiving which I have.

6772. Colonel *Sturt.*] That is a matter of feeling, is it not?—No, indeed, it is not a matter of feeling at all; it is looking to the interests of hard-working men, and of the drama as well.

6773. Mr. *Locke.*] But, with regard to the music halls in London, they might be allowed to do as they please; do you think that there are enough people in the metropolis to fill all those places?—Yes; I do not anticipate any evil from that; in speaking of provincial managers I am looking at it on the ground of expediency; but, if you come to the right of the thing, I can give no reason why anybody should not play a play that liked.

6774. You would not object to the music halls giving burlettas and small operas?—Certainly not, and I wish to state that my misgiving (which goes no further) is partly because I have not heard what the provincial managers have to say on the subject.

6775. You wish to give your opinion on the question whether or not the first stone is to be laid of a great national drama; will you be kind enough to explain in what way you would lay that first stone?—I premise that it is only by the courtesy of the Committee that I am allowed to enter into that question.

6776. We should be very much obliged to you if you would explain your views on that subject?—The author, or true dramatic inventor, as distinguished from the person who takes another man's invention, is of use in making actors and improving actors, as well as in his own direct business. A play rehearsed by an author who has really invented the play is a mighty different thing from a play rehearsed by a man who has stolen French ideas and who very often does not understand them.

6777. And very often alters them?—Yes, and seldom improves them. I know, by history, that England is the most dramatic nation under the sun. I know that she had a sacred drama 200 years before France; that she had a great profane drama 50 years before France, and I have satisfied myself that it is in the power of legislation cultivating so rich a soil to produce a greater drama than the French possess at present.

6778. But the French drama is very much depreciated, is it not?—There are fluctuations, but I think that it is still vigorous; a national product representing French manners and French truths, which become English lies by adaptation. I see, by positive evidence, that the pirate and the inventor cannot flourish in any nation or in any subject matter together.

6779. But now, was not Sheridan both a pirate and an inventor?—Yes, Sheridan took Pizarro, and so was Shakespere both a pirate and an inventor, but that does not touch the case.

6780. Fielding was both, was he not?—No, Fielding had no dramatic genius whatever; he only succeeded when he stole French pieces, and he spoiled and defiled them as he went.

6781. You think that he was no better than people at the present moment?—Not a bit.

6782. Do you think that he was any more a dramatic author than Colley Cibber?—I think Colley Cibber was a dramatic author.

C. Reade, Esq.

28 May 1866.

6783. Sheridan did not think so, did he?—Sheridan was comparing him with Sheridan.

6784. He produced Shakespere's plays as his own or something very like it?—Yes.

6785. And Garrick altered some of Shakespere's plays; there have always been pirates in all ages, but still the stage was in a much higher condition formerly with the pirates of the former days than it is with the pirates of the present day?—In Queen Elizabeth's time there was very little piracy and much more invention; what I mean to say is, and I could prove it at length if you chose, that the pirate and the inventor cannot co-exist in any matter. I will take the United States under two different systems; the United States grant the mechanical inventor a patent; they do not steal mechanical inventions, they buy them; but they refuse the literary inventor copyright, and the result is before you; America is at the head of mechanical invention and at the bottom of literary invention. If I invent a new printing press (which is not very likely) I can patent it in America, but if I write a drama I cannot sell my rights there, and if I write a novel I cannot sell my rights there.

6786. That international copyright we have been all struggling for, but they will not agree to that?—But what I want is an international stage-right between this country and France.

6787. You mean that you would have some international law between this country and France, and you would not allow anybody to pirate French plays in this country?—Yes, I would give the French dramatist as full protection as the English, and *vice versâ*. But you are aware that an unfortunate clause was inserted in the Copyright Act, which has entirely robbed us of that advantage. The Act has previously fully protected the French novelist, we will say, and the English novelist, and then it goes on to say, "the stipulations of the preceding article shall also be applicable to the representation of dramatic works and to the performance of musical compositions, in so far as each of the laws of the two countries are, or shall be, applicable in those respects to dramatic and musical works;" that was in order to entitle the author to a little protection with regard to the translation of dramatic works; such translation must appear within three months after the original publication. That is an extremely hard clause. Then we come to the fatal clause: "It is understood that the protection stipulated by the present article is not intended to prohibit fair imitation or adaptations of dramatic works to the stage in England or France respectively, but is merely meant to prevent piratical translations." That clause rendered the statute null and void entirely, because "fair adaptation" is colourable piracy.

6788. But would it not be very difficult to define exactly how far a man is to go; how would you alter it?—I would alter it by simply drawing the pen through it, and the law would then stand that the French dramatist for a term of years is put upon the same footing as his English brother, and France would open her arms to perform the same act of justice.

6789. You would have to try that as you do a patent case, would you not?—The Act of King William is very stringent, and very few cases are tried under it, and under that efficient protection the French dramatist would come.

6790. You mean that questions about books very seldom arise?—There is no obscure or equivocating clause with regard to books.

6791. Therefore the Act is efficient?—The Act is efficient.

6792. But that proviso in the International Act opens the door so wide as to make it impossible to come to a decision, as to whether or not a person is within it?—Quite impossible.

6793. Your proposal is, that that proviso should be struck out of the Act?—Clean.

6794. You think that it would then work well?—Yes.

6795. Is that the stepping stone which you spoke of?—I could give you evidence to prove that the Act is worth nothing; but that is not necessary, perhaps.

6796. Will you kindly mention one or two cases?—Here is a drama that I did under the treaty, in hopes that there might be something in the treaty.

6797. "Poverty and Pride; a drama in five acts by Charles Reade; being the authorised English version of 'Les Pauvres de Paris,' drama by Messrs. Edouard Brisebarre and Eugene Nus"?—I complied with the provisions of the statute, which cost me 10*l.*

6798. Was any objection taken to this?—It was instantly pirated in my teeth, and I was defied.

6799. Did you translate this from the original drama?—Yes, by a treaty with the authors under the statute. I went to the expense of printing it, which cost a good deal of money, and having done that, the piece was instantly pirated by a Mr. Payne, of the Strand, who defied me; he called his piece "The Pride of Poverty, or the Poor of London." I will mention another fact, which is very curious: he not only pirated me, but when I put out a mild advertisement that other managers must not imitate him, he and his adapters sued me.

6800. For what?—They disinterred a form of action, which very few lawyers have seen an issue tried under, called "Libel of the Title," and under that recondite form the two thieves sued the honest merchant; it cost me 250*l.*

6801. Where was this case tried?—It was brought before the Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

6802. It is reported in some law book, I suppose?—It was not reported, because it came very quickly to an end; the judge nonsuited the plaintiffs; it is known as Barnett and another *versus* Reade.

6803. He nonsuited the plaintiffs?—Yes.

6804. Colonel *Sturt.*] You had not to pay his costs then?—No; but "sue a beggar, catch a flea," and if you are sued by a beggar it is the same thing. I had to pay my own costs.

6805. Mr. *Locke.*] Then I do not see how that bore upon the law in question?—In the course of those proceedings I had the advice of Mr. Lush and other great counsel, and they said that the statute was a rush and a straw, and I could not proceed under it.

6806. But their bringing that action does not prove anything with regard to that Act, because the plaintiff was nonsuited?—That was on a point of law quite distinct.

6807. No decision was ever given?—No decision was given.

6808. Has there been a decision of a court of law with regard to this particular question, namely, the right of a French author (because after all it comes to that) to his property in a piece

piece in this country, or of an English author to his right in France?—The thing was stopped before a judicial decision was given. There has been no judicial decision with regard to whether it gives the French author any protection or not.

6809. Does any Englishman who chooses take hold of any French pieces brought out at the theatres in France and translate them?—He either translates or adapts them, or does what he likes with them; in fact, I give you my honour, that the Act is not worth a straw with regard to French authors.

6810. In fact, you say that there is no protection either for Frenchmen or Englishmen with regard to the pieces which they produce in either country; they may be translated, adapted, and brought out in the other country at pleasure?—Not an atom of protection.

6811. Which arises, you think, from that proviso, and if that were repealed all would be well?—Yes, I happen to know that that proviso does not represent the mind of either House of Parliament; it was inserted by the influence of a playwright in order to cheat the French authors.

6812. You think it would be better if the law were altered, and the English writers were thrown on their own resources?—If you strike out that clause, I pledge you my honour as a gentleman, that you will see a great drama arise in England.

6813. Is there anything that you wish to add upon that head. Have you something to say about Belgium, as an example of a nation that steals from foreign inventors never becoming a dramatic nation?—Yes, she is weak in mechanical invention, and she has extinguished her literature by stealing from the French.

6814. But does not anybody in Belgium ever try to write any piece?—Sometimes they write, and they are seeking to hold their own in matters of intellect. The late King of the Belgiums gave prizes for dramas, but you cannot create inventors by prizes. That has been tried all through America, and has failed; it is only by the steady operation of a law that you can cultivate invention.

6815. You attribute that to the fact that they can get cheaper articles elsewhere; it is cheaper to translate a piece and produce it, than it would be to find out an author who would write an original play which would be as good or better?—Yes; invention is the highest and hardest form of mental labour.

6816. But how is it that we are not the people to write the pieces, and the French the people to translate them from us; is not that the same thing as the difference between champagne and gooseberry wine?—That is not entirely due to Legislation. We had a greater drama than the French, and we were quite independent of them. At the beginning of the 17th century, the Puritans, after Charles the First, came and knocked our theatres down and entirely extinguished the drama to an extent which has never been appreciated; not one actor who played before the civil war ever played afterwards. Then the nation was reduced to a state of barbarism. France was going on in the mean time, while we had relapsed into childhood, and upon that began the system of plagiarism from the French. I could hand in a list of plagiarisms from the French, running over 200 years, and when the communication became easier, the plagiarisims became greater. Then again, 10 Englishmen know French for one Frenchman who knows English (but that is an accident distinct from Legislation).

6817. What did you mean by the Puritans?—I meant the Roundheads.

6818. The theatres were all stopped in the time of Cromwell; and of course everything else that was amusing was stopped?—Yes, for 14 years.

6819. But Charles II. was fond of theatres, and we then had Otway, and so on?—Yes, but you cannot stir up again from the dead the people whom you have lost; there was not one actor left; not one who played before the civil war and after it.

6820. Do you mean that there were no actors in the time of Charles II.?—They were all men who began their trade in his reign.

6821. Is it not the fact that there was an immense number of playwrights in Charles II.'s time, and most admirable ones, to say nothing of the time of Queen Anne?—Only enough to show the natural fertility of the English mind.

6822. Surely it also shows that kings had resumed their ordinary position and course?—Yes, more quickly than they would have done in a less dramatic nation.

6823. Then how is it that we, coming after, cannot keep on in the same way, and produce the same pieces as the dramatists produced them, after the Puritans were thrown out of power?—We are really not in that desperate condition that some of the witnesses would lead you to suppose. I do not agree with those gentlemen who think that the drama has so desperately declined; all I say is, that it does not advance in proportion with other things; we are greater in other branches of art than in the drama, which is our natural genius. The nation that produced the greatest dramatist in the world must, by a principle of statistics, have the greatest natural fertility; he is only the natural product of the nation, under the circumstances the most favourable for raising that product.

6824. Colonel *Sturt.*] We have heard very contradictory evidence as to the way in which your play of "Never too Late to Mend" was received by the audience the first night, and we have been told that, owing to the remonstrances of the audience, certain portions of the representation were omitted; will you inform the Committee how the facts stood?—People seem to me to confound the views of a clique with the views of the public; the public had seen those prison scenes, and approved them, in other hands, long before they came out at the Princess's; certainly, on the first night, there were some members of the press who raised an outcry, and who, as I happen to have evidence, went into the theatre with that intention; but they were called to order by the public. Some allowance should be made for the crudeness of a first performance, but the next night we had nobody present but the public, and the scenes were very much approved of.

6825. Is it true that, owing to the remonstrances of the public, certain portions of the play were omitted afterwards?—Certainly not.

6826. We were told that the crank was taken out after three nights, and the scene taken out after 20 or 30 nights, and that was quoted to prove that the taste of the public would check anything objectionable on the stage?—The thing occurs to my mind in quite a different way. The good taste of the public put down a clique pre-

C. Reade, Esq.

28 May 1866.

sent who endeavoured to interfere with the scene, and the scene was kept on.

6827. The scene was not altered?—Not in the least; on the 78th night there was a strike of the carpenters, and the treadmill business (you cannot call it a scene) which was all mere dumb play, was then omitted because there were no hands to play it, and it was not replaced afterwards; it cost 5 *l.* a night to work it, and I suppose the manager gave it up.

6828. The more theatres were opened the more competition there would be for actors, I suppose?—No doubt.

6829. Then if the music halls were thrown open professional people would get higher salaries, would they not?—I have heard of actors being out of employment, and I should think it would give them a chance of finding something to do.

6830. Have you been to any of the music halls in London?—I was at the Alhambra the other night.

6831. Do you think the performance there a respectable one?—There was some very nice singing.

6832. I suppose you saw nothing that anybody could object to?—I witnessed nothing but a quartette, sung very well.

6833. The conduct of the people was orderly, I suppose?—Yes, and there were a good many policemen about.

6834. I suppose dramatic authors would be benefited by the competition of the music halls if they were thrown open, would they not?—I do not know that they would; it would do no harm, at all events, I think.

6835. There would be a much greater demand for pieces, would there not?—I think that the demand would be for very small pieces.

6836. In your opinion, has acting deteriorated in England since the suppression of the patent theatres?—No, I do not think there is the least reason to suppose that. In comparing one period with another you must not pick out a few grains of the mass; it is a balance of comparisons; the old actors were, I believe, what we call teapot actors, and, as a rule, they were worse than modern actors; they were not so intelligent, I think; the style is easier now than it was then, on the whole; the best thing is to get hold of an old actor, who has seen both; the late Mr. John Harley certainly gave me a very different impression from that conveyed by some of the witnesses here; he said that very silly things had been done on the stage in old days, posture-making, and things of that kind; I have brought a book with me which will show the Committee some pictures of actors drawn with their own approbation (*producing a portfolio*); you will, I think, see in all those figures certain ways which we now ridicule in our burlesque, a tendency to posture-making.

6837. You think that the style of acting has improved?—On the whole, I think it has. Mr. Harley told me that in old times, when a servant on the stage brought in a message, instead of walking in naturally, and delivering his message in a natural manner, he came down to the footlights, turned his back to the person who was supposed to receive the message, delivered it like a thunderclap, and then turned off like a fine gentleman to make his exit. That was only a specimen of many things of the kind that were current on the stage in those days.

6838. Then do you think that the patent theatres were of service in training actors?—That is a little more like the truth. I have seen the "School for Scandal" played at the patent theatre as I cannot expect to see it again; but you must strike a balance, and take one thing with another.

6839. You do not think that the effect of those patent theatres was to raise the style of acting, on the whole, in London?—I am not sure that they did not do some good to actors in their day, but they did not do so much good as is done by playing a great number of fresh pieces; the monopoly, and the strong companies enabled them to force those old things on the public, and they produced scarcely any new pieces.

6840. But do you think that the style of acting has not grown worse; it cannot be laid at the doors of the music halls that they have done any injury to the stage?—No, I am not aware that they have.

6841. They have not lowered the style of acting?—No; I do not think that, at present, the music halls have affected it in any way.

6842. Do you not think, if the music halls were thrown open, they would be very good nurseries for actors?—I think that good acting requires great attention in the audience.

6843. But would not they be good practice for actors?—My fear is that the actor would not be listened to, and that he would then bawl; but we do not know; it is all conjecture.

6844. You think that the audience would not be orderly enough?—Not quite; nor attentive enough.

6845. They were very quiet and orderly at the Alhambra the other night, were they not?—They were all in a state of motion; all walking about.

6846. You were only there for a short time?—For a short time only.

6847. Mr. *Clay.*] You say that if that proviso was struck out of the International Dramatic Authors Act, all the evil of which you complain would be cured?—Gradually that would begin the cure.

6848. The Act would then stand that a translation from the French would be the property of the French author, and would be protected by the law?—Yes.

6849. Does not it appear to you still that cases of great difficulty would arise as to what could be fairly called a translation or adaptation, and what could not?—Certainly; but my proposal is to strike out the word "adaptation," which is another word for colorable piracy; it is merely an ingenious phrase inserted by this ingenious little playwright.

6850. If you struck out the word "adaptation," do you think the Act would entirely protect the French author?—Yes; I think if that was simply erased, the French author would then come under our Act of William the Third, which is a very stringent Act; dramatic piracy being rather more subtle than other piracy, it was found necessary to be very stringent.

6851. Would not that state of the law give occasion to exactly the same kind of lawsuits that we have had for years past about patents. There are some piracies which the law and common sense would instantly seize on; if I take the play of "Box and Cox," and call it "Cox and Box" instead, or make some similar very slight alteration, it is a piracy of which the law can take instant cognizance; but if I take the general bearing, and some of the main incidents of a piece of yours,

yours, if I alter the dialogue, and so far change the characters, that perhaps a character which you have made a man, I make a woman, I am still just as much a pirate, but would the law, as you propose it, take hold of that?—Experience proves that it would; my proposal is merely to bring those cases under the statute of William the Third, and experience proves that the statute of William the Third has been very efficacious to the protection of English authors against that very class of piracy; in fact, so much so, that there are almost no cases tried on the merits.

6852. You would be contented with the protection of the statute of William the Third?—Yes; the statute of William the Third was the best statute ever passed on these matters in England; and Frenchmen being brought under it, would have neither more nor less protection than Englishmen, and that would be sufficient.

6853. Do I collect from your evidence that you have a disposition to continue the distinction between what is called the legitimate drama and what (for the want of a better name) we will call illegitimate drama; do you wish to have one in one sort of place and the other in another sort of place?—No, that is not what I drive at. I really do not care about the legitimate or the illegitimate drama, and I never met a man yet who knew what the terms meant.

6854. But that being so, will you tell me why "Macbeth" is not to be played at a music hall, if it pays the manager to produce it?—I do not go to the length of saying more than this, that I have a misgiving on that point, and I desire to leave that question to the wisdom of those who have listened to all the evidence, and who shall have had the advantage of hearing the evidence of the provincial managers. I go no further than that. I should be satisfied, if it appeared wise to the House of Commons, to throw the thing open entirely.

6855. But are you quite satisfied that it is as nearly impossible as anything can be to draw a distinction between what is called the legitimate drama and the illegitimate drama, which shall not lead to constant contentions between parties professing one and the parties professing the other, each complaining that the other is infringing on the limits?—I am quite sure of that. I should be very sorry to see introduced into an Act of Parliament a phrase so obscure as "legitimate drama."

6856. Although you have some misgiving on this subject, if you found that all restriction were done away with to-morrow, except that every place of public amusement should be under certain police regulations to secure decorum in the performance and decent conduct in the audience, would your misgiving be such as to cause you any very serious doubt upon the subject?—I have no personal feeling in the matter, and my misgiving goes no further than this; that I have seen that provincial managers have really a hard struggle to live in some of the theatres, and I should like to hear what they say. It is very unfortunate to be in an undecided state, but I have such very positive convictions on points which I am clear about, that I must claim the right to doubt when I am not so clear.

6857. *Chairman.*] With regard to the licensing of plays, are you satisfied with the authority of the Lord Chamberlain, or would you prefer to substitute the magistrates or anybody else?—I should like to see it all under one authority; it is rather repugnant to me as an Englishman to see London under one rule and the rest of the country under another. I should be sorry to cast any reflection on the magistrates, but something is known to me, that makes me give the preference to the Lord Chamberlain. It is a certain fact, that for several years they could not get a second theatre in Birmingham, because certain magistrates had shares in the theatre Royal. I must do them the justice to say that, being gentlemen, when the matter was discussed before them, those who had the shares walked out of the room. But a man may walk out of a room and leave his influence behind him in the shape of his friends, and Birmingham was deprived for 10 years of a second theatre.

6858. You would be inclined to deprive the magistrates of their present powers?—I should like to see London and the country under one system; you would then get rid of local feelings and interests; but my whole scheme is this: I abhor secret tribunals, and I would always have an appeal from the Lord Chamberlain to the Judges in Equity or the Home Secretary.

6859. You think that the present system might be maintained with the addition of an appeal?—Yes, with the addition of an appeal.

6860. Either to a court of law or to another officer?—I should prefer an appeal to the Judges in Equity, because we should not disturb their habits; these are, after all, legal rights.

6861. But I suppose you speak merely of the building license, and not the licensing of plays?—I think I would include even the licensing of plays. I conclude the Act would be so worded as to shut up the power of the Lord Chamberlain to this, that he might prevent the licensing of a play, or make excisions of words, tending to sedition or bad morals.

6862. Would you extend it to religion?—Yes, I would include profanities.

6863. Is not that rather a question of taste and discretion which would be very difficult to bring before a court of law, a question, for instance, whether a thing was injurious to public morals?—I think it is as well that the man who appeals against the Lord Chamberlain's discretion (which is always exercised very mildly), should run the risk of having to pay the law costs, otherwise he would be always pestering the Home Secretary.

6864. I understand your evidence with regard to the music halls to be this, that you are afraid that it would hurt the provincial theatres?—That is my misgiving.

6865. But would it be right to let that weigh; is not your view rather against free trade?—So long as we keep to the ground of expediency, I think I have a right to give way to that misgiving; but if you take the high ground of the principle of free trade, and say that we must make sacrifices to principle, I should hardly be able to answer that line of argument.

6866. You do not think that the degradation of the drama would be likely to ensue from throwing open to the music halls and every other place that license to enact plays?—No; because the theatres would remain. The music halls would give you something inferior to the theatres. I do not see why the London managers should fear them so much; I do not believe that if they give an inferior article to the theatres the music halls will ever hurt the theatres; indeed I rather believe that the music halls will find that in music they have hit on the right thing; that music being a more sensual art will best suit their purposes.

FREDERICK GUEST TOMLINS, Esq., called in; and Examined.

F. G. Tomlins, Esq.

28 May 1866.

6867. *Chairman.*] You are an Author and Journalist, I believe?—I am.

6868. Are you connected with one of the weekly papers; are you a proprietor?—No, I am editor of a weekly paper, and contributor to some of the morning papers.

6869. Which paper are you editor of?—The "Weekly Times."

6870. I believe that you have occupied yourself a good deal with theatrical matters?—Yes, for 40 years, nearly.

6871. Have you followed this controvery at all between the music halls and theatres?—Yes, very closely.

6872. Is it your opinion that the performance of stage plays in music halls would tend to the decline of the drama?—Certainly not to the decline of the present drama.

6873. What do you consider to be the effect of the music halls at present?—I consider the effect of the music halls most beneficial; I have watched public amusements now for 40 years, and I have seen a constant improvement in them, and though there are many things that good taste might desire to see amended, I think that music halls are a move in the right way; and so important that I hope the Legislature will do everything they can to improve and by no means to curtail their operations; they are sure to go on in an intellectual direction, and to follow the better taste and improved education of the people; at least I think so if we may judge by the past history of such matters.

6874. How do you think that those music halls would be affected if they had greater freedom with regard to the choice of performance?—They would improve, in my opinion, both in a musical and in a literary point of view: in artistic matters generally.

6875. In what way?—The minor drama itself began with songs; it went on to pantomimes, and then came good plays. Douglas Jerrold was nourished entirely at those illegitimate places. His "Black Eyed Susan" was produced at an illegitimate theatre, and his "Thomas-à-Becket," which was as good an acting historical play as has been written in this century, was produced at the Surrey Theatre; and so was Dean Milman's "Fazio."

6876. But still those were theatres, were they not?—They were only licensed for music and dancing; they had a pianoforte on the stage.

6877. Was there smoking, eating, and drinking, and continual movement going on at the Surrey Theatre?—No, it was entirely in the form of a theatre.

6878. Do you think that the form of the music halls is adapted for the performance of theatrical pieces now?—Very much so for *vaudevilles*, burlettas, and pieces of that kind; the Alhambra is as fine a theatre as we have in its audience arrangements.

6879. But for the performance of *vaudevilles*, even, would not the constant movement of the audience, to and fro, tend to interrupt the pieces more or less?—We may be quite sure that the audience would regulate their own conduct, they would turn out anybody that inconvenienced them. I have seen no other rule in theatres; we know that ladies go to operas to have conversations, and make receptions in their boxes; in France especially, but they do it even here.

6880. Do you think that it would increase the popularity of music halls if they were allowed to perform light operas, and so on?—Yes, very much; and it would do the people a great deal of good.

6881. Are not the music halls rather the places for a lounge?—For people of a certain rank; idle people, and young men, probably; but to the artisan, and his wife and family, it is their Italian Opera.

6882. Does that class form the chief portion of the audience?—In the east end entirely so; at the west end it is more mixed. I paid 1*s.* to go into the gallery of the Alhambra, and I found artisans there with their wives, and I saw that, out of 300 people near me, only two were smoking.

6883. Are you acquainted with the music halls at the east end of London?—I have been to them, but my business is to notice the regular dramas; and I have now written criticisms in the "Morning Advertiser," the "Morning Post," and other papers and periodicals for 30 years.

6884. The audience at the music halls are chiefly of the working class, are they?—Yes; I think that the model music hall, of that kind, is the Canterbury Hall, where you see artisans and small shopkeepers, with their wives and families, and it is a piece of actual humanity to the wife to take her there; it is quite a godsend to the wife and family to get out of their dull homes, and to go occasionally to these places, and it would be most cruel to interfere with them.

6885. You think that, generally, the amusements of the people would receive a stimulus, rather than otherwise, by those places being allowed to perform what pieces they liked?—Yes, certainly. I took a great deal of pains to help the movement which was formerly made, to get the patents done away with; the same arguments were then used by the minor theatres that are now used by the music halls; they were for perfect liberty; but now, of course, they want to limit others, because they fear they would interfere commercially with their business: but I do not think that it would do so.

6886. Mr. *Locke.*] You say that you took a part in the movement for doing away with the patents?—Yes.

6887. Previously to the patents being done away with they gave every description of performance at the patent theatres, did they not?—Yes; Mr. Bunn in his Reminiscences accused me of absolute falsehood because I went over the books and found that there were only six performances of the legitimate drama in one season; they had "Cherry and Fairstar," "Timour the Tartar," and all those pieces, and Van Amburgh's lions, came after a time; in fact every species of performance that a showman could give has been given at the patent theatres.

6888. Was that previous to 1845 when the alteration was made by the 6 & 7 Vict.?—Yes.

6889. And previous to 1832, when the Committee sat?—They were not so bad before 1832 as they were from 1832 to 1844 when they abandoned the legitimate drama entirely, and I am convinced

convinced that that was the reason of the Act being allowed to pass.

6890. Did you give evidence before that Committee of 1832?—No.

6891. Do you remember Madame Saqui at Covent Garden?—No, but I heard that evidence; I saw a much worse thing than that at Drury Lane, for I saw a man descending from the upper gallery on a wire; the wire broke and the man fell on the stage, and in passing a large chandelier he smashed several of the drops, which fell on the people in the pit; he himself was considerably injured, and he laid like a corpse on the stage until he was carried off.

6892. In what year was that?—That is not above four or five years ago.

6893. That is since Drury Lane ceased to be a patent theatre?—Yes, since Drury Lane ceased to be a patent theatre.

6894. But while the theatres were patent theatres every species of performance was given?—Yes, a vast number of children were brought on the stage. There was the performance of "Lilliput," and a great many other performances of the like kind.

6895. Do you consider that acting has depreciated as an art?—We do not have such fine pieces to perform, and therefore people say that acting has depreciated; but as to the high tragic drama, the taste of the age does not encourage that; people have so much literature in newspapers and magazines and so much excitement from serious business, that they go to the theatres now for amusement and not for instruction, so that we shall never have again the high tragic drama, probably.

6896. They are finding out the thing in Paris, are they not?—Yes, I know that they tried to make the *Odéon* a stage for Racine and Corneille, but it was only kept up by subsidies.

6897. Do you think that that arises from the fact that no great actor who is extremely attractive is springing up or from the altered taste of the public?—I attribute it to the altered taste of the public.

6898. Do you think that if an actor like Mr. Edmund Kean were to go on, the house would fill to see his Richard the Third?—Yes, everybody will always go to see a wonder, but that would not make a school for acting. Mr. Edmund Kean did not belong to any school; he was wholly unlike those who preceded him and those who followed him; he unfortunately did raise up a certain number of bad imitators who for a time annoyed the town very much.

6899. And they have done so still?—Yes; the impress of his genius remains. I saw him the third night he performed, and I saw him through the whole of his career.

6900. You think that a man like Kean coming out, is an accident?—Yes, I do; with all due respect to Mr. Sothern, I think his Lord Dundreary is an accident; people will go and see anything of that kind.

6901. Colonel *Sturt.*] He is acting a leading part now, is he not?—Yes; I do not pass any criticism upon his acting, but his Lord Dundreary was a wonder.

6902. Mr. *Loche.*] How do you account for our not having wonders?—We have got Mr. Sothern and his Lord Dundreary.

6903. But I speak of dramatic high art; tragedy, for instance?—I think it is an erroneous idea to suppose that genius is ever created by circumstances; it creates the circumstances; men of genius are few and far between. Betterton was a great actor; Booth was good; Quin was only good in certain parts; there was a long hiatus from Betterton to Garrick's time.

6904. Mr. George Frederick Cooke was a genius, was he not?—Yes, but he was a limited actor, being only great in a few parts.

6905. Take Kemble; was he a genius?—No; Mr. Kemble made a school, but Mrs. Siddons was a genius.

6906. Mr. Young?—Mr. Young was not a genius; he was a highly-cultivated actor. I knew him very intimately. People will not go to see long tragic plays now; the public taste is entirely different, which I attribute to the various other kinds of literature being so plentiful; the public are so oppressed with serious ideas elsewhere, that they seek the theatres as a matter of amusement, and I think that society is very likely to take that turn for sometime to come. Ristori did not draw for long, nor did Rachel, but probably the language had something to do with that.

6907. However, she drew up to the last moment in Paris, but since her there has been no tragic actress?—Just so. Perhaps I may refer to the subject of piracy; no one can read the English drama without seeing that it has always been piratical to a great extent; it is supposed by Mr. Collier and Mr. Hallam that there is not a single play of Shakespeare that was not founded on a previous play, and no one can divide what belongs to Shakespeare and what belongs to other men except by internal evidence; the earliest and best dramatists laid their hands on everything; on tales, history, the speeches of statesmen, ballads, previous plays, translations, on everything they could; there was always great liberty taken by writers for the stage. In the year 1647 the old dramatic system was totally put an end to by the Puritan ordinance of Parliament. I mean the ordinance putting down stage plays, and the interdict lasted for 13 years until the Restoration.

6908. At the Restoration did things go on as they did before?—No, not at all, because a monopoly was immediately made of the drama; two patents were granted to two of the king's servants, and then the theatre became a court amusement, entirely under the control of the court, for the chamberlain frequently interfered, though he did not interfere in a decisive way (not sufficiently for Sir Robert Walpole), but there was a very strong supervision over the plays, and everything was referred to the Chamberlain, and the drama was always thought to be a court amusement.

6909. That was the state of things after the Restoration?—Yes. One witness has stated that the drama has never flourished so well as under the monopoly, referring to the Kemble period in the time of George the Third; but the fact is, that there was no monopoly in Shakspeare's time, because in 1607 or 1608 there were 17 theatres, with a population of only 300,000.

6910. Might anybody have set up a theatre that pleased at that time?—No, not anybody; but anybody under the authority of a nobleman; the actors must be the retainers of some peer, otherwise they would be vagabonds.

6911. Would these 17 theatres be all open at the same time?—Collier, I think, says so in his history of the stage, and that is pretty good authority.

6912. *Chairman.*]

F. G. Tomlins, Esq.

28 May 1866.

6912. *Chairman.*] With regard to the quality of actors at present, you have stated, with respect to tragedy, that at present the public taste did not call for such actors, because people want to be amused; but do you think that it is easy to cast an amusing comedy of a high class, and to fill all the subordinate parts with good actors?—You cannot call it a comedy; but take the "Ticket of Leave," for instance; there was a great deal of excellent acting in that play, quite as good, in my opinion, as formerly in the "Poor Gentleman"; but the allusions of the latter play are antiquated, and the people do not like it, and the actors do not understand it.

6913. From your knowledge of the actors of the present day, could you have amongst the 23 theatres in London a thoroughly good cast at 10 of those theatres at the same time for a drama like the "Ticket of Leave"?—I think there is a great deal of talent of that kind growing up. I have seen those pieces which are performed at the Prince of Wales's Theatre and Sadler's Wells Theatre at the present time, and I have observed that several of the performers are good actors.

6914. Take genteel comedy; is that well acted at present?—If you mean "She Stoops to Conquer," and pieces of that kind, they are not so well acted as they were, because actors are not used to the manners of that age, and cannot fall into them. The actors can get on very well in coats and trousers, but they do not know where they are in those extraordinary footman-looking dresses.

6915. Take a play like "Money," is that easy to fill?—I never saw "Money" performed in any place that it was not successful; and I may add the "Lady of Lyons," provided there was a decent Claude Melnotte.

6916. Those plays are not so difficult to cast, are they?—No, not at all, and the people are always pleased with them.

6917. You do not hold with the view which has been expressed before this Committee, of a falling off in the theatrical talent?—I think there is an inferiority, because I think there is an inferiority in the pieces. I think it is more the literary men's fault than the actors' fault; but I do not blame the literary men, because the taste of the public guides them.

6918. Do you know the views of the actors with respect to performing in music halls?—I never met an actor who did not abuse the music halls.

6919. Notwithstanding that, they might raise their salaries by creating a fresh demand?—They do not think so; the designation of the music halls shows that the managers of them will always think more of music than of acting.

6920. You think that actors would not like much going to music halls even if the music halls gave theatrical performances?—I do not think that celebrated actors would go there, because they are celebrated in another way, and of course they could not be celebrated at the music halls.

6921. Is it the fact, that among actors of all classes there is a prejudice against music halls?—So far as I can judge, it is so.

6922. At all events, there is that feeling?—I think it is a strong trade feeling that it is not their line of life, and they think the music halls empty the theatres.

6923. But if the music halls were allowed to give small pieces, that would clearly create a demand for additional actors, would it not?—It would create an additional demand for a certain class of actors and actresses, and I think you would find that the young women would come out stronger than the men in vaudevelles and mixed pieces of acting and singing. Mrs. Bland first sang at Vauxhall, and that place used to be a large feeder to our theatres.

6924. But actors do not see it at present in that light?—No, they are entirely absorbed in their trade, feeling just as one publican may be supposed to do who wishes to get another public-house out of the same street.

6925. But here it is the actors?—Yes; because they know that it is not the kind of talent that would be desired; it is mostly an acting talent, combined with musical ability, that is wanted at music halls.

6926. You do not think that there is much chance of the music halls performing serious plays?—No, they would never do that.

6927. Only light vaudevilles, and so on?—Yes.

6928. Do you think that they would take much advantage of that permission?—Yes. Now at the Alhambra Music Hall, directly a man has to sing, he has to put a black dress coat on.

6929. They let them dance in costume, but they must sing in plain clothes?—Yes.

6930. Mr. *Locke.*] They tried to prevent them dancing in costume, did they not?—Yes, but they did not succeed.

6931. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the amusements of the people are generally up to the mark in the present day?—Not by any means; I think they are injuriously below it.

6932. You include the music halls in that observation, I presume?—Yes; and that is why I wish to give them greater freedom.

6933. Do you think that that comes from the state of the law?—Yes.

6934. In consequence of that they give bad art, you think?—Yes.

6935. It pays, does it not?—Yes, it pays.

6936. Is it worse than it used to be?—No; it is much much better than the "Free and Easies" clubs, and they were an improvement on the "Cock and Hen." Then came the suburban gardens; and now it is all better; the music and the general organisation are far better, and the people are much more civilised.

6937. On the whole, you think that they have taken a turn for the better?—Yes, they have taken a great turn for the better.

6938. The music halls form an important feature, do they not, in these matters?—Yes, very important.

6939. Thirty years ago, were there as many places of this kind as there are now, or were they all on a smaller scale?—They were upon a smaller and more sordid scale, little above public-house parlours; they were not enlarged with any of the forms of a public entertainment; the publicity and elegance of the halls do much good to the manners of the people; and the mixing together in public, in my opinion, does much more towards civilising the people than anything else.

6940. Is the quality of the songs very much improved?—Yes, at Evans's I recollect 20 years ago songs that no woman could hear, and hardly any decent man.

6941. Women were not allowed to go to Evans's, were they?—No, but I have heard the same things at other places; at the gardens at Chelsea, for instance, but such songs are not allowed now anywhere.

Friday, 1*st June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Ernest Bruce.	Mr. Locke.
Sir Arthur Buller.	Mr. Lusk.
Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Clive.	Colonel Sturt.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Walpole.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, IN THE CHAIR.

FREDERICK GUEST TOMLINS, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

F. G. Tomlins, Esq.

1 June 1866.

6942. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to make any addition to your evidence?—Yes; I wish to correct one statement, and to add very slightly to my evidence with regard to smoking in theatres in Shakespeare's time. There are many evidences of it in the dramas and poems of the day, and, as early as 1598, it is mentioned by Sir John Davies in one of his epigrams, named Skialethia,

"See you him yonder who sits o'er the stage,
With the tobacco pipe now at his mouth?"

In 1604, the prologue to Marston's "Malcontent," shows several customs of the theatre, and amongst others, smoking. The custom is also alluded to in his satire of "The Scourge of Villanie." In 1613, in a play called "Springes to catch Woodcocks," we have the lines,

"And how he sits attended by his page,
That only serves to fill those pipes with smoke."

Ben Jonson, in his "Every Man Out of his Humour," tells us that the gallants smoked in the Lords' Room over the stage. Dekker's "Gull's Horn Book" says, that the gallant made a great display of his smoking abilities at the playhouse. King James, in his "Counterblast" says that smoking was used everywhere, "and no time or action was exempted from the public use of it." I said the other day that 17 theatres were opened in London, and I believe I said at one time, but I do not know that that can be quite substantiated; but at all events there was perfect freedom in those days of Elizabeth and James. The continuator of Stowe says, that there were 17 playhouses built in London between 1570 and 1630, but that includes five inns turned into playhouses, and St. Paul's singing school. I may add also, that on the rolls at the Rolls Chapel, there are several privy seals, and there were grants made to a great number of playhouses. During this period there are many companies of players mentioned, viz.,—the King's players, the Queen's players, the Prince's players, the Duke of York's (afterwards Charles the First) players, the Children of the Revels, the Lord Admiral's players, the Earl of Leicester's players, the Lord Derby's players, the Lord Pembroke's players, the Lord Essex's players, the Lord Strange's players, the Lord Sussex's, the Lord Worcester's, Sir Robert Lane's, Lord Clinton's, and Lord Howard's. Chalmers, who is a very excellent authority, says that at the time of the death of Queen Elizabeth there were 15 companies. There was an Act passed in the 39th of Elizabeth, c. 4, by which noblemen were authorised to license players to act both in town and country. And there was an Act passed in the 1st of James the First, c. 7, which altered the foregoing, and, as Chalmers says, introduced a new policy for the drama, and took away from private persons the privilege of licensing players. James the First granted no *exclusive* privilege, which is, I think, a very strong point to observe. Concerning the office of the Master of the Revels and the supervision of plays, an important document, the commission to "Edmunde Tylney, Esq.," Master of the Revels, dated the 24th December 1581, is now in existence, being on the patent roll at the Rolls Chapel, and having been printed *in extenso* in the third volume of the Shakespeare Society's Papers, in 1847. It contains powers more arbitrary than any that would now be allowed. By it the Master of the Revels was empowered to command the services of any painters, embroiderers, tailors, property makers, &c., and in case of their refusal to obey him, to commit them during pleasure, "without bail or mainprize." Over players and playmakers he had absolute power, and could either reform or suppress any of the "playing places" he pleased. I may add, that the musicians paid an annual fee to the Master of the Revels, for a license to perform in the theatres. I have but one more remark to make: I live in the heart of the City, and have lived there many years with my family, which gives me many opportunities of observation in these matters, and I think there is one advantage in the music halls which has not yet been mentioned, namely, that many of the visitors taking their refreshments in the building, get home much earlier than they otherwise would do, because many visitors to the theatres on coming out resort to the public-houses, and stay there. (*The Witness handed in the Tylney Commission*, 1581.—Vide *Appendix.*)

Major JOHN JAMES GREIG, called in; and Examined.

Major *J. J. Greig.*

1 June 1866.

6943. *Chairman.*] YOU are at the head of the Liverpool police force, are you not?—I am the head constable of the Liverpool police force, and have been so for 14 years.

6944. You are aware that this Committee is inquiring into the system of licenses for theatres and music halls, and the regulations connected with them; and we should be glad to hear something about the working of the system in Liverpool. In Liverpool the magistrates license both the theatres and the music halls, do they not?—Yes; with the exception of the Theatre Royal. There are five theatres in Liverpool; four are licensed by the justices, and the Theatre Royal is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain; and there is a theatrical license granted to a concert hall.

6945. Mr. *Locke.*] Is that by the magistrates?—Yes, by the magistrates.

6946. *Chairman.*] Are you acquainted with the form of the license in Liverpool?—It is applied for annually. A plan of the theatre is produced; the magistrates ask questions, especially with regard to the ingress and the egress of the house, and they suggest certain alterations, such as swinging doors, made to open both ways in case of fire.

6947. What is the name of the concert hall where they have a theatrical license?—It is the St. James's Hall, occupied by the Christy Minstrels.

6948. Do they perform plays there?—Burlesque plays. They sing negro songs, and songs of their own composition.

6949. Those licenses are annually renewed, are they not?—Yes; they are annually renewed.

6950. Have you ever known a case of a theatre having a license refused to them at the end of the year?—No; but I have known a good deal of difficulty to arise when statements have been made that one of the theatres admitted women of a loose character.

6951. Difficulties were made by the magistrates?—Yes; and a promise required that they would not be admitted.

6952. Was that promise given?—Yes; given and kept.

6953. Do you mean that improper women had been admitted in the audience?—It was too much of a promenade for prostitutes.

6954. Did they enter into any communication with the police to keep them out, or how did they do it?—The police would not disturb a prostitute, so long as she did not appear to be plying her calling, and behaved herself properly.

6955. They were not stopped at the doors?—No.

6956. Therefore, the objection of the magistrates was rather to their promenading in the theatres than to their admission?—It was.

6957. Is there any interference at all with the theatres on the part of either the magistrates or the police?—The police have a right of entry, and they report any irregularity; there are police who attend in some of the theatres.

6958. Are they paid by the manager?—Yes; by the lessee.

6959. It is optional with the lessee to have them in the place, I suppose?—Yes; but it is to his interest to have them, because it checks disorder.

6960. Have you ever known any cases where licenses for new theatres have been refused in Liverpool?—No.

6961. Are the theatres generally pretty full?—They are well attended.

6962. Do you think that the number of theatres in Liverpool would be greater if there were less difficulty in obtaining a license?—I think not; from the social habits of the gentry, who live very much out of town, and who attend less than they might otherwise do, except when a particular star comes, there is not so much inducement to go; but they are respectably attended. There are five theatres; the Theatre Royal, the Amphitheatre, and the Prince of Wales's Theatre, where the gentry go to; the Coliseum and the Adelphi are of a lower class; the working classes principally go there, and not the gentry.

6963. With regard to the second class theatres, is any care taken by the magistrates or by the police, in the way of supervision, with regard to the pieces that are performed, or the danger of fire?—If there was any performance that was at all objectionable, it would be the duty of the police to report it.

6964. Under an Act of Parliament, or under municipal regulations?—The report would be made to the magistrate, and it would be brought against them on the licensing day.

6965. But under what instructions do the police report to the magistrates?—The general instructions; the book of instructions which every man has in his possession.

6966. Is it a police regulation, or is it a magisterial regulation?—The magistrates require that the police should keep them well informed of anything of that kind; and we feel that that comes within the scope of our general duty.

6967. There is no Act of Parliament with regard to that?—No.

6968. But the police act for the magistrates, in reporting for the justices anything objectionable in any of the theatres?—Clearly so.

6969. Suppose there was a theatre where there was danger of the dresses of the ballet-girls catching fire, who would be the authority in Liverpool analogous to that of the Lord Chamberlain in London, and who would require the managers to take precautions?—I think that the Mayor would make a communication through me to the proprietors of that theatre, to say there was danger of life or property.

6970. But would there be any power to interfere effectively, by stopping the performance?—No.

6971. Then what check would there be on such a thing?—There would be the check at the year's end, when the license came to be renewed.

6972. But during the year the manager could practically do as he liked?—I am inclined to say that he *would* not; he would not so jeopardize his interest.

6973. But legally he could resist any interference?—I think so; but the Mayor's power is very great, so I would rather not answer that as a legal question.

6974. Now with regard to the music halls, are there a great many music halls in Liverpool?—There are five music halls in Liverpool.

6975. Will you kindly state their names?—One is the Philharmonic Hall, which is the Opera House

House of Liverpool; it is the highest class of entertainment, where there are boxes and stalls purchased.

6976. But do they perform dramatic pieces there?—No, it is entirely concerts.

6977. What is the next?—The next is St. George's Hall; that is sometimes let for particular purposes; the volunteer officers and societies give balls.

6978. It is licensed for music, I suppose?—Yes; and they get an occasional wine license for that evening. There is a smaller concert room also which forms part of it.

6979. Mr. *Powell.*] Is the room where the assizes are held in the same building?—In the same building; it stands to the north of the building. The next is St. James's Hall, which carries with it a theatrical license. The proprietor of that hall was complimented by the magistrates on the last occasion, that the license was granted on account of the extremely good way in which it was conducted. The next is the Lord Nelson-street Concert Hall; established by a number of benevolent and beneficent gentlemen, including the name of Mr. Rathbone, and other prominent names in Liverpool, for the entertainment, amusement, and instruction of the working classes. It is extremely respectably attended by working men and others of a higher class. The mayor goes to it shortly after taking office, and before he quits he goes again to this hall; and he, along with others, addresses the people during the interval of the piano playing or singing, as the case may be. There is no stage play.

6980. Did not Mr. Gladstone appear on one occasion, and make an eloquent speech about music at that hall?—Yes.

6981. *Chairman.*] Is that all your list?—Yes.

6982. But are there not a great number of other places licensed for music and dancing?—There are 33 public houses which have singing and dancing, 12 beer houses, and three refreshment houses.

6983. Are there no more places than those in all Liverpool where they have music and dancing?—No, no more.

6984. Is there any control whatever over the performances that take place there?—I think it is objectionable to have music and dancing along with a spirit license generally; but I must ask you to bear in mind that there is a very large floating population of sailors in Liverpool, 20,000 seamen; the docks are at our doors; that population is increased by a west wind, and decreased by easterly winds.

6985. But do you think it objectionable that there should be dancing and singing places in Liverpool?—With one exception all the others have been conducted in an objectionable way. It always appeared to me that the inducement to drink had a predominance over the love of amusement.

6986. Do they act burlesques in any of those places?—They act what is known by the name of character dancing, and singing by men and women.

6987. Have they ever attempted in those unlicensed places to give stage plays?—No; I imagine that they would not do that, because the Theatre Act would come into play, and the lessees of the theatres would object.

6988. But if those lessees did not object, would the police or the magistrates interfere with them?—I think not. There is one public house that was built expressly for the purpose; it is advertised in the papers; it bears the name of the Rotunda. It has a small stage erected at one end, and it is a very large room. It has a gallery, and refreshments are sold at the other end. I visited that building, and I found it filled with sailors and mechanics, and there was nothing objectionable in that one; but it is away from the public house in a certain degree; it is built upstairs.

6989. Then are there anything like stage plays there?—There is dumb show; a ballet divertissement.

6990. Have the theatres taken any action against the Rotunda for performing stage plays?—No; because they have only dumb show.

6991. But if they were to go a little beyond that, would the theatrical lessees interfere?—Then they would incur a risk.

6992. You said that there are five music halls in Liverpool; I suppose they are not licensed by the magistrates?—No; except the Christy Minstrels, who have a theatrical license.

6993. Is there smoking and drinking in any of those five music halls in the audience part of the house?—No.

6994. But, besides those music halls, there are public houses in which there is music, singing, and dancing?—Yes, there are 33 of them.

6995. Do you think it would be wise to extend to provincial towns the provisions which we have in London, by which it is necessary for such places to take out a music and dancing license?—I would prefer to answer that question indirectly; I think the concert halls are eagerly attended by the working classes; I think that if there was no singing and dancing in those places it would induce the people to go to a higher class of entertainment in theatres; people when they go to a theatre do not drink inside.

6996. But supposing you had such places, would you have them licensed?—Yes.

6997. At present they can have music and dancing without any license, whereas in London they must have a license?—The magistrates cannot prevent their having music and dancing, or take away the spirit license, so long as the place is properly conducted.

6998. Do you know of any cases of the magistrates having stopped the spirit license for a public house in consequence of the dancing and singing being conducted in a disorderly manner?—No; but there have been informations within the year; there were nine informations against places where music and dancing was carried on.

6999. Were the informations laid on account of offences connected with music and dancing, or on account of general disorder?—General disorder; four of them were public houses, two were refreshment houses, and three were beer houses; those were all the cases in a year.

7000. Then the justices have no power to prevent music and dancing in public houses, so long as good order is maintained?—No.

7001. Supposing the performances were of an objectionable character, what would be the result?—The police would lay the information, and there would be a penalty inflicted.

7002. But supposing there were songs sung that were grossly indecent, would the police interfere if the audience behaved properly?—I think they would.

7003. Have you ever known such a case?—No;

Major *J. J. Greig.*

1 June 1866.

No; it is generally for indecent behaviour; men and women meeting and drinking, and it is a rather difficult matter to deal with, because some justices hold that if one woman is brought in by a man, she is not there as a prostitute plying her calling.

7004. But do you know of any case where an information has been laid by the police on account of impropriety in the performances?—No.

7005. Should you argue from that that there have been no improprieties in the performances?—None sufficiently gross to call upon the police to interfere.

7006. Do the police consider it part of their duty to watch the performances as well as the conduct of the people?—Yes, entirely. All those places, especially where there is dancing and singing, are open to police inspection; they are visited by the police inspectors, who report to the magistrates.

7007. Where there has been impropriety on the part of the audience the police have interfered?—Yes.

7008. But no impropriety in the performance has ever led to the active interference of the police?—No.

7009. But do you give instructions to the inspectors of police to report upon the performances?—It is naturally part of their duty; any rude language or indecent exhibition, whether within the walls or without the walls, comes within the scope of police report, and inspection.

7010. Do you then think that there is sufficient protection in Liverpool now against improper performances?—There would be greater protection if there was a license attached.

7011. But you have not known of a single case where the police have complained of songs or exhibitions on the stage?—No, they have not complained, though I think that those places have been very much open to objection.

7012. How do you account for the non-interference of the police?—The tonnage of Liverpool brings in so many sailors; those dancing houses are principally where the sailors boarding houses are; they go there, and though you cannot find anything that will carry a conviction, yet the whole conduct of the matter is such that any person who went there I should not like to put in a place of trust.

7013. Mr. *Locke.*] The sailors themselves dance there with the women?—Yes.

7014. *Chairman.*] You do not mean dancing on a stage?—No.

7015. Are there many low class places where they have a stage for the performance or singing?—Yes, there is an elevated stage where rough acting goes on; Irish characters principally, and comic songs.

7016. Have those performances ever been objectionable to your knowledge?—I think that they have a very mischievous influence on the young people going to those places.

7017 But some of those places, where there is music and dancing on the stage, are well conducted, I suppose?—It is very exceptional.

7018. Have you got any place in Liverpool which would correspond to the Alhambra in London; are you acquainted with that?—No.

7019. Have you got any large place of the kind?—Where women meet?

7020. No; my question is, are you acquainted with any of the large London music halls?—I am not much acquainted with London.

7021. At Liverpool, are the proprietors of music halls bound to satisfy the magistrates with regard to precautions against fire if they do not take out a theatrical license?—I think that that is a point which has been overlooked until lately by myself. I have not paid that attention to it that I wish to do, since I have heard of this inquiry, but I should like to say that I have seen precautions. When a distinguished gentleman came down to Liverpool, and they had a large meeting at the theatre, I thought that a mischievous voice might cry out fire, when there was no fire, and I went to see the building. In the amphitheatre there are two large hydrants, with hose and branches, and all appliances within the walls of the theatre, and there is also another small one, and there is always a fireman in the amphitheatre whenever there is any performance going on.

7022. Under whose charge are the firemen in Liverpool?—They consist of the police of Liverpool; there are 150 of them who do the ordinary duty of police constables when there is no fire; they are scattered all round the town, and they are doing duty in various parts of the town. There are 19 stations, and the alarm of fire is quickly passed; and when the fire is over, they return to their duty as policemen.

7023. Colonel *Sturt.*] The policemen leave their beats?—They divide their beats, that is provided for by the inspector; two men take the duty of three.

7024. *Chairman.*] The number of the police is diminished in a given district whenever there is a fire then?—It does not affect the general duty much; the men are paid a little more, and it does not strip the streets much.

7025. The magistrates, before granting licenses to theatres, satisfy themselves with regard to the mode of ingress and egress, and that there are all necessary precautions taken against fire, do they?—The chairman of the Watch Committee, and some of the justices, have visited them, and pointed out improvements and alterations that would facilitate the dispersing of the house if there was a fire.

7026. But if there is no theatrical license, but merely a spirit license to these large concert halls, no means are taken to ascertain whether they are safe against fire or not; taking the Rotunda, for instance, if any new place like that were to be built, there would be no precautions taken with regard to fire on the part of the magistrates?—Taking the last place which is now being built, which will hold 1,800 people, the Fire Prevention Committee directed the borough surveyor to see the architect, on purpose that the doors might be satisfactory to him in case of accident or panic by fire.

7027. Is it under the regulation of the bench of magistrates?—No, under the Fire Prevention Committee.

7028. What is that committee?—It is a section of the Watch Committee, which is a section of the municipal council.

7029. Is it your opinion that the system of licensing the music halls should be adopted by the magistrates, or could you suggest any other authority?—I would multiply such concerts as are nearest the Christy Minstrels, which are very eagerly attended, but I think dancing and drinking in public houses have a bad tendency.

7030. That is not what my question points to; suppose those licenses to be granted, do you think

think that the magistrates are the best persons to grant them?—Distinctly, on account of their local knowledge, and on account of the information they can immediately obtain from the police.

7031. But certain of the magistrates sometimes take one view and others of the magistrates take another view, I suppose; does not that system sometimes produce a divergence of action on different occasions?—No doubt.

7032. Has there not been a great controversy in Liverpool about licensing public houses?—They have been very freely granted lately.

7033. Has that been by a large majority of the magistrates, or has there been a controversy?—The bench of magistrates entertain very different opinions one from the other on that point.

7034. But if it were necessary for proprietors of music halls to take out licenses, do you think they would find that the magistrates would grant them easily, or that they would introduce any difficulties?—I think they would ask generally for a report from the police; my own action would be guided a good deal by the neighbourhood, and the character of the people who abounded there.

7035. I gather from your evidence that your advice would generally be not to grant them?—I think so.

7036. That is the correct deduction from your evidence?—Yes.

7037. Then you would refuse the dancing and music license, guiding yourself by considerations connected with the neighbourhood?—That would guide me a good deal; if they were conducted like the Rotunda, which has the advantage of standing by itself, being built expressly for the purpose, and great correctness observed, I would not report against such an establishment as that.

7038. But in general you would object to dancing and singing in public houses?—I would.

7039. Mr. *Locke.*] If I understand you rightly, there are three descriptions of places in Liverpool; first the theatres, next the concert halls, and in the third place public houses, where they have music and dancing?—Yes.

7040. Is there any other species of place in your mind now?—No, that comprehends them all; there are assembly rooms, which are employed for teaching dancing, where balls take place; for instance, there is one where a professional person teaches.

7041. That they can do at Liverpool without any license whatever?—Yes.

7042. First of all, let me call your attention to the theatres; I think you were labouring under a mistake when you said that the only power vested in the magistrates was that of withdrawing the license of a theatre upon the licensing day if any impropriety had taken place; did you not say that?—I said so.

7043. Let me call your attention to the 9th section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68: "And be it enacted, that the said justices of the peace at a special licensing session, or at some adjournment thereof, shall make suitable rules for preserving order and decency at the several theatres licensed by them within their jurisdiction, and for regulating the times during which they shall severally be allowed to be open, and from time to time, at another special session, of which notice shall be given as aforesaid, may rescind or alter such rules; and it shall be lawful for any of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State to rescind or alter any such rules, and also to make such other rules for the like purpose, as to him shall seem fit; and a copy of all rules which shall be in force for the time being shall be annexed to every such license; and in case any riot or breach of the said rules in any such theatre shall be proved on oath before any two justices usually acting in the jurisdiction where such theatre is situated, it shall be lawful for them to order that the same be closed for such time as to the said justices shall seem fit; and while such order shall be in force, the theatre so ordered to be closed shall be deemed an unlicensed house." It appears, does it not, that not only have the magistrates the power of taking away the license at the next licensing day, but they may close the theatre at any time they please if any riot takes place, or if there is any breach of the rules laid down?—I was not aware that those powers existed.

7044. But at all events that power has never been exercised in Liverpool?—No.

7045. Then the Committee may take it for granted that the theatres have been extremely well conducted in Liverpool, as there has never been any necessity for putting into force the powers of that section?—Yes.

7046. Now are there any rules for the licensing of the theatres drawn up by the magistrates in Liverpool?—None; except the usual terms of the license.

7047. Those rules are to be annexed to the license, are they not?—Yes.

7048. And is a copy of the license given to you?—No.

7049. Therefore you simply act on your own discretion with regard to what you think may be proper or not in the theatres?—Yes; but it is submitted to the town clerk, or a legal gentleman to guide me.

7050. But he does not give you the rules or regulations with regard to the theatres, to guide you?—No, but I could easily have them.

7051. Now will you look at that paper (*handing a paper to the Witness*); those are the rules and regulations laid down at Sheffield under the provisions of this Act, are they not?—Yes; they appear to be so.

7052. You have nothing of that sort at Liverpool?—No, not that I am aware of.

7053. Now with regard to the concert rooms, as you call them; are those places that have a wine and spirit license granted to them by the magistrates?—Some of them have.

7054. Will you just inform the Committee of those which have a wine and spirit license?—The Philharmonic has an occasional license.

7055. First of all, what is the Philharmonic?—It is the Opera House of Liverpool.

7056. By whom is it licensed?—It is a private proprietary; it has no license.

7057. What kind of entertainment takes place there?—Philharmonic concerts.

7058. Is it confined entirely to that?—Yes, in the way of entertainments; there have been large dinners given there; the Conservative party and the Liberal party have each entertained their friends there.

7059. Who is the proprietor of that hall?—It is the highest class proprietary; boxes and shares are sold as they become vacant, or as a person feels disposed to sell them.

7060. Is there no manager?—There is a secretary, and there is a committee of gentlemen, who have the management of it.

Major *J. J. Greig.*

1 June 1866.

7061. Now when you grant this occasional license, to whom is it given?—That is taken out of my own hands since the Closing Act passed.

7062. Is it only taken out of your hands since that last Act of Parliament was passed?—Yes.

7063. But I understood you to say that they never held a license at all, unless they had an occasional license; has the Philharmonic Concert Hall an ordinary wine and spirit license granted to it?—No, it has not.

7064. The occasional Licensing Act was passed to give an opportunity to a licensed house to be kept open beyond certain specified hours?—Yes.

7065. But you grant an occasional license to the Philharmonic Concert Hall, which has no other license?—Yes, a license is granted, but I do not grant it.

7066. But it is granted by the justices at Liverpool?—Yes, by the justices at Liverpool.

7067. Do you grant occasional licenses to public houses?—The first Act stated that they must close at one, and then a subsequent Act was passed which took it out of the hands of the police; it is in the hands of the justices, and it is to the justices that they make application to keep open until two, or three, or four o'clock in the morning.

7068. That is the public houses?—Yes, or balls, or any other place.

7069. You have said that the justices grant an occasional license to a place which has no spirit license at all?—Yes, they employ some one who has a spirit license.

7070. They employ somebody to come there who has a license already?—Yes.

7071. And by virtue of the license which this somebody has, he would supply wine and spirits up to one o'clock?—Yes.

7072. And then this person has an occasional license granted to him to keep open beyond that time?—The entertainments never go beyond one o'clock.

7073. Then what do they want with an occasional license?—There are refreshments, such as tea, coffee, and there may be champagne and sherry.

7074. That requires a wine license?—Yes.

7075. But who is the person that comes and has the direction of the supply of the refreshments?—I do not know.

7076. But he is a person who has a license besides the occasional license, is he not?—I believe he is, but I do not know.

7077. Do you know to whom the occasional license is granted?—I do not.

7078. You do not know how it is that the Philharmonic Concert Hall sells wines and spirits?—I do not think they sell spirits.

7079. But they sell wine; it is the same thing, is it not?—Not quite; wine requires a wine license, and the other requires a spirit license.

7080. But the two things are always granted together, are they not?—The licenses are different; the wine license is different from the spirit license.

7081. Not a wine license to sell wine over the counter?—I understand so.

7082. You are thinking of a refreshment house, are you not?—If a refreshment house keeps open between ten o'clock at night and five in the morning, they must have a refreshment license.

7083. But the refreshment house license is not taken from the magistrates at all?—No; the refreshment license is granted by the Excise.

7084. But you started by saying that the license to those persons at the Philharmonic Hall was granted by the magistrates, and now you say that it is not a spirit license, but a wine license; in that case it is not necessary to apply to the magistrates, is it?—I do not know the circumstances at present.

7085. May we then call that Philharmonic Hall a nondescript place?—I do not really know.

7086. At all events, it does not come within the category of a public house nor a music hall, which is licensed by the magistrates to sell wine and spirits?—I said that it was the Opera House of Liverpool, and that it was frequented by the highest persons in the town; I cannot say any more.

7087. Now is this correct (because I have it from a very high authority that this is not an occasional license which the Philharmonic Concert Hall gets); it is a permit from the Excise or magistrates, or both, to a publican already licensed, to sell on a special occasion in another place than his house, just as at races, &c.?—I am always glad to be put right.

7088. The magistrates at Liverpool have at one time been a very strict class of people with regard to this licensing, and at another time they have been less so; is not that so?—Unless you press me I would rather not answer that question; I will give you the figures for it: in 1861 there were 1,567 public houses, in 1862 there were 1,667 public houses, in 1863 there were 1,681 public houses, in 1864 there were 1,837 public houses, and in 1865 there were 1,934 public houses.

7089. But previously to those five years, was there not a great difference of opinion among the magistrates with regard to licensing public houses, and were not the licenses very much more restricted than they are now?—Yes.

7090. Then, I think, the magistrates came to a resolution to grant all licenses applied for, provided the house was a fit house for the purpose, and that the person who was to keep it was a person of good character?—The magistrates have differed in opinion, but the majority of them have been for granting the spirit license freely; they have more control over these places when they have a spirit license; the publicans have more to lose in case of any impropriety than when they have a beer license only.

7091. Have the magistrates considered those two things which I have alluded to, namely, that the house should be a proper house, and that the person keeping it should be respectable?—Those are questions always asked; the suitability of the premises and the character of the person, and the sanitary arrangements.

7092. Then that other ingredient, which all other magistrates that I have ever heard of include, namely, the wants of the neighbourhood, is set on one side at Liverpool?—I am not prepared to speak on that point.

7093. I suppose you have been at the Sessions when those applications have taken place?—No; I keep away entirely.

7094. The wants of the neighbourhood are not an ingredient in the case, at all events?—That is a wide expression.

7095. But the view of the magistrates is this, that it is better, in order to place those persons under their control, that instead of the houses being

being merely beer houses where they cannot take away the license, except under very particular circumstances, they should have a wine and spirit license, because then if there is anything improper the magistaates can take away the license?—Yes.

7096. The magistrates take the view that it is better to grant licenses indiscriminately where a man is a man of good character, and the house a proper one, they having the power to take the license away?—That may guide them or not.

7097. But that is the result, is it not?—I have given you the result.

7098. That is the ground on which they license all the public-houses in Liverpool; but now passing from the Philharmonic Concert Hall, what other places are there in Liverpool where performances are given?—There is St. James's Hall.

7099. What do they do there?—The Christy Minstrels perform there, they have burlesques and negro songs; it is exceedingly well conducted, and they have very good music.

7100. I see by an advertisement that they have been giving the "Barber of Seville," but how did they give that there; have they a theatrical license there?—Yes.

7101. Then we need not inquire further into that; but will you kindly mention some place at which performances are given, though they have not a theatrical license?—At those public-houses where they have character dancing, and men and women singing.

7102. Is there any entertainment beyond that given at any of those public houses?—If I understand your question rightly, I should say no, I do not know of any.

7103. You say that you have not been to any of the music halls in London?—No, I go very little from home.

7104. There is no ballet at any of those public-houses in Liverpool, I suppose?—The Rotunda has a ballet; that is to say they have a little dancing and a little singing.

7105. Colonel *Sturt.*] On a stage?—Yes, on a stage.

7106. Mr. *Locke.*] Is there scenery?—Yes, there is scenery.

7107. Do the persons dance in character?—Yes. I am not sure that I know what you mean by a ballet.

7108. What we call ballet is a series of dances which has some story in it?—No doubt.

7109. Have you seen ballets at theatres?—Yes.

7110. Do they give a similar thing in this Rotunda?—Yes.

7111. I understood you to say that the Rotunda was very well conducted, and a very proper place of entertainment?—Yes.

7112. Now is there any other place besides the Rotunda where performances of such description are given?—There are 33 public houses, the Rotunda is one, and that leaves 32 where there is singing and dancing, character dancing.

7113. Is there character dancing at all of those 32 public houses?—Not all.

7114. Some of them are places where the visitors dance and sing?—Quite so.

7115. But there are others where performers are engaged to do it?—Yes.

7116. How many of those are there where performers are engaged?—I should say about one third.

7117. In that one-third are those houses well conducted?—I think that music and dancing at such places is always objectionable, because it brings about a certain degree of drinking.

7118. I do not mean places where people dance themselves; I mean places where performers are engaged?—I should say the same with regard to them.

7119. You say that they are not all of them well conducted?—I think not.

7120. Have any complaints been made against them to the magistrates?—No, except that there were nine informations laid in the course of one year.

7121. What were those for?—Those informations were against places where there was music and dancing carried on. Four of them were public houses.

7122. What were the informations about?—For knowingly permitting drunkenness or disorderly conduct.

7123. Against what houses were they laid?—I cannot tell you out of the 1,949.

7124. You are taking all the public houses in Liverpool, then, are you?—Yes.

7125. How many informations were there, did you say?—Nine where there was music and dancing.

7126. How many houses are there where there is music and dancing?—There are 33 public houses, twelve beer houses, and three refreshment houses.

7127. Those informations were confined, I presume, to the public houses?—Four public houses, three beer houses, and two refreshment houses.

7128. Those, in fact, were all the informations during 12 months?—Yes, for one year. The informations for infractions of the law against publicans for the year ending September, which is the end of the police year, were 208.

7129. Keeping open a little later, Sunday trading, and so on?—Yes, all things of that sort.

7130. Yes, but I am speaking with regard to offences connected with those houses which have performances in them; I want to know how many informations have been laid against them?—Nine altogether; four public houses, three beer houses, and two refreshment houses.

7131. There were only four informations, in fact, against those houses where they had performances, during one 12 months?—Just so.

7132. Can you inform the Committee exactly what those four informations were about?—No; but I have no doubt it was for knowingly permitting prostitutes to meet and remain there, or for disorder in the house. By referring I may be able to give you the exact nature of the informations in question.

7133. I am asking you expressly with regard to those houses where performances are given on the stage, and I understand you to say that the number of informations against houses of that description, during one year, is four?—Yes, that is so.

7134. Can you now inform the Committee what these four informations were for?—Yes; I find that two of them were for selling after hours, and I am very sorry to add that the other two were for harbouring the police.

7135. That makes the four cases that you spoke of?—Yes.

7136. I suppose that those policemen would not be harboured unless they liked it?—

Major J. J. Greig.

1 June 1866.

There must be two parties to such a bargain as that.

7137. There is an enormous number of sailors at Liverpool, is there not?—There are 20,000, as a rule, and that number is increased by a west wind.

7138. Do you not think, under all those circumstances (and I am sure it does you very great credit), that those houses at Liverpool are most admirably well conducted, taking into account especially your floating population of 20,000 sailors, a great portion of them absolutely requiring amusement?—The floating population is a great feature in Liverpool; the seamen spend a great deal of money, and that increases the number of women; the proportion to Glasgow and Manchester is extremely large; Liverpool stands prominent in that respect.

7139. The houses are very well conducted, are they not?—It is very difficult to carry a conviction against a public house for knowingly giving drink to a drunken person.

7140. But that is an ordinary public house offence, is it not?—I thought you were asking how the whole of those houses were conducted.

7141. Yes; the whole of them?—Then I would reply that many of them are badly conducted; 127 of those houses are shut up on a Sunday, so that that shows that there are some good ones.

7142. Keeping a house open on a Sunday, after hours, is an ordinary public house offence, is it not?—Yes.

7143. Then we have that question about *bonâ fide* travellers, I suppose?—No doubt.

7144. Mr. *Powell.*] I want to ask you a few questions, more for the sake of clearness than anything else, I believe there are five theatres in Liverpool?—Yes.

7145. One of which is a patent theatre?—Yes.

7146. And is licensed under the Lord Chamberlain?—Yes.

7147. Can you supply the Committee with the names of the theatres, and the number of the persons whom each theatre will receive?—The Theatre Royal is open by the license of the Lord Chamberlain, and it contains 2,055 people; the lessee is Mr. Copeland; the Amphitheatre holds 1,950, the Prince of Wales's (which is exceedingly well conducted), holds 1,195 people; the Adelphi holds 1,800 people, and the Colloseum holds 1,700 people, making a total of 8,700.

7148. Is there not, besides those theatres, a scheme more or less matured for building an opera house in Liverpool?—Yes; it is at this moment in a state of progress.

7149. Can you give the Committee any approximation to the number of spectators which they intend to accommodate in that new opera house?—Somewhere about 1,800.

7150. Do you consider that those theatres in Liverpool are well attended with regard to the numbers of the audiences?—I think so; the Prince of Wales's Theatre is generally full; it depends very much on the actor or actress playing.

7151. Have there been any changes in the management of those theatres?—No; almost none; there has been none at the Amphitheatre, or the Theatre Royal, or the Prince of Wales's.

7152. You would probably infer from that that the theatres have been reasonably successful speculations?—I think so.

7153. Do you think that the present state of the law affords any obstruction to the multiplication of theatres?—None whatever.

7154. Is it the custom of the police at Liverpool to visit the theatres with a view to see that there is nothing objectionable in the performances?—Yes.

7155. Did Miss Menken go down to Liverpool?—Yes.

7156. Was not there an objection taken to her proceeding?—Yes; it was represented as a very indecent performance; the mayor communicated with me, and I was sent to say that the performance must be altered, and made more decent.

7157. And your wish was complied with?—The lessee happened to be in London, and it was continued for two nights longer, but care was taken to alter it somewhat.

7158. Was your complaint renewed?—No.

7159. The St. James's Hall has a theatrical license, has it not?—Yes, it is a very favourite place.

7160. In what respect is St. James's Hall not a theatre, seeing that it has a theatrical license; is it in the construction of the building?—Yes, it is in the construction of the building, because it is almost on the level, except with regard to a small stage erected at the east end.

7161. Is there any consumption of beer or spirits, or is there smoking going on in the audience part of the hall?—I am quite sure not.

7162. You have in Liverpool some rooms which you describe as assembly rooms?—Yes.

7163. Are there amateur dramatic performances in those assembly rooms?—No; there is a hall called the Odd Fellows Hall, where sometimes the volunteer officers entertain their men, and sometimes there are Orange meetings there, and there has been a ragged school dinner given there by Mr. Horsfall, but there are no theatrical exhibitions; that is an example of what I mean.

7164. Will you again enumerate what you describe as music halls in Liverpool, at the same time giving the accommodation in each of them?—The Philharmonic Hall holds 2,160 people; the St. George's Hall holds 2,565 people, not including the small concert hall, which holds 1,000; the St. James's Hall (where the Christy Minstrels are) holds 1,000 persons; the Lord Nelson Street Concert Hall holds 1,500 people, and there is a lower room underneath that holds 500.

7165. Do I correctly understand you to say that in none of those places of entertainment which you denominate as music halls, is there smoking, eating, and drinking going on among the audience during the performances?—None.

7166. Amongst those places which you have named, several are places of entertainment of the very highest class, frequented by the best families in Liverpool?—Yes; the Philharmonic particularly, it is a proprietary place.

7167. The proprietors have to pay a very considerable sum for the enjoyment of their privileges, have they not?—Yes, they purchase a stall or a box, and the cost is very considerable.

7168. Have you any room in Liverpool of considerable size holding, we will say for example, 300 people, or something more, with a platform whereon performances or singing takes place, and where the audience are smoking, eating, and drinking during the performance?—None, except the Rotunda, on any such scale.

7169. At

Major *J. J. Greig.*

1 June 1866.

7169. At the Rotunda you have character dancing and ballet?—Yes.

7170. How many persons would be received in the Rotunda at one time?—Speaking approximately, I should say 1,000 people.

7171. Have you found the Rotunda to be a resort of ladies of loose character?—No.

7172. Do you know what steps are taken to exclude them?—I think that the manager is very careful.

7173. Have you many cases of intoxication arising from that place of entertainment?—No, I think not.

7174. I asked you if there was any place holding 300 people or more where there was a platform with smoking, eating, and drinking going on during the performance, and you said there was not, now we will come to the public houses: confining yourself to rooms in public houses, or refreshment rooms, or any place of public resort where character dancing takes place on a stage, and where there is smoking, eating, and drinking going on among the audience, how many of such places should you say there were in Liverpool?—I should say that there is one-third of the number which I gave.

7175. Speaking as accurately as may be, will you give us the number of spectators in each of them, on the average?—I have not a correct answer to give you.

7176. Would they be rooms holding 50 or 60, or 200 or 300 people?—I should say 50 or 60, or up to 100 people.

7177. You mentioned that there had been four complaints in 12 months against such places?—Yes.

7178. That was with regard to entertainment rooms of the class just mentioned?—Yes, where there is singing and dancing on the stage.

7179. Should you say that those four informations were the average number?—I think not; I think the average number is not represented by that, because the magistrates have dealt very severely with those places where loose women get together.

7180. What should you say would be a more accurate average than the four complaints?—I think they would be considerably more.

7181. You have, however, no data with you from which to supply the exact information?—No, except from personal recollection.

7182. How should you describe the general character of the audiences in those places; first, with regard to their station in life?—The working class and sailors, mixed with women.

7183. Do you mean women of a certain class, or the wives of the men?—I mean women who go into such society.

7184. In the case of those rooms where you say 50 or 60 persons, up to 100, assemble, when the license is granted, is any inquiry made with regard to safety of access or egress?—No there has not been.

7185. If it were to be shown by the police that there was risk and danger, owing to the imperfect nature of the access in such places, would the magistrates withdraw their license?—The magistrates would withdraw their license.

7186. *Chairman.*] Are there many literary and scientific institutions in Liverpool?—Yes.

7187. Do they ever give theatrical performances, as some of them do in London?—There are no similar cases in Liverpool; we have some very excellent institutions, such as the Queen's Institute and the Royal Institution.

7188. Are there not occasionally theatrical performances of that kind?—No.

7189. Are there ever theatrical performance given for charities?—Only in the theatres.

7190. Those performances are not given in any of the unlicensed buildings?—No.

7191. Are there no theatrical performances got up by any of the clubs in Liverpool?—No; the volunteer officers do it sometimes, but they always confine it to the theatres.

7192. You know of no case of a theatrical entertainment being given occasionally in unlicensed places?—I do not.

7193. Mr. *Locke.*] Do you know the Coloseum?—Yes.

7194. That is a building capable of holding 3,000 people, is it not?—Yes.

7195. Is that an audience of working people?—Chiefly

7196. Is it a well-conducted place?—It is situated in Paradise-street, which is a very busy and a very disorderly thoroughfare.

7197. The people when they get inside are well conducted, I suppose?—They are obliged to be so, to a certain degree, or they would be turned out.

7198. But it is, in fact, a well-conducted place, is it not?—Yes, the police have never reported against it.

7199. *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to add to your evidence?—No.

John Jackson, Esq., called in; and Examined.

J. Jackson, Esq.

7200. Mr. *Locke.*] Are you head constable of the borough of Sheffield?—I am.

7201. How long have you held that appointment?—For nearly eight years.

7202. Has your attention been directed to the licensing of theatres and other places of entertainment in Sheffield?—Yes.

7203. First of all, how many theatres are there in Sheffield?—We have but one licensed theatre at present.

7204. What is the name of that theatre?—The Theatre Royal.

7205. Is that theatre licensed by the magistrates?—Yes.

7206. Do the magistrates in licensing the Theatre Royal draw out rules for the regulation of the building?—Yes; certainly.

7207. Have you a copy of the rules there?—Yes; this is a copy of the rules at present enforced (*producing a copy.*—Vide *Appendix*)

7208. Those rules are made under the provisions of the 6th & 7th Victoria, are they not?—Yes, they are.

7209. Which Act gives power to the magistrates to license theatres?—Yes.

7210. I see in this copy that the 9th section of the Act of the 6th & 7th Victoria is set out?—It is.

7211. If any of those rules are infringed under that section the magistrates have power to shut up the theatre, have they not?—Certainly.

7212. Has that ever occurred?—Never, to my knowledge.

J. Jackson, Esq.

1 June 1866.

7213. Is the theatre at Sheffield well conducted?—Very well conducted.

7214. How many persons is it capable of accommodating?—I should think 1,500 people, or upwards.

7215. What other places of entertainment are there in Sheffield?—We have a music hall, called the Alexandra Music Hall, capable of holding from about 3,000 to 4,000 people, which is also exceedingly well conducted, but which is unlicensed.

7216. You mean unlicensed as a theatre?—Yes; unlicensed as a theatre.

7217. Is it licensed for the sale of wines and spirits?—It is not licensed for the sale of wines and spirits, but it is licensed for the sale of beer. Beer is sold in refreshment rooms attached to each department of the house.

7218. But not in the place where the people sit?—No; no drinking takes place in that part of the building where performances are going on. There is another building known as a music hall; but that is called a music hall inasmuch as it is more especially used for holding concerts, in most instances, of a very high class. Mr. Sims Reeves, and most of the singers of the Italian Opera Company, when they take their provincial tour, come there, and they give concerts which are very well attended. There are other entertainments given in the same building, such as panoramas, Christy Minstrels, and other entertainments.

7219. Any dancing?—No dancing.

7220. Any tumbling?—I have never seen tumbling there.

7221. What other places of entertainment are there in Sheffield?—We have public houses, at which singing and dancing takes place; at present there is not much dancing, I am glad to say.

7222. You are not fond of dancing?—I am not fond of dancing in public houses in which the audience are permitted to take part.

7223. I want to ask you more particularly with regard to places where there are actors or dancers who give performances on a stage. Are there any places of that description at Sheffield?—None, except those that I have described, and those that take place in a few of the public houses.

7224. Will you mention the name of any one of those public houses in which those entertainments take place?—There is one in Union-street, having a large room, in which public dancing and singing take place on the stage.

7225. Is that a well-conducted place?—It is a well-conducted place.

7226. Do you draw a clear distinction between those places where a performance is given and those places where the audience themselves dance and sing?—Yes.

7227. Those places where performances are given, you say, are well conducted?—They are.

7228. They have merely a wine and spirit license?—Yes; an ordinary public house license.

7229. There is no such thing as a music and dancing license at Sheffield, I suppose?—No.

7230. Nor is there, I believe, a music and dancing license in any place beyond 20 miles of London, unless there is a local Act?—No; there is no public Act authorising the licensing of those places beyond the metropolis.

7231. *Chairman.*] Is there a Local Act at Sheffield upon that point?—No; not upon that point.

7232. Is there a Local Act in any towns that you know of?—Yes.

7233. In what town?—There is one in Oldham, where I was chief constable for 10 years. We have a Local Act at Sheffield on other matters, of course.

7234. But it does not touch upon this question?—No, it does not.

7235. Mr. *Locke.*] Is there any other place of the same description at Sheffield where they give performances of the stage?—There are.

7236. Are they all well conducted?—Yes; they are all well conducted. I have had very little reason to complain of them. A short time ago there were two large dancing rooms attached to public houses, in which the audience were permitted to join, and where girls of loose character were permitted to go and dance, and to meet men, and so on. I summoned them for not maintaining good order; and the license in one case was withdrawn, and in the other case the room was shut up; and the consequence is that I now see no great cause of complaint.

7237. But where performances are given, they are well conducted, not only at the theatres but also at those other places?—Yes, there is no disorder.

7238. Do persons take refreshments in the place where they sit below the stage in those places?—Yes, they do.

7239. I suppose you have been to the music halls in London?—I have been in one or two of them.

7240. Are the music halls at Sheffield similar in their arrangements to those in London?—Yes, except that they are not so large, nor so finely fitted up.

7241. You spoke of Oldham, and you say that there is a local Act there?—Yes, there is a local Act at Oldham; it has been obtained since I left, but I know something of its provisions.

7242. Do you know the Act?—No, I only know that it has been obtained since I left the place.

7243. Can you give the Committee the date of that Act?—I believe it was obtained in the Session of Parliament before this; it is very recent, I know, and they are only just beginning to grant licenses under it.

7244. What licenses do they grant under that Act?—I have not seen it.

7245. I understand you to say that those places in Sheffield where entertainments of the stage are given, are well conducted, and that you see no objection to them; is that so?—Yes, they are certainly well conducted.

7246. Now what class of persons frequent those places?—They are principally the better conducted of the working class.

7247. Do the working class who go to those places, go alone, or are they accompanied by their wives?—They take their wives, and in many instances their children.

7248. Do they pay anything for entrance?—There are some at which a fixed charge is made for entrance, and a certain amount of refreshment is returned for it, and there are others where no charge is made, but the person is expected to take refreshments.

7249. Are refreshments taken to any great extent at those places?—I never heard any reports of any drunkenness taking place in them.

7250. Do you think that a woman going with her husband to such a place, would be a check on his getting drunk?—I do.

7251. He would be less likely to get drunk there than if he were to go to a public house alone, where he had nothing to attract his attention but drink?—A man would be less likely to misconduct himself with his wife than without her.

7252. At those places a man is accompanied by his wife?—Yes; of course men go without their wives largely to those places; but it is not an uncommon thing to see a man take his wife.

7253. They conduct themselves properly, you say?—Yes, they conduct themselves very well.

7254. What are the entertainments?—Character singing and dancing.

7255. Did you ever see a ballet given there?—Never at any of those places.

7256. There is part singing?—Yes, character singing partially dressed; nigger songs and Irish songs.

7257. Are the songs of a good description; is there any impropriety?—In two or three of the better conducted places, the nature of the singing is very good, and the character of the persons who attend them is apparently respectable; they are well dressed and well conducted people.

7258. Do you think that those places are beneficial to persons who require amusement?—I think that if the magistrates had more immediate control over them, and they could make rules for their regulation, as they do in the case of theatres, it would be an advantage; it would be well to exclude very young persons from them.

7259. Mr. *Miller.*] Why?—I do not think it is advisable that very young persons should go to public houses where drinking and smoking takes place; I have seen very young persons there.

7260. *Chairman.*] How young?—Persons under 12 years of age.

7261. Mr. *Powell.*] Would you let young women, of ages from 15 to 17, go there?—They would be better away.

7262. Mr. *Locke.*] Perhaps you think they would be better out of theatres too?—It would a good deal depend on the nature of the performances as to whether I should not think so.

7263. *Chairman.*] Do you think public opinion at Sheffield would justify such an exclusion as you suggest?—The exclusion of persons of tender age, certainly.

7264. Up to what age would you propose to make that exclusion?—Up to 14.

7265. Mr. *Locke.*] Suppose they go there with their parents, would you see any objection to that?—I think it is objectionable that they should be there at all; but I think that that would be much less objectionable than if they were there alone.

7266. Suppose a man with his wife and children goes there, and he takes refreshment whilst he is witnessing the performance, do you see any objection to that?—In some of them there is no great objection to that, except that it familiarises the children to seeing drinking and smoking and so on; beyond that there is no objection. I do not mean to say that anything takes place in many of those places which can be considered obscene and rude. There are plenty of places where an innocent person might sit without having his feelings shocked.

7267. *Chairman.*] Are there other places where things take place, which might be called obscene?—Not what would be technically called obscene, certainly not; I do not mean to say that in some of the dancing there are not things which might suggest improper thoughts to innocent minds.

7268. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Are there such things at Sheffield as casinos at all?—Many persons consider a casino a singing room.

7269. But I mean public dancing rooms?—No; we had two places of that kind, but they have been suppressed.

7270. You have none at the present time?—None.

7271. How many persons would the largest music hall hold?—The Alexandra would accommodate 3,000 or 4,000 people.

7272. You say that it is a well conducted place?—Exceedingly well conducted; I know of none better.

7273. Does the proprietor have policemen there?—Yes, every night.

7274. Where do they stand?—They stand at the door, and if any person who is believed to be an improper character presents himself for admission, the policeman reports it to the doorkeeper, and he refuses him admittance.

7275. Do you think it might be an advantage, with regard to many of the houses in Sheffield, if the police had more distinctly defined powers?—I do not think so; but I do think that if the magistrates had the power to make rules, somewhat similar to the rules for theatres, it would be an advantage.

7276. Mr. *Clay.*] You have not yourself much experience of those establishments which we called casinos?—No.

7277. The name is taken from a well known establishment in London; do you know sufficiently of those casinos to be aware that they are places where women of notoriously bad character went, for the purpose of plying their profession?—No, I do not know that; if they did go there for that purpose, I should very decidedly object to them.

7278. Are you aware that in some places where those casinos existed, music halls having been subsequently established, the casino has been closed because so many respectable people preferred the more decent entertainment of the music halls?—No, I do not know that; my knowledge is exceedingly limited with regard to that class of house.

7279. Does not it appear to you very probable that if a music hall, with all its ordinary entertainments, which any class of people may enjoy, were started in a place where one of those casinos existed, the tendency would be to take away the more respectable parts of the people who went to the casino, and thereby diminish the evil?—Respectable people will go to respectable places, and disreputable people will go to disreputable places; but inasmuch as I have no knowledge of what takes place in those casinos, I cannot answer your question more definitely.

7280. But if there is only one place of amusement of any kind, both classes of people are likely to go to it, I suppose?—No, I think not; respectable people would not go to a disreputable place, even supposing that no other place of amusement existed.

7281. Mr. *Miller.*] Are the music halls in Sheffield subject to any magisterial rules?—No; they have a music hall at Sheffield which is nothing

J. Jackson, Esq.

1 June 1866.

nothing more than a concert hall, at which concerts are occasionally held. That is not in any way subject to magisterial interference. It is a hall belonging to a body of proprietors, who built it for the purpose of diffusing a more general feeling in favour of good music. With regard to the other music hall, of which I have been speaking, namely, the Alexandra, which I have already said is well conducted, that is the property of the person who keeps it; of course it is to his advantage to have it filled, and it is exceedingly well conducted.

7282. Mr. *Locke.*] Did you say whether that music hall has a spirit license or not?—It has no spirit license, but beer is sold in refreshment rooms attached to the building, just as though you passed from this room into the lobby.

7283. Mr. *Miller.*] Are there any establishments in Sheffield where theatrical performances are given, and where the audience are sitting while smoking, eating, and drinking are going on?—None.

7284. Not one at all?—Not one at all.

7285. Mr. *Locke.*] Are there places where there is dancing in character?—Those are not, in my opinion, theatrical performances; if they were, our police would lay informations against them, under my direction.

7286. *Chairman.*] Under what authority would the police do that?—Under the 6th & 7th Vict., which imposes a penalty of 20*l.*

7287. You consider it to be your duty to lay informations in all cases where those theatrical performances are given without a license?—Certainly.

7288. But if theatrical performances were got up for charity in some large private house, where they charged an entrance fee of 5*s.*, would you lay information against them, in order to impose that penalty of 20*l.*?—I should have to consider whether or no it was a public performance; if it was, it would be my duty, undoubtedly, to lay an information against them.

7289. Have you ever had a case of that kind?—I have never known it; that question has never arisen.

7290. Have there never been performances in Sheffield where private theatrical entertainments have been given for charitable purposes?—Yes, but they have been held at properly licensed theatres.

7291. But if they had held them in a hall, and they had not first applied to the magistrates for a license, what would have been the result?—I should have laid an information against them. The license only costs 7*s.* 6*d.* to obtain, and they can get it by asking for it.

7292. Mr. *Miller.*] You have stated, that if any improper characters presented themselves at the doors of certain establishments, they would not be admitted?—Not at the Alexandra music hall.

7293. Did you confine that observation to the Alexandra?—Yes.

7294. Now, supposing a person goes to the Alexandra, and conducts herself with quietness and propriety of manner, and suppose you knew she was an improper character, would you in that case oblige her to leave?—She would not be allowed to enter, if the officer at the door knew she was a common prostitute.

7295. Do you find that you are obliged very frequently to exclude such persons?—No, because it is well known that they cannot get in, and therefore they do not present themselves; my officers rarely report that such characters ever present themselves at all for admission. I have myself frequently looked into the Alexandra, and I never knew such persons to be there.

7296. Do you know the London music halls?—Very little, except from having occasionally gone there when I have been in town.

7297. You must have seen improper characters there, I suppose?—I have in one case seen persons of improper character there, which induced me to leave.

7298. Now, in the case to which you refer, was the place in all other respects respectable?—I was there but for a very short time, but I was so rudely insulted, that I went out immediately.

7299. By whom were you insulted?—By a person who was there.

7300. By a woman?—Yes.

7301. *Chairman.*] But that never happened to you in Sheffield?—No.

7302. Mr. *Locke.*] They know you in Sheffield?—Yes.

7303. Mr. *Miller.*] Do you, in fact, arrive at this conclusion, that if the London halls were conducted with the same stringent regularity that the music hall at Sheffield is conducted with, they would be a great public advantage?—I know a singing room in London that I believe to be exceedingly well conducted; I have gone there frequently, and very much enjoyed myself.

7304. Do you think it practicable in London to put the London rooms on the same footing, and under the same regulations, that the Sheffield rooms are placed under?—There is one which I am now speaking of, Evans's, from which females are entirely excluded, and I do not know that any place could be better conducted than that place appears to be.

7305. There is no smoking at the Alexandra music hall in Sheffield, I suppose?—It is contrary to rule, but I have seen smoking there.

7306. What is the entrance fee?—The upper gallery is 3*d.*; the other prices are 6*d.*, 1*s.*, and 2*s.*

7307. Mr. *Powell.*] You made some observation to the effect that disreputable people go to disreputable places, and respectable people to respectable places; do you draw a hard line between respectable and disreputable people?—I have a line of my own, made from my own knowledge of the people.

7308. Do you not think there are some respectable people whose respectability is fragile; who, if they were to abstain from certain society would remain respectable, but if they entered into temptation would become disreputable?—I think that is quite likely.

7309. Can you tell me if there are any places of amusement in Sheffield where there is a platform (I avoid the term "stage," because it is a theatrical phrase), on which things are done for the amusement of the audience, while the people in the audience part of the house are smoking, eating, and drinking during the doing of those things?—Yes; we have very nearly a score of public houses at Sheffield where there are performances of that character.

7310. Of what character do you mean?—I mean singing.

7311. You mean in costume?—In costume.

7312. By how many persons at one time?—By not more than two persons; nigger songs, and Irish songs, and matters of that kind.

7313. Any

7313. Any dancing?—Yes, dancing; but not by more than two persons at one time.

7314. By dancing do you mean dancing in the nature of a ballet; mere dumb show; or dancing accompanying the song to give it more effect?—Yes, dancing accompanying the song; at the end of the verse they will dance a little before singing another verse.

7315. But you do not mean ballet?—No; ballets do not at all take place in public houses in Sheffield.

7316. How many persons would there be received within one rooom of this kind, on the average?—They are constantly coming in and going out; there are three rooms that would hold upwards of 100 people each.

7317. How many rooms of that class would there be?—There are four places of that kind.

7318. Could you give the Committee the names of those places?—There is one in Union-street, there is the "Old Tankard" in West Bar, there is another, "The Union Inn," I think it is called, but I am not quite sure; and there is another in Pinfold-street.

7319. Are those places connected with the public houses?—Yes.

7320. Physically and structurally connected?—Yes.

7321. Have those public houses spirit licenses?—Yes.

7322. Is the access to the room through the public house, or by a separate entrance?—In two of the cases the access to the room is separate, and in the other two you pass through the public house.

7323. Are you aware whether the police make any inquiries with regard to safety of access and egress at those four houses?—No; no special report has been made to the magistrates on that subject.

7324. Are you aware of any case where a statement has been made to the bench of magistrates that the building was unsafe, and where the license has been suspended or threatened to be suspended?—No.

7325. Is there any provision against fire, by means of an engine for the purpose, or a hose, or anything of that kind, at those places?—Not at those public houses.

7326. Do you observe that the individuals composing the audience are constantly going backwards and forwards between those rooms and the drinking part of the house, or do they remain in the rooms for a considerable period at a time?—I think that they do not pass backwards and forwards between the room and the public house.

7327. During how many hours does the performance continue?—Those public houses are, of course, forced to close at one o'clock, and in pretty nearly every instance they close even before that time; as a general rule the performance does not begin until about eight o'clock.

7328. And it closes when?—Never later than one o'clock.

7329. Is it the duty of the police to be on the look out for those places, to enter them, and see that things are properly done?—Yes, certainly.

7330. Supposing there was to be a room opened that might or might not be connected with a public house, and it was advertised that there were certain amusements going on, would it be the duty of the police to enter that room to see that there was nothing improper there?—Do you mean a room not connected with a public house?

7331. Yes, put it so, if you like?—What character of amusement?

7332. Singing, or anything to draw the people together for the purpose of amusement?—I do not know if the law would confer any right on the police to go in if the room was not connected with a public house, and if it was not a theatrical entertainment; I know of no power which would give the police a right to enter private rooms.

7333. *Chairman.*] But the honourable Member is speaking of public concert rooms where money is taken at the doors; would the police be able to enter concert rooms which had not spirit licenses?—The law confers no power on the police with regard to that subject; they would do it if any complaint were made that any impropriety was taking place.

7334. Mr. *Powell.*] But you issue no such instructions to the police with regard to such places?—We have no such places, therefore I have no occasion to instruct the police.

7335. Have you any literary institutions in Sheffield?—Yes.

7336. Has there been any desire on the part of the persons managing those institutions to perform theatrical pieces?—I have never heard that desire expressed.

7337. *Chairman.*] Do the police consider it their duty to look after the performances as well as the audience in those places connected with the public houses, where they have singing going on?—Yes, they look to see that no impropriety is taking place, and that the proprietor of the establishment is maintaining good rule and order.

7338. If there were songs sung of an improper and gross character, would the police prevent it?—Undoubtedly.

7339. Have they ever done so?—No, none have ever taken place except in the two instances where the magistrates suppressed the rooms.

7340. Mr. *Locke.*] That was where there was dancing on the part of the audience?—Yes.

7341. *Chairman.*] But you know of no case where the police have laid informations against those houses for impropriety in the performance itself?—No, nor do I know of any impropriety in the performance.

7342. During the whole of the 18 years that you have been at Sheffield and Oldham, you have never known the police to interfere with the performances in any of those places?—I can recollect the police laying one information, but not more, in the case of Oldham, a theatrical performance having been acted without a license.

7343. But the police have never interfered with the performances, to your knowledge, on the ground of the performances being improper?—No.

7344. Do you gather from that that there are no improprieties in the performances ever occurring at any time in Sheffield?—I think there are no gross improprieties. I have been in every one of those places in Sheffield, and I never saw anything of the kind.

7345. You have never seen anything objectionable in the character of the songs?—Nothing very objectionable in any of them. There are some of the places, of course, at which the

J. Jackson, Esq.

1 June 1866.

the character of the song is better and much better sung than at others.

7346. But none of such a character that the police would interfere with, or would they interfere in any case?—I am sure they would.

7347. Do you think that it would be an improvement on the present system to make the music halls take out licenses for music and dancing, as is the case in London, or is it better, in your opinion, to leave the matter as it is?—I think it would be better that the magistrates should have the power to introduce such rules as they have introduced at the theatres. I have already spoken of the Alexandra Music Hall as being a well-conducted place; but it might change its proprietor in six months, and it might be in the hands of a totally different person, and he might make the place objectionable.

7348. You would, on the whole, recommend a change in the law, and that licenses should be taken out for music and dancing?—Yes.

7349. That music and dancing should not be allowed without a license?—Yes, and that the license should be granted by the magistrates.

7350. In that case would you anticipate that some of the magistrates would grant a license for music and dancing, and that others would refuse it?—I know of magistrates who have a very strong objection to music and dancing taking place in public houses.

7351. And they might refuse the license simply on that ground?—Yes, they might.

7352. So that if the power of licensing for music and dancing were given to the magistrates, there would be great uncertainty with respect to whether people would be able to obtain the license or not?—Of course if those licenses were granted by the magistrates, they would have to be granted at special sessions, to which the whole of the magistrates would be summoned, and the licenses would represent the opinion of the majority, and I should not hesitate to take that opinion.

7353. You think it would be a good thing that licenses should be taken out for music and dancing at the quarter sessions?—Yes, I would give the right of appeal to the quarter sessions; the magistrates of the borough in petty sessions having the power of refusal, as is now the case with regard to public houses; if a license is withheld from any particular house by the justices of any particular sessional division, the man can appeal to the quarter sessions, and I would give the same right in the other case.

7354. Have the police sufficient powers under the present Acts of Parliament to deal both with the music halls, the performances, and every thing of that kind, or are you obliged to go beyond your powers?—I am very careful not to go beyond my powers; I think it is a very unwise thing for any officer to do.

7355. Still I understand you to say that in the concert rooms not licensed it might be a question whether you could interfere or not?—I should direct an officer to go in and see what the improprieties consisted of, and if there were gross immoralities I should find some law which would enable me to deal with that case.

7356. Colonel *Sturt.*] But if there were no law which would enable you to deal with a case of that kind, you would be liable to have an action brought against you if you interfered, would you not?—Yes, no doubt.

7357. *Chairman.*] But you have never been pulled up by the absence of sufficient powers with regard to theatrical matters?—Not with regard to theatres; but with regard to the other places, I should prefer, as I have already stated, to see them licensed by the magistrates.

7358. You would consider it your duty to lay information if anything like a theatrical performance were to go on in the concert rooms?—Yes, I should consider it my duty to lay information against them.

7359. Then your inspector would be the judge whether it was a theatrical performance or not?—He would report to me what took place, and I should then, to the best of my judgment, determine whether it was a theatrical performance or not.

7360. Have you ever been in a difficulty about such a case?—I have.

7361. Will you state to the Committee what was the nature of that case?—It was a case in which I laid an information; I was doubtful whether it was a theatrical performance or not, and I procured the assistance of a person well versed in theatrical matters to accompany my inspector, to give his opinion whether it was a theatrical performance or not; I laid the information; the magistrates were satisfied with the evidence which I produced, and there was a conviction.

7362. Mr. *Clive.*] What was the nature of the performance in that case?—I scarcely recollect it exactly; it occurred many years ago; it is 12 years ago, I should say.

7363. Mr. *Locke.*] Was it a stage play?—Yes, but I do not recollect what particular stage play it was.

7364. *Chairman.*] There was no doubt about its being an ordinary stage play?—None whatever.

7365. But what I meant was this; have you ever found yourself in a difficulty as to deciding whether it was a theatrical performance or not; take a case of half concert performance and half theatrical performance, for instance?—Difficulties of that kind have presented themselves to my own mind, no doubt.

7366. And the decision rests with you only?—If I take proceedings, of course it does.

7367. And you are the person who would raise the proceedings?—I should consider it my duty to do so, if I believed a man to be infringing that Act.

7368. The fact is, then, that whether certain performances can be given or not, depends on your decision?—Other persons can lay informations; any theatrical manager could lay an information.

7369. Have you had any difficulties in your own interpretation of the Act?—I have seen myself things taking place in public houses, where I had some difficulty in determining whether it was a theatrical performance or not.

7370. Have you known cases in Sheffield where managers have laid informations?—Yes, I recollect one information being laid against a sort of pantomime which was taking place in a circus, and the information was dismissed; the magistrates did not believe that it was a theatrical performance, and they dismissed it.

7371. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Before the license is granted by the magistrates, do they take any means to inform themselves whether a building is properly constructed with reference to risk from fire?—There is only one theatre in Sheffield, which is well known to every magistrate in the place.

7372. But would that be a condition that would be always looked into?—No doubt.

7373. In

7373. In your experience in Oldham, did the same thing take place?—Yes.

7374. It is a necessary condition before the license is granted, that the building should be properly constructed?—Yes.

7375. Colonel *Sturt.*] The police at Sheffield have not any greater powers than the police in other towns, I suppose?—No.

7376. *Chairman.*] Have you any further observations to make to the Committee?—No.

Mr. Daniel Saunders, called in; and Examined.

7377. Mr. *Loche.*] I believe that you are the manager of Day's Music Hall, at Birmingham?—Yes.

7378. How long have you been manager of that house?—About three years and a half.

7379. How many persons is it capable of accommodating?—2,500.

7380. How are you licensed?—By the magistrates.

7381. What license have you?—A music and dancing license.

7382. Have you a local Act?—Yes, I produce the Act of 1851.

7383. Can you give the Committee the precise title of the Act and its date; is it an Act of the 14 & 15 Vict. c. 93?—Yes.

7384. It is a local Act?—Yes.

7385. "An Act for transferring to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, the estates, properties, and effects now vested in certain commissioners having jurisdiction over parts of the borough, and to provide for the better draining, lighting, paving, supplying with water, and otherwise improving the said borough, and making provision for the good government, regulation, and management thereof." Under what section of this Act is it that you have your license; is your license a wine and spirit license?—No, but there is a wine and spirit license which was attached to the establishment; previously to its being a music hall, it was a public house.

7386. That license is granted annually by the magistrates?—Yes.

7387. It is attached to the place so long as the magistrates choose to give it?—Yes.

7388. And, in addition to that, you have another license?—Yes; for the large hall, which is for music and dancing.

7389. That is a music and dancing license which is granted to you?—Yes.

7390. Without that license you would be liable to penalties?—Yes; certainly.

7391. What description of music and dancing do you get your license for?—For music and ballet dancing; for dancing on the stage.

7392. *Chairman.*] You have got a stage there?—Yes.

7393. Mr. *Locke.*] Have you got a theatrical license?—No, we have not.

7394. But the magistrates at Birmingham grant theatrical licenses, do they not?—Yes.

7395. Do they grant the licenses to the theatres at Birmingham?—They do to one theatre.

7396. They likewise grant the music and dancing license; do they also grant the wine and spirit license?—They do.

7397. You have a stage and scenery there?—Yes.

7398. How many performers have you engaged there?—Probably 120.

7399. Will you inform the Committee what is the description of your performance?—The best thing I can do, I think, is to give you a programme of an evening's entertainment (*handing in a specimen programme.*)

7400. "Day's Crystal Palace Concert Hall, Smallbrook-street, Birmingham; Sole Proprietor, Mr. James Day. Thursday, May 10th 1866." You begin with a concert, I see?—Yes.

7401. "During which will be exhibited an Act Drop, 'The New Street Station'"?—Yes.

7402. Does that come in the middle of the concert?—Yes; in the middle of the concert, while the overture is being played.

7403. "Grand Garland Divertissement, supported by Miss Fanny Lauri and a New London Corps de Ballet; scenery by Messrs. E. Day and J. Watson;" what was that ballet?—That was a ballet of the usual kind, with appropriate scenery; the scenery in this case was a scene by moonlight.

7404. Did that ballet tell a story?—No; it told no story.

7405. "Grand Selection from Bellini's favourite opera 'Norma,'" and several other pieces?—Yes.

7406. Did those singers sing in character?—No; in evening dress.

7407. Now I see here, "Comic Entertainment, by Mr. J. G. Forde;" what is that?—He is what is called a patter-comic singer, after the style of Mr. Charles Mathews.

7408. Then there is a gymnastic entertainment by the Brothers Ridley, "Reading—Mr. Reuben Roe; Waltz (Gungl) Orchestra;" that is merely music given by the orchestra, I suppose?—Just so.

7409. Then you had a pantomimic ballet, called "The Adventures of Lord Dundreary, supported by the celebrated Lauri family; Comic Song, Serio-comic Song, and Ethiopian Entertainment." You had this pantomimic ballet, the "Adventures of Lord Dundreary;" did that come within the provisions of the 6 & 7 Victoria?—According to my interpretation of it, it does.

7410. Have you been at all proceeded against by the theatrical managers of Birmingham?—We have.

7411. When was that?—That was about 18 months ago.

7412. What was the performance that they objected to?—It was the representation of the Ghost Illusion.

7413. Was that representation of the Ghost Illusion in a piece?—Yes; it was introduced into a piece, which was the vehicle for it.

7414. How many actors were there in that piece?—There were two on the stage, and all the rest were underneath.

7415. You had the same kind of contrivance that they had at the Canterbury Hall?—Yes.

7416. With two performers on the stage, and all the others were merely reflections?—Yes; shadows.

7417. You were proceeded against; and the case was ultimately decided in the Court of Common Pleas?—Yes.

Mr. *D. Saunders.* 1 June 1866.

7418. And the decision was against you, was it not?—Yes; we were first summoned before the magistrates by Mr. Simpson and Mr. Swanborough; the case was decided against us, and Mr. Day was convicted.

7419. First of all, who were the magistrates?—Mr. Kinnersley, the stipendiary magistrate; I do not remember who were the others.

7420. A case was granted for the opinion of the Court of Common Pleas?—Yes.

7421. And the Court of Common Pleas confirmed the decision of the magistrates, that it was a performance of the stage?—Yes.

7422. In consequence of that did you discontinue performances of that description?—It was a peculiar case; in the first instance, we had a desire to produce the Ghost Illusion, and were in treaty with Mr. Pepper for permission to use his patent; we did not succeed, and previous to the second application Mr. Simpson had purchased the rights; when we went to Mr. Pepper again he said it was too late; that the sole right had been sold to Mr. Simpson. Mr. Day wished again to introduce that illusion; negociations were commenced, and it was at last agreed that Mr. Day should pay over to Mr. Simpson 100*l.* for permission to use it conjointly with himself at Birmingham; the money was paid over, and Mr. Day introduced the entertainment which was prosecuted.

7423. But after that did you discontinue that performance?—We discontinued having the performers on the stage.

7424. Was there any speaking in the performance?—There was in the first instance.

7425. You gave that up?—Yes.

7426. But then having only one person on the stage and no dialogue you continued it?—Yes.

7427. And no further proceedings were taken?—No further proceedings were taken.

7428. But with regard to the pantomimic ballet, the "Adventures of Lord Dundreary," that would come within the Act, would it not?—I think so.

7429. But no proceedings have been taken against you with regard to that?—None.

7430. In fact, proceedings were taken by the manager, on that occasion, in consequence of your interfering with his ghost?—Yes.

7431. Is this play-bill which you have handed in a fair specimen of the performances that you usually give?—Yes.

7432. You always have a piece of this description which you think would come within the Act?—Yes.

7433. What is the average admission fee at your hall?—I do not think it would amount to more than 6*d.*

7434. Will you be good enough to inform the Committee the exact prices?—Admission, 1*s.* front stalls; 6*d.* side stalls; 6*d.* for the floor, with 3*d.* returned in refreshments; 7*d.* or 8*d.* would be the average.

7435. Threepence is returned in refreshments on the floor?—Yes, 3*d.* is returned by check.

7436. Now, what class of people compose the bulk of the audience?—Our audiences are generally composed of a very superior class of people, manufacturers and their wives, tradesmen and their wives, artizans and their wives, and on special occasions, and sometimes without special occasion, the magistrates visit us; and ever since the hall has been opened the magistrates are very well satisfied with the way in which it is conducted, and as the result of that entertainment for the benefit of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, I can point out the opinion of one of the magistrates who is chairman of the society.

7437. Who was this gentleman?—Mr. Alderman Phillips.

7438. He is the president of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum Society, is he not?—Yes.

7439. "The president then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. James Day, for his kindness in giving a benefit in aid of the funds of the charity; it was not the first benefit Mr. Day had given, for he believed he had given a benefit every year since the opening of the concert hall; he had the pleasure of attending the benefit on the previous evening, and thought it due to Mr. Day to say that the performance gave the highest satisfaction, and that the visitors, including some of the most influential men of the town, were struck with the admirable management of the place." Is that the opinion of the magistrates of the entertainments given at Birmingham?—There are a few magistrates, I believe, who object to anything of the kind, but those who are more liberal say that the place is well conducted, and they are highly satisfied with it.

7440. Now, with regard to the entertainments that you find it necessary to give at the music halls, will you state to the Committee what description of performance you find it necessary to give, in order to make the place attractive?—It is necessary to give a variety; it is necessary to perform ballets; it is necessary to perform good music in the shape of operatic selections; and that pantomimic sketches should be given, it is necessary to make up a programme and to change it; it would be necessary, in fact, to have greater privileges than we have.

7441. What privileges would you desire to have in addition to what you have at present, though indeed I do not know that you have any?—We have none at present; I should like to play a scene from an opera entirely; I should like to play pantomimes, and to perform ballets and burlesques.

7442. Do you think it would be an advantage to you to have the privilege of playing a light vaudeville?—I do.

7443. Or such a piece as "Box and Cox," for instance?—Anything lasting more than three quarters of an hour in a concert hall would be against the interests of the establishment; they like continual change.

7444. If you had the same privilege as the theatres, do you think it would answer your purpose to give any kind of acting beyond a very light piece indeed of one act?—I do not think so.

7445. But you think that would be an advantage?—It would.

7446. You do know that ballet would be more attractive?—Of course, we have been performing ballets at our establishment ever since it has been opened, but we have been acting in fear until it was introduced into our license, and we had permission for stage dancing.

7447. That was introduced into your license by the magistrates, I suppose?—Yes, by the magistrates.

7448. Can you inform the Committee from memory exactly what is introduced into your license?—No; I am sorry to say that I have not got it with me.

7449. Can you furnish the Committee with a copy

copy of it?—Yes, I will furnish a copy to-morrow. Speaking from recollection, it is music and dancing; ballet dancing, which is clearly understood to take place on a stage, to make a distinction between that and a casino.

7450. Is that mentioned in the license?—No, but it is understood, for this reason, that the magistrates, when Mr. Day applied first of all for a license, asked him whether he applied for dancing among the audience, or for dancing on the stage, and they said that if it had been a kind of casino it would have been refused, but as it was for stage performances, the license was granted.

7451. Was that license distinctly given to you for a performance on the stage?—It was.

7452. You understood it so?—Yes.

7453. And you acted upon that?—Yes.

7454. If you had asked for a license for the audience to dance in that place, it would have been refused you?—Yes.

7455. The license distinctly was for the purpose of performances being given on the stage?—It was.

7456. Now, is there anything else that you would wish to have, in addition to that; should you wish to be able to act a scene out of a comedy or tragedy?—I do not think that the performance of tragedy would be any advantage to music halls.

7457. Would comedy?—No, not one scene.

7458. Then would it be necessary to have a complete performance, however short?—Yes.

7459. Mr. *Walpole.*] Do you think that, in any Act of Parliament, you could draw a distinction between those things that should be allowed at the music halls, and those things that should come under the denomination of stage plays?—I think there might be an extension of the privilege; certain things might probably be defined.

7460. Suppose the existing Act of Parliament with regard to the licensing of stage plays, tragedies, and comedies, and things of that kind, was to remain in force, and that it should be the opinion of this Committee that they could recommend to the House of Commons, in the licensing of music halls, to allow them to play operas and ballets, and so on, do you think that that distinction could be drawn so as not to create great difficulty in the interpretation of the Act?—I think it is possible.

7461. Have you ever turned that over in your mind?—The difficulty seems to me to understand what is a stage play or not.

7462. Would you not increase that difficulty if you said that the music halls should be allowed, in certain cases, to have operas, or parts of operas, performed; how could you draw a workable distinction between an opera, or part of an opera, which should be allowed to be performed on the stage, and any other piece of music that might be mixed up with it?—If a general permission to perform operas or operettas *complete* were granted, all those distinctions might be well made, I think.

7463. Mr. *Locke.*] I understood you to say that it would not suit your purpose to play any heavy or *long* pieces?—No.

7464. Mr. *Miller.*] Could you suggest a clause that should make a clear distinction between plays that were performed at theatres, and those that you might perform at music halls?—I think it might be done in this way, by making the law so that concert halls might be enabled to play ballets and operettas.

7465. But how would you draw a clause so as correctly and clearly to define the difference?—It is a little more than I should be able to manage.

7466. Mr. *Powell.*] Probably you have not considered that point sufficiently to give an answer to the question, as to how you would legally define the point?—No, I have not.

7467. You give your opinion as to what you would wish, and the legal definition you leave?—Yes, just so.

7468. Mr. *Clay.*] You say that you would allow music halls to perform operettas; will you kindly inform the Committee what, in your opinion, the legal definition of the word "operetta" would be?—Operettas I understand to be generally played by a limited number of persons.

7469. Do you really think it would be possible for the law to make any such distinction as that?—I think it would be just the same as it is now; it would probably raise contention.

7470. What are commonly understood at the present moment as operettas; are the works of Offenbach; if those are operettas, will you tell me how the law is to distinguish between such a musical performance as that, and that of "L'Elisir d'Amore," which does not require more people, which is not longer in the playing, and the music of which is of quite as light a character?—That is more than I can answer. I do not think it would be possible to distinguish them.

7471. Yet if you had a license which enabled you to play Offenbach, and then if you were to play "L'Elisir d'Amore," should you not expect that the proprietors of the legal establishments would be down on you immediately for infringing their rights?—I should think they would.

7472. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Do you think it would be possible to settle the matter by limiting the number of performers, without making any definition of operetta, comedy, or ballet, or any other performance, because I see in your programme a selection from an opera, and there you have only two actors and one actor?—Three actors.

7473. Would that number of three actors be generally sufficient for all your purposes?—Probably four would be sufficient, with the chorus.

7474. I mean three actors on the stage at one time?—I do not think that would be of any use.

7475. Would four actors be sufficient?—No.

7476. Then what number would be sufficient?—I consider it would differ to some extent, according to the size of the place.

7477. In fact, you could not limit the number?—No; in our place we could not, because the place is so large.

7478. Mr. *Clay.*] You play selections at your music hall?—Yes.

7479. How many are there in your selections, generally speaking, including the chorus and all?—Probably 20 or 25.

7480. Is the selection, then, the most expensive part of your performance to you?—Yes, it is.

7481. Do you consider that on the whole they are about the most refined of the entertainments which you offer to the public?—I am always of opinion that good music is the foundation of the entertainment at every music hall.

7482. I presume you would not incur so large an expense if you did not find this selection, which is one of the most refined of the entertain-

Mr. *D. Saunders.*

1 June 1866.

ments you give, was that which most drew the public to your hall?—I think I should advise them to continue the music in the way that it is given now, probably introducing operettas with it.

7483. I suppose your performers in the selections are not in costume?—No; they are in evening dress.

7484. Do you consider that it would be an advantage to you if the law allowed you, instead of giving those selections, to give scenes or acts out of operas?—That is exactly what I want.

7485. Is it the case that to do that would be less expense to you, not obliging you to have so many persons to fill your stage?—I do not think it would be less expensive, but it would be more attractive.

7486. If you had entire freedom, I suppose you would not be likely to play "Macbeth" or "Don Giovanni"?—No; we would not.

7487. But should you object to have the power of doing it if you choose?—We should very much like to have the privilege of doing part of them.

7488. But should you have any objection to be left entirely free to do anything you liked?—Certainly not.

7489. I ask you that question because Mr. Frederick Stanley, who gave evidence before this Committee, as he stated on the part of the proprietors of most of the London music halls, said that those proprietors very decidedly would object to be left free, and that they would like to be shackled in some way; is that your feeling?—Certainly not.

7490. You have no fear that if you were left to do just as you like, that you would turn your hall into a legitimate theatre, and be ruined in consequence?—I have no fear of that kind.

7491. You do not agree with that portion of Mr. Stanley's evidence?—I do not.

7492. You think that if you were limited to three persons it would do you no good at all?—It would not.

7493. If the limit was four or five, or six persons would you not still find many instances in which you would be most inconveniently shackled with regard to the performances that you would like to give?—Certainly, and for this reason: that I could not introduce an opera without a chorus, and there are principals as well as chorus, and it would require 20 or 25 people to do the thing properly.

7494. Then, at all events, so far as those performances which you are likely to wish to give go, it would be a great advantage to you to be unfettered altogether with respect to the number of performers?—Yes; it would.

7495. Then I will ask you again the question which the right honourable gentleman filling the chair, in the absence of Mr. Göschen, asked you, does it not strike you as being altogether impossible to draw any distinction between what are called legitimate performances, and what for the want of a better name, we will call illegitimate performances, which would not lead to numberless disputes?—That would be, in my opinion, the danger of having a line drawn.

7496. Is it your belief that the most satisfactory state of the law for all parties would be to allow the proprietors of every theatre and every music hall free liberty to give that sort of entertainment which they thought best suited for their audiences?—I believe it would be better to do so.

7497. Lord *Ernest Bruce.*] Do I understand you to say that in this performance of "Norma" you only give give a portion of the opera, and that you have no costume?—None.

7498. And no scenic performances?—No.

7499. But that performance is given on a stage?—Yes.

7500. You have a chairman there?—Yes.

7501. It is more in the style of Evans's Music Hall, in Covent Garden, than anything else?—Yes.

7502. There is no attempt to act, is there?—We have produced a selection from "Il Trovatore," when the whole of the Miserere scene has been performed.

7503. And likewise you have a divertissement, with dancing on the stage before a scene?—Yes.

7504. A bridge, a wood, or a waterfall?—Anything that we may require.

7505. The magistrates grant you your license, do they not?—Yes.

7506. Is the license renewed every year?—Yes.

7507. Do the magistrates ever attend themselves, or does anybody representing them ever attend?—Yes, they frequently attend the hall.

7508. And likewise there are persons who report to the magistrates, I suppose, how the performance goes on?—Yes, we have police there always on duty.

7509. What are your prices?—Five shillings for the boxes, of which there are only two; I have already given the prices.

7510. What o'clock does the performance begin?—At seven o'clock.

7511 And it is over at 11 o'clock?—Yes, all the year round.

7512. Your license is renewed annually, you say?—Yes.

7513. It is, therefore, held during good behaviour?—Yes.

7514. Is there any fee for the license?—It is very small.

7515. A fee to the magistrate's clerk?—Yes.

7516. If you give a new song that you know has never been sung before, do you apply to the Lord Chamberlain for a license?—No.

7517. Or for any new piece?—No.

7518. But you are aware that, correctly speaking, you ought to have a license?—We have never applied for it.

7519. Has there been any displeasure expressed on the part of the magistrates, or any prosecution instituted against you?—No.

7520. How long have you been there?—Three-and-a-half years.

7521. You do not retain a complete dramatic company?—No.

7522. Are there many of those music halls in Birmingham open under this kind of license?—There are three places open for music and dancing, which I think is all.

7523. And one theatre royal?—Yes; and the Prince of Wales's Theatre too.

7524. Mr. *Powell.*] How many spectators have you room for in your music hall at one time?—It would be very full with 2,500 people.

7525. Is there smoking, eating, and drinking among the audience during the performance?—Yes.

7526. As in the London music halls?—Yes, just the same as in the London music halls.

7527. Do you leave the music hall open after the performances have closed?—No; it is closed with the performance.

7528. And it opens with the performance?—The hall opens with the performance.

7529. Do you take any steps to exclude improper characters?—Yes, we have an officer always at the entrance, and it is his duty, if he is of opinion that a person is an improper character to be admitted, to refuse him admittance.

7530. If there was reason to suppose that a woman of improper character was coming to your hall in pursuit of her unhappy vocation, it would be the officer's duty to exclude her, would it?—Yes, we do not admit them at all if we know it.

7531. If a woman came frequently alone, for example, or if there was any circumstance of that kind, such as to indicate her vocation, would you exclude her?—No, I do not think I should; so long as she conducted herself properly she would have as much right to be there as any one else, in my opinion.

7532. Do you give any free orders?—None; except to the people who exhibit our bills.

7533. Who may give them to their friends, probably?—Yes.

7534. You say that you have scenes from operas at your music hall lasting not more than three quarters of an hour?—That is not more than they last at any of the music halls.

7535. But if you had a series of scenes from operas, each of them not lasting more than an hour, you might give a number of operatic performances in the same evening, might you not?—Yes, if we had permission to do so; but I do not think it would pay us to do so.

7536. Are you not aware that in many of the opera houses abroad the performance does not consist as in England of one complete opera, but of a number of *morceaux*, as they call them, from different operas.

7537. And you wish to do at the music halls here what is done at such opera houses abroad?—That is exactly what I meant to convey to the Committee.

7538. Can you explain to the Committee, simply and shortly, exactly what you do now at your own music hall?—The programme is generally of the same character as nearly as possible (*producing a programme*).

7539. In answer to a question from an honourable Member, you have stated that you have a license for a performance of the stage, probably you meant that your license would enable you to perform ballet?—Just so.

7540. Not that your license gave you authority to perform a stage play?—No.

7541. When you gave that Miserere scene from "Il Trovatore," which is a scene of a somewhat melancholy character, did you find that the audience paid attention to it?—Very much so indeed; they were very attentive and very appreciative.

7542. Did the consumption of spirits go on during the performance of that melancholy scene?—The consumption of spirits at those places is not so great as has been asserted here.

Mr. *D. Saunders.*

1 June 1866.

7543. Then why not abandon it altogether?—A person sitting for three or four hours might require refreshment. It may take 15 minutes to perform a scene like that, and the audience are all quiet, and the waiters are all quiet, at such a time as that.

7544. But if you were to have a scene of engrossing interest, lasting three quarters of an hour, how would that consist with smoking, eating, and drinking?—It would not be all of the same character if it lasted three quarters of an hour.

7545. But the interest, though varying, might be, as I said, engrossing?—I think there would be as much attention there as there would be at the opera house.

7546. Do you think that smoking, eating and drinking would cease?—Smoking would not cease. The glasses would remain on the table; but the waiters do not bustle about so much when anything particular is going on as they do at other times. We have now Mr. Cooper, a gentleman of great repute as a solo-violinist at our establishment, and it would be impossible for him to play if the noise continued. The place is as quiet as it could be during the performance.

7547. Can you point out any section in this private local Act, except section 83, which refers to theatres and music halls, and other places of a kindred character?—I think it is all condensed in that section; but I will put in a copy of the license.

7548. How many music halls are there in Birmingham besides your own?—Two.

7549. By music halls you mean places where there is a platform for singing, or whatever it may be, and a consumption of liquors and smoking of cigars among the audience during the performance?—Yes.

7550. Are there many minor places of entertainment in public houses in your town?—There are none that I know of.

7551. Are there only three music halls in Birmingham altogether?—There are a few places that are licensed for harmonic meetings only.

7552. Are there any rooms in Birmingham holding 50 or 60 visitors at one time, where there is a platform on which singing, or anything else, takes place?—Not one.

7553. And none where there is any dancing going on?—Not one that I know of.

7554. Have you any public gardens, in the nature of the Cremorne gardens, in Birmingham?—No, the only place of that kind is the lower ground at Aston Park.

7555. *Chairman.*] Have you any further remarks to offer to the Committee?—No, I think not.

Friday, 8th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lord Eustace Cecil.	Mr. Locke.
Mr. Clay.	Mr. Taverner John Miller.
Mr. Clive.	Mr. Powell.
Mr. Du Cane.	Mr. Selwin.
Mr. Göschen.	Colonel Sturt.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN IN THE CHAIR.

The Right Honourable Viscount SYDNEY, G.C.B. (attending by permission of the House of Lords); Examined.

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

7556. *Chairman.*] WE are anxious to hear your Lordship's views on the present system of theatrical licenses. Several questions have arisen in the course of our investigation with regard to the desirability of maintaining the present system, or of extending it; and we should be much obliged if you would inform the Committee, in the first place, whether you would think it desirable, and if so, whether you think it could be arranged, that your office should license the music halls and superintend the performances there, in the same way as the theatres?—I have been strongly of opinion, for some time, that the theatres and music halls should be under one jurisdiction, either the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain or the Home Office, or a separate branch. I believe that the Lord Chamberlain's department could perfectly deal with it if the Queen should so think fit. Of course it would be necessary that we should have an additional staff, and that might be met by the fees that would be paid on the licenses given to the music halls by the Lord Chamberlain. My idea would be, that there should be two branches, one for the theatres and one for the music halls, the same as there is in Paris.

7557. Mr. *Powell.*] You would propose that there should be two separate licenses?—Yes, two licenses; separate licenses for the theatres, and separate licenses for the music halls. I may perhaps advert to what is done in Paris, which I have inquired into: the theatres and the *cafés chantants* are under the *Ministre de la Maison de l'Empéreur*, which is pretty much the same thing as if they were under the Lord Chamberlain here. Since there has been the *liberté des théâtres* any person may build a theatre, and use it, upon its being surveyed and reported as a fit place for the performance, and he may act any play which has passed before the *Censeur*. Then they have a separate branch of the same department for the *cafés chantants*, and the dancing-places; there the supervision is stricter, and the pieces are looked after a good deal by the *Préfet de Police*. I should suggest, that whatever department had the management of the theatres and music halls, something of the same kind should be done here, only without the application of the police. I do not think it would suit our habits or manners to have policemen watching everything that is going on; but there is so much liberty in the French *cafés chantants* and the *salles de danse*, that it is necessary to have police officers to look after the people.

7558. Do you think it would be wise to extend the same supervision to the music halls, and to put them under a license?—Yes, I think that the present system of licensing is very unsatisfactory; I give that opinion from having had communications with the proprietors of music halls, and also as acting magistrate in Kent, giving licenses for that part of Kent which comes under the Act of George the Second.

7559. Which is beyond the metropolitan district?—Yes, beyond the metropolitan district; Greenwich, Woolwich, and all that part.

7560. Being within a radius of 20 miles, however?—Yes, under the 25th of George the Second. I have always thought, speaking as a magistrate of Kent (for a long time before I turned my mind to this subject), that our jurisdiction is very unsatisfactory; we know very little about those places, which are completely in the hands of the local magistrates, and if we reverse their decision either way, we give great dissatisfaction.

7561. The Lord Chamberlain's Office is not supported by any grant of public money, is it?—We have a grant of a fixed sum from the Civil List, which is settled at the commencement of the reign.

7562. The duties performed, with regard to the theatres, by the Lord Chamberlain and his staff, are paid for by the Queen?—Yes; his staff are paid for by the Queen, except that the Examiner of Plays gets a fee upon the examination of the plays, and there are some small fees upon licenses. Mr. Donne has stated that his fees are a guinea for a single act piece, and two guineas for any longer piece.

7563. Do you think that if the present system were extended to the music halls it would be possible to find the necessary funds without any increase of cost to the public purse, by charging a fee for the licenses?—Yes.

7564. Are fees charged for licenses now, by the Lord Chamberlain, in licensing theatres?—Yes.

7565. And security is taken, is it not?—Yes, to secure the penalties which may be incurred under the Act.

7566. Do you think that that security is more than a sort of form, or that there is any substantial advantage in taking security at present?—I do not know that we have ever had to call upon the securities since I have been in the Lord Chamberlain's Office; but I think that it acts salutarily

salutarily on the managers of theatres to make them responsible to us.

7567. The music halls, in the licenses which they get, give no kind of security, do they?—No, not at present.

7568. If the system were extended, do you think that it might be a little difficult with the proprietors of the small music halls to find securities?—I have not turned my attention to that; but I should think there could be no objection to requiring security. Some years ago, when the first collision took place between the theatres and music halls, I had a deputation of managers of theatres on the subject; and after that some of the managers of music halls came to me also, although I had no jurisdiction, and said that they were anxious to express their opinion; and many of them stated to me (Mr. Stanley and others), that they were desirous of being placed under the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, and under the same regulations that the Lord Chamberlain's Office applied to the theatres. I thought so much of the matter at the time that I mentioned the subject to the late Sir George Lewis, at the Home Office, with a view of altering the law; and I also mentioned it to the late Prince Consort, for the purpose of getting the sanction of the Queen; but Sir George Lewis left the Home Office, and the subject dropped.

7569. Have you formed any opinion whether the Lord Chamberlain's or the Home Office would be the better department for the administration of these matters?—I believe that the Home Office is very much overburthened with business. It was Sir George Lewis's opinion that it would not be desirable to put any more business on them. We could manage it ourselves if we had a proper staff.

7570. A good deal has been said with regard to the desirability of having a permanent officer with an appeal to the Home Office, so that there should be no difficulty with regard to the views taken by the different Lord Chamberlains, or the different Secretaries of State?—That difficulty would apply to every office under the Government. But the Comptroller is a permanent man, and the Inspector of Theatres is a permanent man.

7571. What are the duties of the Comptroller?—He has the general management of the office; he is in the position of a permanent under secretary. Of late years it has been wished that the Comptroller should be a man of a higher class in society than he formerly was, and that he should have the status of a permanent under secretary; he manages the whole of the details of the office, but he cannot do anything out of the common routine without the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain.

7572. He being a permanent officer, there would be likely to be less divergence in the decisions of the office than there would be if the magistrates granted the licenses?—Yes, because they are a fluctuating body.

7573. And a numerous body?—And a numerous body.

7574. Can you inform the Committee the principles which the Lord Chamberlain has generally followed in the granting of licenses for theatres; whether your Lordship has turned your attention chiefly to the demand for theatres, or to the locality for which it was desired to have it, or to the respectability of the parties applying, or what other considerations have guided you?—I have been always disposed to license as many theatres as were compatible with the requirements that we lay down. Of course the locality is to be considered, and we generally consult the chief of the metropolitan police about it with regard to any possible inconvenience in the locality. The next thing is, if a new theatre is built, that proper entrances and proper exits should be made, and that the safety of the public should be considered in every possible way. I never made any objection to grant licenses when it was reported to me that the locality was a good one, and if the plans and specifications that were sent to us coincided with our views. There are two or three new theatres in contemplation now in London; there is one in Holborn, and one in Limehouse, and I have been always ready to license any other. There was one proposed somewhere near the Haymarket, which fell through because it was promoted by a theatrical company that afterwards failed.

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

7575. Your Lordship has not considered the question of competition in granting or withholding licenses?—No, I think not. I presume that if a manager proposed to build a theatre, he would know his own interest.

7576. It would be an erroneous impression, if such an impression existed, to suppose that the interests of the present proprietors of theatres were considered at all?—Certainly, so far as I am concerned.

7577. Can a manager, who is going to build a theatre, know before he builds it that he can obtain a license. It has been put before the Committee in this way; that it was first necessary to build the theatre, and that after a man had spent his money, it might be difficult to get a license?—The reverse is the case; they come to us to know whether we will grant a theatre in such a locality; then they bring the plans, and we make suggestions or alterations in the plans.

7578. Therefore there is no risk with regard to receiving the license at any later period; I think Mr. Dion Boucicault put the case that he had written to inquire whether it would be likely that he would get a license?—I think that Mr. Boucicault's case was the one which I alluded to near the Haymarket, but it fell through from the Company being bankrupt, and we heard no more about it, though we were quite ready to entertain the question. Highbury Barn was originally a music hall, and it is now turned into a theatre. Mr. Giovanelli, the manager, came to us, and I went personally to look at the place, and sanctioned a license for it. It was just the same when the Surrey Theatre was burnt down; before the new building was erected, the plans were examined in the office, and I sent a surveyor to look after the theatre; of course that was not the case of a new site; but in building a fresh theatre, we make certain conditions that the public shall have proper accommodation and safety secured.

7579. I suppose that you are more strict in providing for this kind of regulations in the new theatres than in the old ones?—Yes, of course. After the passing of Sir James Graham's Act of the 7th & 8th of the Queen, we took over a great many places as theatres which we would not license now if they started fresh. We have altered a great many of them upon surveys made by our surveyors; and I must say that the managers are always willing to fall in with our views,

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

views, and that the interiors are very much improved.

7580. With regard to the safety of the public, you mean?—Yes, the construction of the building.

7581. Do you grant the same form of license to an entertainment, like Mr. German Reed's, as to a theatre?—Yes.

7582. Do you think it would be possible to have two forms of license, one for theatres and one for music-halls?—Yes, I think so.

7583. Have you formed any opinion with regard to whether it would be desirable to give the music-halls the privilege of acting theatrical pieces?—That is a question of policy. Nothing of the kind is allowed in Paris; they will not allow dialogue or dress of any kind; they are very strict on that point.

7584. I was asking the question rather from this point of view, that if the music-halls were to have the right of performing certain pieces, whether it would be possible to define those pieces in the form of the license, or whether the experience of your officer is not, that it is very difficult to say what is a stage play, and what is not?—That has been left in a rather uncertain state by the last decision of the Court of Common Pleas.

7585. Have you any power to deal with those cases, if you choose, when music-halls perform theatrical pieces without licenses?—We do not act as informers; I have always declined to interfere; I believe that the managers of theatres expected that we should interfere, but I entirely declined; we leave it to the law; it is not the business of my department.

7586. Is it, to your Lordship's knowledge, the business of any department at all?—I am not aware that it is.

7587. Do you think it would be desirable that it should be the business of any department?—No, I do not think it should be; I think there ought to be a more rapid process of dealing with such questions than the present process of applying to the magistrates, and then going to the Courts at Westminster; but I do not think it would be desirable to have any system of *espionnage*.

7588. It is not now treated as a question of offence against the law, but as a question of rights between one party and another; but is it not practically an offence against the law to have theatrical performances without a license?—Yes, I apprehend that it is offending against the law, presuming the law is held to be as it is assumed to be by Mr. Strange and the gentlemen connected with the music-halls.

7589. We have had evidence from the country, for instance, that the police think it their duty to bring cases before the magistrates where the music-halls perform theatrical pieces without a license. There is nothing analogous to that in London, is there?—Not that I am aware of.

7590. But applications have been made to your Lordship to interfere?—Yes; or rather they have called our attention to the subject.

7591. But you have never called on any one to take out a license who was going to perform theatrical pieces without one?—No, it is the reverse; the applications are made to us.

7592. But if those applications were not made to you, so long as no one took any notice of it, and if proprietors of theatres did not move in the matter, no one would move at all?—So far as I am aware no one would move.

7593. But if it is desirable that the music-halls should take out licenses, then it might be necessary to be a little more stringent in enforcing the law?—Perhaps it might be so, but at present we have nothing to do with the music-halls at all, because if they act what is deemed a stage play it is the business of the persons injured to take action.

7594. If a place like the Alhambra were to take to acting stage plays without a license, would you interfere in any way with regard to the lighting and accesses of the theatre?—No; we should not interfere at all. I believe that at the Alhambra they do act what are deemed stage plays. I have not been there, but I am told so.

7595. Mr. *Locke*.] Do you mean ballets?—Just so; ballets. At the Canterbury-hall again they have ballets. And there were performances introducing Pepper's Ghost, which was coming very near the law. I have seen that personally, but we should never interfere.

7596. That performance was decided against?—Yes, I remember.

7597. *Chairman*.] Would your Lordship state to the Committee how far you interfere in the conduct of a licensed theatre; over what points you have jurisdiction; you interfere more or less with the regulations with regard to the lighting of theatres, for instance?—Yes; in the annual survey, the surveyor examines the theatres, and points out any circumstances which appear dangerous, and orders the necessary precautions to be taken; that is to say, a report is made to me every September or August; the managers of the theatres are called on to carry out the suggestions of the surveyor; I cannot compel them to do it; but I can say if you do not do that, we will not give you a license, and frequently a license has been suspended for a month until the alterations are made.

7598. Such cases have arisen?—Yes, they arise every year, more or less; they are much less frequent than they used to be formerly, because the managers are ready to fall into our views.

7599. The license is given for a year?—Yes, from Michaelmas to Michaelmas.

7600. Can you stop the license in the middle of the year?—Yes, we can stop it if there is anything against the tenor of it.

7601. Has there been any such case?—No, not in my time, I think.

7602. During the course of the performances, if it were brought to your notice that the footlights were endangering the life of the actors, would your Lordship take any notice of that?—Yes; after the accident to a poor girl two years ago, I sent round a circular to all the theatres, making suggestions about wires being placed round the lights, and wet blankets and other precautions at the wings, to prevent accidents, and almost in all the cases managers fell in with my views. With regard to one of the last accidents at one of the City theatres, the manager sent us word that the safety of the person was entirely owing to our precautions.

7603. You initiated those precautions?—We initiated them.

7604. Has your Lordship's department, in your opinion, sufficient powers at present for all necessary purposes?—We have all the power necessary, I think. That circular was sent in the middle of the year after the licenses were given, and managers fell into it directly; I had an interview with them, and I was willing to hear

any

any suggestions that they might make, it is a kind of negative authority that we possess, and if they had not fell into my suggestions I should not have renewed the license.

7605. Could they have resisted at the time?—No doubt, unless there was some very strong circumstance that would justify our stopping the license.

7606. If there were improprieties in the dresses of the actors or actresses, would that be a case where the department would interfere?—Yes, we should make communications to the managers; I made a private communication with regard to the ballet at Covent Garden in the pantomime, not long ago.

7607. Were the alterations made?—Yes, Mr. Harris fell into it directly. I must say, that the managers of theatres are always willing to do anything suggested to them, or anything that the public would wish carried out.

7608. You have never been in collision with managers on any point of internal regulation?—Never; in fact, last year Mr. Mapleson came to me to ask that we should interfere more behind the scenes; I declined to do so, because I think that the responsibility behind the scenes should rest with the managers.

7609. With regard to what kind of matter did Mr. Mapleson suggest that you should interfere?—As to the gentlemen that go behind the scenes to see the ladies, and I declined to interfere.

7610. Colonel *Sturt.*] Did Mr. Mapleson mean to say that they went behind the scenes without his permission?—I presume so. But at that time he wanted to throw on me the responsibility of the matter; that was in reference to some of the singers' dresses being burnt; Madame Ilma de Murska being one, I think; he said that so many people came behind the scenes that he could not keep the place clear, and those accidents might happen. I replied, that the responsibility rested entirely with him.

7611. Do you think, however, with regard to what takes before the curtain, that if managers were left to do as they liked, they might safely be trusted to the guidance of their own interests?—No, I think that some supervision is necessary in all public places; it is so in every country in Europe.

7612. Then you would think, perhaps, that there is scarcely enough supervision in many of the music-halls, and that they would require the same regulations as the theatres?—To some extent no doubt they would; but it is a different class of persons who go there. I do not know that you need such strict regulations.

7613. With regard to the censorship of plays; do you think it desirable to keep that up, and that all plays should be read before they are performed?—I think so.

7614. You do not believe that public sentiment would be sufficient to correct any improprieties, either in religious matters, or in other matters?—No; I think there must be some *authority* to prevent certain things being acted, because tastes differ. I do not think that public opinion would have sufficient power.

7615. There have not been many collisions between dramatic authors and your department, I believe, of late years?—None since I have been in office.

7616. The number of rejected plays has not been very large, has it?—No, not very large.

7617. Do you happen to be aware whether it is the case on the Continent generally, that all plays are submitted to a censorship?—I believe so; in Paris every play is submitted to the *censeur*, but since there has been the *liberté des théâtres*, a play having once passed the censorship any person may act it at any theatre; and if a theatre is built or established, the manager need not say for what class of drama it is established, but on the surveyor reporting that it is a fit and proper place, he may act anything he likes.

7618. Do you think that the censorship operates as a hardship on authors?—No, not at all. The authors know pretty well what will be allowed; the only pieces that we have any difficulty with are pieces translated from the French.

7619. Have you had any difficulty with pieces containing political allusions?—In one pantomime, some years ago, there was some allusion to the Emperor of the French, and I told the author that it must be omitted; that is the only case I remember.

7620. You have unlimited powers as to the censorship, have you not?—Yes.

7621. Are you called upon to give any reason at all for any changes that are made in the plays submitted to you?—No.

7622. Suppose there were a Lord Chamberlain who enforced his own peculiar views on any particular subject, would there be any appeal, except to public opinion?—No; there would be no appeal, except to public opinion; the same appeal which there would be with regard to any other man at the head of any other department.

7623. In the first instance, the plays are read by Mr. Donne, are they not?—Yes.

7624. And if he should have doubts about a play, he would refer it to you?—He would send on the play to me. "Ruy Blas" was originally played at the St. James's Theatre, in French; it was acted for one night, and it was stopped the following night (that was not in my time).

7625. Mr. *Powell.*] Was not that previous to the Queen's marriage?—I daresay it was. "Ruy Blas" has been afterwards acted in my time, in English; and the thing is now put in a different form. That was a case in point where the examiner had doubts, and he sent me the play to read.

7626. Do you think that authors generally know pretty well what will pass, and what will not pass?—Yes.

7627. It has been put to us whether it was not a grievance that an author might write a piece, and that the theatre might prepare to play the piece at some considerable expense, and then it might be rejected at the last moment?—I do not think that is likely. Most of the plays are written by the same people, and they know pretty well what will pass.

7628. Do you remember any particular case of a piece having been got up and prepared, and then having been stopped?—Not in my time; certainly not; I never heard of it. "Ruy Blas" was a case in point, and that was stopped.

7629. Then had the piece passed in the first instance?—I presume it had; it was in French; it was Victor Hugo's piece, as you are aware. It was acted afterwards here by Mr. Fechter; that was a translation.

7630. Do the powers of the Lord Chamberlain extend to the stopping of a piece that has been acted for some time?—Certainly. "Jack Sheppard" was stopped in former days.

7631. If a Lord Chamberlain came into office who

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

who differed from his predecessor on any point, he might stop a piece that had been passed before?—Yes, certainly, but that kind of risk would apply to any person who was at the head of any department. Suppose a department was formed with a permanent head, he would not live for ever.

7632. I am merely inquiring whether it would be considered right that a play which had once been passed, should be allowed to be withdrawn by another Lord Chamberlain?—I do not think that any Lord Chamberlain would make any such change unless there was some strong cause for it. There might be a change of public opinion, and I believe that that was rather the case with "Jack Sheppard."

7633. I should like to hear your Lordship's view, whether you think it might be convenient that a piece once stamped should be allowed to continue; or whether you would not think it a hardship that a piece which had been brought out should be stopped afterwards?—It is certainly undesirable, unless there were a very strong case; take the case of "La Traviata;" I never thought it necessary to stop that play, but it was not licensed by me.

7634. Would you think it possible that an appeal should be given from the department to a court of justice, with regard to those points?—Would not that be introducing rather a new principle?

7635. I think it would; but do you think it might be decided by the judges, whether a piece had offended against any of the canons that might be laid down?—I do not see how a judge could decide anything unless it were argued before him; that would make a legal process of it.

7636. There are two departments in your office, the department of the comptroller and the department of the censor?—Yes. The examiner of plays is an officer of the department, and the comptroller is the general manager of the office.

7637. Could you state at all what staff might be required for all matters connected with theatres?—I do not think that I could say that off-hand; the examiner does all that part of the business connected with his branch; he prepares the licenses for the plays, and, of course, when the annual licensing of theatres takes place, that part of it is done by the clerks in the office.

7638. They are the same clerks who deal with matters connected with the theatres, and with other matters, so that it would be difficult to form an opinion with regard to the nature of the staff that would be required?—Each clerk has his own particular branch to attend to, as in other offices.

7639. Would your Lordship state generally what changes in the law you would think advisable, or do you think that the law works satisfactorily as it is?—I think that the law ought not to remain as it is with regard to the doubts with reference to what are stage plays, and what are not; it should be more clearly laid down; as it is at present, there is a very unsatisfactory state of things.

7640. Your Lordship is of opinion, I think, that the magistrates licensing could be improved?—I am very strong on that point. I think that the present jurisdiction is a most unsatisfactory one with regard to the licensing of music-halls.

7641. Will you state distinctly to the Committee the grounds of that opinion?—The magistrates are a fluctuating body, and in a good many cases dependent on others; very often I think the licenses are given without any knowledge of the facts of the locality, and of the people who are seeking the license.

7642. With regard to what I would call setting the law in motion, you do not think it would be necessary to have greater powers than you now have?—No; but there might be greater facility of decision; instead of going to a court of law, a case might be decided by the magistrates.

7643. You do not think it would be wise to allow any establishment to evade the law by withdrawing itself from the jurisdiction and not taking out a license, that is supposing all the theatres and music-halls were bound to take one out. The department that granted the license should see that everybody had got a license, I suppose?—Yes, undoubtedly, I think so; just on the same principle, that if a man opened a beershop or a spirit house the police might interfere if there were no license.

7644. At present there is no such power at all; it is nobody's business to see that a place takes out a license, except those who may think themselves aggrieved?—We should interfere if a regular theatre set up without a license, but we should not interfere with a music-hall where it was a doubtful question.

7645. Mr. *Locke.*] But you do not license the music-halls yourself?—No, the responsibility rests entirely on the manager of the music-hall whether he goes beyond the law or not. I have always told the managers that I am not a public prosecutor.

7646. *Chairman.*] But if it were a distinctly marked case, do you think that you would interfere, and say, "You must take out a license?"—Yes, certainly.

7647. The general character of the building would decide you with regard to interfering?—Yes, if it was a distinct theatre, taking money at the doors.

7648. Have you ever had any questions arise with literary institutes when there are occasional performances?—Yes, some of them have applied for licenses, and we have always declined, but we have given this year, to the Hanover-square Rooms, a license to enable them to open their house before five o'clock in the afternoon.

7649. For music and dancing?—Yes.

7650. Mr. *Locke.*] Is that music and dancing, or for stage plays?—Music and dancing. That comes under our original powers. Formerly every place within certain limits was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and after the passing of the Stage Play Act no such licenses were given; it was supposed that it was not necessary, but a blot was hit this year before the Middlesex magistrates. County magistrates have only powers to license a building to open at five o'clock in the afternoon, and therefore we, under the advice of the law officers of the Crown, gave a license to certain places, and amongst others the Egyptian Hall and the Hanover-square Rooms, to open the rooms before five o'clock for the same performances for which they are licensed by the justices after that hour.

7651. I believe that the decision of the law officers is this, that the 6th and 7th Victoria did not deprive you of the privilege which you had previously to the passing of that Act?—That was the first opinion; they gave a stronger one afterwards. I did not consider the first opinion sufficient.

7652. *Chairman.*]

7652. *Chairman.*] Would you state to the Committee why you have declined licenses to literary institutes for occasional performances?—We have always held that our duty related entirely to theatres, and had nothing to do with literary institutions.

7653. You think that it would be rather an infraction of the spirit of the law?—Just so. The Lord Chamberlain of the day, after Sir James Graham's Act was passed, conceived, whether rightly or wrongly, that he was to confine his attention entirely to the theatres, and that every other place of public entertainment was under the jurisdiction of the magistrates. That was the view on which my predecessor acted. I found it so, and I left it so until the matter was raised before the Middlesex magistrates last autumn.

7654. It would come to this, that a literary institute could not get a license from the Lord Chamberlain's department, and it could not get one from the magistrates because the magistrates could not give any license for a theatrical performance; therefore they would not be able to get a license at all?—A literary institute would not be a place built for theatrical performances.

7655. No; but some of them have suggested that they would like to give performances once a month, or so?—I do not know that we have had any application of that nature for literary institutes to have theatrical performances. I thought you meant with regard to the opening of the rooms. I am not aware that we have had any applications of that kind.

7656. But have there not been applications to your department from places that were not theatres, for occasional performances, without which they would bring themselves within the power of informers?—Yes, there have been applications of that kind, and we have always refused them, because we could not be answerable for the safety of the place, or anything of that kind.

7657. Does not your Lordship think that rather a rigid state of the law?—It would otherwise come to this; that we should be licensing a place which was perhaps unsafe, and we should be acting contrary to our regulations with regard to theatres. Take St. Martin's Hall; that would not be safe at present, because there is a coach-maker's shop underneath, with a great quantity of inflammable matter. If they would make the necessary alterations, there would be no objection on my part, but I would not do it now, because it is not safe. I do not think it would be right that we should exact those regulations from the theatres, and give licenses without them to institutes for temporary purposes, when they could not take the usual precautions.

7658. Do you never grant occasional licenses for special performances?—I think that we have always declined; where we do give them under particular regulations, is at Windsor, because the theatre is never open while the boys are at Eton, but there during the holidays we give a license for occasional performances.

7659. If I understand your Lordship correctly, if any institution were to give a private theatrical entertainment for a charitable purpose, and they were to take money at the doors for tickets, they would be offending against the law?—Yes, just so. We had applications of that kind once or twice from Brighton, so long as Brighton was a royal residence, but now we have no longer any jurisdiction at Brighton.

7660. Then the state of the law at present is this, that it is impossible to get a license for theatrical performances, except in a regular licensed theatre?—Yes; but that would, of course, depend on the Lord Chamberlain of the day. As a matter of practice, it has never been done, either by myself or by my predecessors.

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

7661. That is a matter of discretion?—Yes; but in my opinion it is not desirable, and we have always given that opinion.

7662. Do you think it would be unfair to be less stringent in cases of special performances?—I think that the same rule should apply to everybody.

7663. Would it not be fair to consider that the danger would be much greater if there was a large performance going on every night, than on any special occasion?—On a special occasion there would not be the same precaution taken. St. Martin's Hall is quite a case in point.

7664. In fact, in many cases you would think that occasional theatrical performances are more dangerous than regular theatrical performances, because the same precautions are not taken?—Yes.

7665. The guiding principle of your department in that matter, at present, is the safety of the public?—Yes.

7666. It is not a question of competition?—No, not at all.

7667. But it is a question of fire and the public safety?—Yes. I should never for a moment consider the question of competition; I think there should be perfectly free trade.

7668. You think that there should be perfectly free trade in theatres, subject to proper regulations?—Yes.

7669. Would you say that there is perfectly free trade in theatres at present?—Not, perhaps, as great liberty as there is in Paris; but any person who built a proper theatre would be licensed by me. The real difficulty is in getting proper sites in London, on account of the enormous expense and the value of land.

7670. In what respect is there less free trade in London than there is in France?—In France there is less space for building theatres than there is in London.

7671. But, so far as the law and practice are concerned, if the site is paid for, and people build proper theatres, they can have perfect freedom?—Yes, just so. The fact is, that there would have been more theatres if it were not for the difficulties attending the question of site.

7672. You think that there would be far more theatres if it were not for the great expense of buying the land?—I should think so; some of those distant theatres fill immensely.

7673. Mr. *Locke.*] Your Lordship has stated that you think the Lord Chamberlain's office could license all the theatres and all the music-halls, in fact, every description of place for public amusements, if you had a greater staff?—Yes. I must qualify that by saying, that it is necessary for me to have the Queen's consent, because it is an office specially under Her control, and paid for out of the Civil List.

7674. But you think, supposing the Queen's consent were obtained, and that arrangement were made, the Lord Chamberlain could perform the duty of licensing all the theatres and music halls, and, in fact, all places of public amusement?—That is my opinion.

7675. Does your Lordship confine that obser-

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

vation to the present area over which the Lord Chamberlain has jurisdiction, or to the whole of the country?—I should confine it to the present jurisdiction, and the metropolitan parishes perhaps. I have no means of knowing what might be the demand in the country at all.

7676. Your Lordship thinks that the Lord Chamberlain would be able to ascertain what the demand would be in the area over which he now has jurisdiction, and likewise how he ought to meet that demand?—Yes, if we had a proper staff.

7677. But your Lordship does not think that the licensing of the buildings might be extended beyond the present jurisdiction?—I have not considered that point, therefore I should not be able to give an opinion, because I do not know what the demand for country theatres is; but I believe, as a matter of fact, that there are much fewer theatres than there used to be.

7678. But I presume that the Lord Chamberlain could very easily obtain information to guide him, with regard to a theatre being built in any particular place in whatever part of England it might be?—I have not considered that subject; but I do not see why that should not be done, provided we had a sufficient staff.

7679. But your Lordship has not considered what that staff ought to be?—No, that would be a matter of departmental arrangement. I do not see how we could give an opinion about that until we see how the matter worked.

7680. Now, with regard to the licensing of plays; can an unlicensed play be acted in any part of the country now, without coming under the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain?—No; every play that is acted in the country has been licensed by us.

7681. Therefore you have jurisdiction with regard to the licensing of plays throughout the whole of the country?—Just so.

7682. But not the licensing of the theatres?—But not the licensing of the theatres. But, as a matter of fact, I may state that most of the plays acted in the country are those that have been acted here.

7683. There is very seldom any new piece brought out in the country?—Very seldom.

7684. But suppose a piece were brought out in any theatre in the country without the Lord Chamberlain's license, the Lord Chamberlain would interfere, I suppose?—Yes.

7685. Therefore, with regard to the licensing of theatres, and the licensing of plays, I presume there would be no difficulty; probably the number of new theatres built in the course of a year would not be half-a-dozen throughout the whole country?—I have no means of knowing; I believe that the theatres in the country have diminished. Formerly, the young actors began at Bath, or elsewhere in the country, and learnt their profession there, and then came to London; but now they come to London first. People will tell you, that one reason why acting is not so good as it formerly was, is that actors have not to go through that probation; but that is a matter of opinion.

7686. But the question with regard to the conduct of a theatre would be another thing; there might be some difficulty in that, inasmuch as the Lord Chamberlain would be at a distance, and would not have so much opportunity of seeing how the theatres were conducted, as the magistrates in the locality would: for all that, there would be a further staff required?—Yes; but I do not think it would be desirable that we should have that jurisdiction, and for that very reason we should have no local staff; but I have not considered that very much.

7687. When you license a theatre, do you lay down any specific rules with regard to the mode in which the theatre is to be conducted; first, you have to approve of the plans, have you not?—Yes, the plans are sent to us.

7688. But with regard to the mode in which a theatre is to be conducted, you do not allow any eating and drinking in the auditorium?—No.

7689. Is that a rule laid down?—Yes.

7690. And if that rule is broken, the license is taken away?—We have never had occasion to interfere, that I know of.

7691. But would the license be taken away if the rule were broken?—I do not know whether we should practically do that, but their attention would be called to it; I am not aware that it has been ever attempted.

7692. *Chairman.*] You would remonstrate with the manager?—Yes.

7693. Mr. *Locke.*] With what view is that regulation made?—That part of the public who want to go to the theatre, have the means of going to the buffet to obtain necessary refreshments. I do not think that it would be consonant with the feelings of the public who attend the theatres to have eating and drinking in the pit, or in the boxes.

7694. A theatre is so constructed that that could not very well take place without great inconvenience?—Yes.

7695. But taking a place built after the manner of the music halls, where people go partly for the purpose of seeing the performance, and partly for the purpose of taking refreshments; supposing you had the power of licensing places of that description, and there were a demand for them, do you see any objection to granting licenses for theatrical performances there?—I think that would be altering the tone of the theatres.

7696. But there would be the theatre pure and simple, and there would be likewise this place where people took their refreshments, and in addition to that witnessed a performance?—There is a buffet at some of the theatres now; since the Lords of the Treasury withdrew their interdict upon the Commissioners of Excise issuing spirit licenses, that has been done. I always thought it was a very questionable thing, the Lords of the Treasury having prevented that license.

7697. The theatres have precisely the same wine and spirit license as the public-houses, have they not?—Yes.

7698. And they have a right to demand it as a matter of course when your Lordship grants them a theatrical license?—Yes.

7699. What restriction is laid down by your Lordship with regard to the place where refreshment is to be taken in the house?—That it should not be taken in the auditorium; so far as I know, I never heard the question raised by any manager. The present system works well.

7700. But your Lordship must be aware that there are a great many more music halls than theatres in London, and I believe in the provinces too?—I do not know about the provinces, but there are in London.

7701. But according to the evidence that we have had, there are five or six music halls to one theatre (in fact, a great many more very well built and decorated music halls) in many provincial towns; there seems therefore to be a demand

demand for places of entertainment of that description; I wish to know, supposing your Lordship had the licensing of both theatres and music halls, if your Lordship sees any objection to granting those music halls a license for the performance of plays?—That comes to a question with regard to the state of the law.

7702. But suppose the law were to be altered, could there be any objection, if music halls were well conducted (seeing that the people wish it), to getting rid of the objection which is now taken to a performance of a theatrical piece taking place at a music hall. Should you object in that case to giving a music hall a theatrical license?—I do not know myself that I should object to do it, under proper regulations; we must clearly define what they should be permitted to enact, I think.

7703. Of course we can hardly suppose that music hall proprietors would wish to enact a long tragedy or comedy; but any light performance such as a burletta, or ballet, or vaudeville, might be compatible with the conditions of the place, the audience fluctuating and moving about at times?—That is no doubt conceivable.

7704. But has your Lordship considered how, if at all, a *definition* would be arrived at of the performances which should be allowed at music halls; taking that well-known section of the 6th & 7th Victoria, what would you leave out in such a definition?—I have not gone into that question.

7705. Do you think, for instance, that what is called burletta might be performed at the music halls?—I have not considered that point.

7706. But probably you think, do you not, that certain kinds of light pieces might be performed there?—I think, at all events, that the constant collision now going on between the theatres and music halls should be stopped.

7707. Do not you think it might be an advantage that a better species of performance should be given, and one more calculated to elevate the taste of the public, than entertainments confined to tumbling, nigger songs, and things of that description, to which they are compelled to adhere because they are not properly licensed for theatrical purposes?—Of course anything that would elevate the taste or morals of the people would be desirable.

7708. How long has your Lordship held the office of Lord Chamberlain?—Seven years.

7709. Your Lordship was not Lord Chamberlain when "Robert le Diable" was first introduced into this country?—No; that was many years ago.

7710. Does your Lordship recollect that by the former Lord Chamberlain, after "Robert le Diable" had been prepared by Mr. Lumley, and he had gone to the expense of scenery, dresses, and so on, it was interdicted?—This is the first time I have heard of that.

7711. The reason assigned was that the ballet girls appeared as spirits rising from the grave?—That is the case in "Robert le Diable," but I never heard of the interdiction.

7712. Colonel *Sturt.*] Your Lordship is not aware that Mr. Lumley tells that story in his "Reminiscences of the Opera"?—I daresay he did; but I have often witnessed that in "Robert le Diable."

7713. But that was stopped at great inconvenience and expense, was it not, when Lord Spencer was Lord Chamberlain?—I do not know that.

7714. Mr. *Locke.*] But I asked that question more especially with regard to whether your Lordship thinks there might be some mode of revising the decisions of the Lord Chamberlain, if he took very particular views; or does your Lordship think that must be left to be dealt with in the same way as decisions of the judges are?—I think that a man at the head of a department must be responsible to the public, like a Secretary of State; and if there is any malfeasance, Parliament should deal with it. Any other form of appeal would take away the responsibility of the head of any office.

7715. *Chairman.*] The advantage of an appeal to the Home Secretary would be that he could be called to account in Parliament?—Yes, certainly there would be that advantage; but, as a matter of fact, we do refer now to the Home Secretary in case of difficulty.

7716. So that if a difficulty were left in the hands of the Home Secretary, the Home Secretary would even now be attacked in Parliament?—Yes, we communicate with him.

7717. Mr. *Locke.*] But if a fresh Act were passed, and the law were altered, and all those powers were vested in the Lord Chamberlain, does not your Lordship think it would be necessary that there should be some accessible person connected with the office of Lord Chamberlain in the House of Commons, or in the House of Lords?—In the House of Lords, of course the Lord Chamberlain would answer for himself; and in the House of Commons the Home Secretary can always answer, for anything connected with theatres, on the part of the Lord Chamberlain; he has done so two or three times.

7718. Probably difficult questions might arise more frequently if his powers were extended?—Possibly; but I should hope that when things get into a quieter state, that would not be necessary.

7719. Now, to come to the subject of new theatres, taking for example the new theatre in Holborn; what is the mode of ingress and egress from that theatre; is there more than the front access?—Yes; but I cannot carry all the details in my mind; I saw the plans at the time.

7720. I have never seen the plans, but I have seen the site?—There was a question of another theatre being built close to it; but that is given up, because it would not do to have two theatres so close to one another.

7721. In most theatres they have partitioned off the front part of the pit for stalls?—Yes.

7722. The access to the stalls is often a very narrow passage indeed; now, has any attention been paid to that; if there were a fire, how would people get out of the stalls in a small theatre?—A great many of the small theatres are not such places as we should like. We took them over as they were, after the passing of Sir James Graham's Act. Of course, the surveyor who makes his report to us is more or less responsible for the professional part of the question. But I may state, as a matter of fact, that at the Haymarket Theatre there was once only one access to the stalls. I remonstrated with Mr. Buckstone about it, and, though he said there was great difficulty, he has made the alteration.

7723. At several of the theatres there is only an access on one side to the stalls, is your Lordship aware of that?—That is the case at some of them, I have no doubt.

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 1866.

7724. I mean at some of the theatres that have been recently altered?—I am not aware of that.

7725. Does your Lordship think that extremely dangerous, in case there was a fire?—There is no doubt that great improvements might be made at the theatres, but practically, it is very difficult to make them.

7726. Persons in the stalls might get from the stalls over the backs of the chairs into the pit, but that would be their only chance of getting out of the theatre; would not that be so?—I suppose so.

7727. Has your Lordship ever turned your attention to the new French theatres, the *Châtelet* and the *Gaieties*?—I have been at the *Lyrique*, but I have not been to the others.

7728. Now at the *Lyrique*, I believe, there is only ingress and egress in front, although the whole space round the theatre is quite clear; still that is fitted up all along with shops?—I do not remember. The great fault with all the French theatres is that they have only one access; nothing can be more dangerous than the iron staircase in the *Palais Royal*; it is a thing that we should not sanction; the whole mass of the public in the boxes and galleries have to go out at one end.

7729. It is the same at the *Variétés*, is it not?—There is more space at the *Variétés*, but the minister of the day, before the theatres were handed over to the *Ministre de la Maison de l'Empéreur*, told me that they had great difficulty in dealing with them there, and that he was in the same position as I am; they could not pull down the *Palais Royal*, and they are obliged to allow a system of which they disapprove; just as objectionable things are cut out at rehearsal, but are frequently repeated when the plays are acted; they do not like to stop them unless there is something very strongly political.

7730. *Chairman.*] In France has this matter been taken away from the *Ministre des Théâtres*, aud put into the hands of the *Ministre de la Maison de l'Empéreur*?—Yes, three years ago that separation took place; the principle is exactly the same, only there is a different minister.

7731. Mr. *Locke.*] Is it not the fact, that at Drury Lane Theatre people can get out at all the four sides?—I have not been to Drury Lane Theatre for some years.

7732. The pit entrance is at the side, in Vinegar-yard; then there is an entrance to the private boxes on the other side, in Russell-street; then there is the front, and I presume that there is a way out at the back. Does your Lordship think it would be an advantage that a theatre should stand by itself, not having houses built up against its sides?—Yes, I should think that would be an advantage.

7733. *Chairman.*] But that would be very difficult to carry out in London, would it not?—Yes.

7734. Mr. *Locke.*] Suppose a new theatre was about to be built, would not that be an advantageous mode of proceeding, namely, that there should be a clear way out round the whole of the building?—I do not think that that should be made a *sine quâ non*, but it stands to reason that it would be safer.

7735. They are so built in France, are they not?—The last two new ones are so built.

7736. But still they have not taken advantage of that, inasmuch as they have built shops at the two sides?—Yes.

7737. I do not know whether your Lordship saw that Bill which was brought in last Session; but, in the schedule of that Bill, there were certain rules and regulations inserted for the building of theatres?—Yes; I saw that Bill last year, but I forget the rules and regulations now.

7738. We have had the evidence of Captain Shaw, the Superintendent of the London Fire Brigade, who said that they were very well, so far as they went, but that they were not sufficient; and we have this morning a paper from Captain Shaw, containing suggestions for the building of theatres; perhaps your Lordship has not seen those suggestions?—No. I believe that Captain Shaw would wish to have an enormous quantity of water, which would be quite impossible in this country. The French theatres have a certain number of *sapeurs et pompiers* for which they pay. I do not know how our managers would like that; it is compulsory in France.

7739. Colonel *Sturt.*] Does your Lordship's department interfere with the fencing of the lights on the stage, for the safety of the performers?—I sent a circular to the managers of the theatres last year, or the year before, on that subject.

7740. It was at your Lordship's instigation that the footlights were fenced?—Yes.

7741. That was after some accident, where a girl was burnt at one of the City theatres?—Yes; but the girl admitted to Mr. Ponsonby, who examined her, that it was entirely her own fault.

7742. I heard a very different story to that?—I do not know.

7743. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] Are you aware whether the expenses of the Lord Chamberlain's department are entirely defrayed from the Consolidated Fund, or whether any portions of those expenses are defrayed by fees which are exacted from the theatres?—The Examiner, Mr. Donne, is paid by the fees, but he has a small salary from the department as well.

7744. You do not remember what the fees from the theatres annually amount to, I suppose?—I do not.

7745. I presume that it is a very insignificant sum?—Yes, very insignificant.

7746. Mr. *Miller.*] Suppose the whole of the music halls and theatres were placed under the authority of the Lord Chamberlain, do you think that you could levy fees enough from them to make them pay their own expenses, taking the whole country at large?—We have considered that, and we thought so.

7747. Supposing the expenses were not sufficient, would you make them up from the county rate, or the Consolidated Fund, or a municipal rate, or how?—I think, if the expenses of management did not pay themselves, it should not be under our department. There would be a great difficulty in asking the Consolidated Fund to pay for the expenses to a department over which they had no control, because the Lord Chamberlain is paid a certain amount from the Civil List, which is fixed, and there would then be some complication.

7748. But if an independent authority were appointed, the whole of the expenses connected with the theatre must be paid by that one office, whereas, at present, the Lord Chamberlain and his staff are paid by the Consolidated Fund to do all the duties, the theatrical licenses included?—Yes, there is no expense to the country at all.

7749. Could your Lordship give any idea at all of the expense of conducting the office, supposing any independent office were established for

for granting licenses, and managing the theatres and music-halls?—No, I have not had an opportunity of considering that; I have not gone into it, but I know the expenses of the theatres in Paris come to about 86,000*l.* a year.

7750. *Chairman.*] Does that include subventions?—That includes subventions, the Emperor's boxes, the encouragements to artists and *secours* to dramatic authors and the staff.

7751. Lord *Eustace Cecil.*] All those items are defrayed out of the Civil List in this country, are they not?—Yes, it costs the country nothing.

7752. Mr. *Powell.*] It is paid by the Queen; it comes out of her pocket?—Yes, except the fees paid by the managers.

7753. So that, if you were to make your staff more expensive, you would practically be taking money out of the Queen's pocket?—Yes, I could not propose the change to Her Majesty unless we had sufficient power for obtaining fees to pay the expenses.

7754. Mr. *Miller.*] Suppose there were one authority for the whole country, would you recommend that that authority should be exercised by the municipal authority, or by the county magistrates?—I should say the municipal authorities; the county magistrates would know very little what was going on in the towns.

7755. You would give to the municipal authorities the power of appointing a person to be a sort of inspector in the borough to which he was appointed?—Just so.

7756. Would not that multiply, unnecessarily, the number of inspectors, and so increase the expense?—No doubt it would multiply the inspectors; but I do not know how the magistrates exercise their jurisdiction in the country; whether they do make an inspection of the theatres, or not; I think it would be desirable, but whether that is done by the municipal authorities or not, I do not know.

7757. The magistrates, according to the evidence before us, do inspect the theatres through the medium of what is called a "Watch Committee;" in fact, it is a police committee?—I do not know.

7758. Mr. *Powell.*] Mr. Boucicault stated in his evidence at question 4409, that it was "not through the Lord Chamberlain's Office, or any member connected with that office, that he was prevented from building a theatre;" do you corroborate his evidence on that point?—Yes.

7759. Do you think that with respect to licensing new theatres, regard should be had to the wishes of those who may live in the neighbourhood of the proposed theatre?—Yes, I think so; I think we have consulted the churchwardens.

7760. You think that that is a principle which ought to be maintained?—I think it should be considered; I do not say that it should be a complete negative.

7761. You have not considered the cost of the staff which you would think sufficient to carry out the superintendence in the metropolitan district?—No, we could not do that yet.

7762. What should you describe as the duties of the staff which you would require?—There would be the *censure*, and of course the survey of a great many more places, and a great deal more correspondence.

7763. Should you consider it the duty of the staff to visit the theatres night by night to see that the performances agreed with the licenses given?—No, I do not think that is necessary; we have never done that.

7764. Then what steps would you think it desirable to take in order to ensure that nothing was done by the theatres except what is licensed?—If anything is said to be going wrong I have frequently sent Mr. Donne, and he has reported to me if anything is really wrong at the representation.

7765. You do exercise a sort of slight general supervision at this moment?—Yes; we do not send a person every night on purpose, but if I heard of anything wrong going on, I should send for the Examiner of Plays to go and see.

7766. I think that one of the members of your staff, either Mr. Ponsonby or Mr. Donne, or both, have stated that they do visit the theatres occasionally with a view to see that there is nothing irregular going on?—Yes, and I have done so myself.

7767. I suppose you would not think it any part of the duty of your staff to report on the conduct of the audience?—No.

7768. You would leave it in the hands of the police?—I would leave it in the hands of the manager; he might, if he pleased, call on the police; the great object is to throw the responsibility on the manager himself. There is quite a different view of these matters taken by the managers of the theatres from what was formerly taken; Mr. Macready was the originator of getting rid of women of the town in theatres.

7769. The managers appear perfectly willing to continue that system?—Yes; I must say that the managers have always met, in a very fair spirit, any suggestion made by me or anybody in my office.

7770. Your Lordship is unable to supply the Committee with any definition of what you would allow the music halls to perform?—Just so.

7771. But you think that everything that is done ought to be licensed?—Yes.

7772. Then how would you deal with those rooms (which are considerable in number) which are not dignified with that name, but which in law are music halls; namely, small rooms attached to public-houses; rooms we will say receiving 100 visitors?—I should think that we should take over those places which are now licensed by the magistrates under the Act of George the Second.

7773. You would include in your view places of amusement of the class which I have endeavoured to describe?—Yes.

7774. Would you throw the entire burden of instituting proceedings on individuals in case of violations of your license?—No, not in case of violations; in that case it would be our duty to take some steps.

7775. But anything in the performance which was not licensed by you would be a violation of your license?—Yes.

7776. Consequently, if the music halls acting under a restricted license were to do things beyond that license, they would be doing that which was prohibited by the license, and they would therefore come within your censure?—Yes, assuming that they were put under our jurisdiction.

7777. You expressed an opinion adverse to the granting of occasional licenses on the grounds which you have mentioned?—Yes.

7778. An honourable member asked you a question with regard to the county magistrates.

Right Hon. Viscount *Sydney*, G.C.B.

8 June 186 .

It being the custom of the county magistrates to meet the local bench who represent the feeling of the particular district, do you not think that they would be conversant with the feelings, wishes, and necessities of the district, even supposing it were a town?—Yes, but the inconvenience of the present arrangement is this; in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, it is the local magistrates who examine the thing, and it is decided at Quarter Sessions; in the county of Kent we have been sometimes in collision with the local magistrates, when they have either given a license or refused it.

7779. Do you think it would be practicable to superintend these matters throughout the kingdom, by such a staff as has been suggested?—Personally, I do not think it would be advisable; we should have to keep a very large staff at such a place as Birmingham. I should leave it entirely to the municipal authorities. I do not think they would like to be interfered with.

7780. *Chairman.*] You do not think it possible or advisable to extend the central authority to the country?—No, I do not.

7781. Have you any knowledge of a personal character, with regard to the increase or diminution of theatres in towns in the country?—No, I have no personal knowledge.

7782. Your evidence is given from hearsay?—Merely from hearsay.

7783. Mr. Dion Boucicault said, in answer to question 4402, with regard to obtaining a license, "When I was about to apply for a license, I was told that there would be a difficulty about it, and I thought it very unfair. I was told that the other managers would be called together in the west end, to say what reasons they could allege for my not having a license; I think it is unfair, if a person wishes to go into an enterprise, that those persons who are in competition with him in the same enterprise, are to be brought together and to be asked if they object." Do you know any grounds at all for that statement?—No, I know of no grounds for that. I had an interview with Mr. Boucicault, but nothing passed on that subject, that I remember.

7784. Is there anything that could have led him to the idea that the other managers would be called together to consult on the subject of another theatre?—I never heard of anything to that effect.

7785. There is no foundation for that idea, so far as you know?—None at all.

7786. His notion would seem to be that it would be by the Lord Chamberlain's authority that they would be called together, because he says, "I was told that there would be a difficulty about it, and I thought it very unfair. I was told that the other managers would be called together in the West-end to say what reasons they could allege for my not having a license?"—I cannot answer for what he was told; but so far as I know he was told that if he was able to produce a theatre the license would be given him; the difficulty was the space, and the money, I believe.

7787. But if it were in any particular district where the managers of the theatres had property, would the managers be able to act through the churchwardens, who, you say, are sometimes consulted?—I never heard of that kind of thing.

7788. Was "Moses in Egypt" brought out while your Lordship was Chamberlain?—No, that was a great many years ago. I think the prayer was stopped at the suggestion of the late Bishop of London; but I speak from memory entirely.

7789. Mr. *Clay.*] Your Lordship has given an opinion that the music halls might be allowed to act light pieces?—Yes.

7790. Would you suggest any definition of those light pieces?—I have already said that I am not prepared to offer a definition at present.

7791. I should be glad to know whether it does not appear to you to be utterly impossible to arrive at any definition which would answer the purpose?—I think that in the present state of the law there would be a difficulty.

7792. Mr. *Clive.*] Do you think that any limit with regard to the number of actors to be allowed on the stage at one time would meet the case?—No, I should think not; if you allow them to perform pieces, you must allow any number of actors; at present, dialogue is contrary to the law.

7793. Do you think that if they were to be confined to two or three actors that would answer the purpose?—I am not prepared to go into that matter in detail at present.

7794. Mr. *Locke.*] If you have a piece, of course you must have actors to act it?—No doubt.

7795. *Chairman.*] Has your Lordship any further remarks to offer to the Committee?—No, I think not.

Mr. Inspector Richard Reason called in; and Examined.

Mr. Inspector *R. Reason.*

7796. *Chairman.*] You are an Inspector in the Police Force in London?—I am the chief inspector of common lodging houses and dangerous structures.

7797. Is it part of your duty to superintend the smallest theatres?—No; my duties are principally confined to inspecting common lodging houses and dangerous structures. I am confined to that duty, officially.

7798. Colonel *Sturt.*] Probably you know something about music-halls and theatres?—Only by casually visiting those at the East-end: Whitechapel, Ratcliffe-highway, &c.

7799. *Chairman.*] It is not part of your duty to inspect these places?—No.

7800. Are there any other Inspectors in the police force that do inspect those buildings?—I should say not, unless they suspected something wrong was going on, then the police would make it a part of their duty to visit them and report thereon to the Commissioner.

7801. When you have visited such places, have the performances been of a respectable character?—I think so.

7802. By whom are they mostly attended?—Some of them are well attended; for example, take "Mahogany Bar," Wellclose-passage, Wellclose-square.

7803. Is that a large hall?—It is a large hall.

7804. How many people would it accommodate?—I should hardly like to say, but I should think 1,500; it is only a guess.

7805. Have you seen it full?—Yes.

7806. What is the character of the performances that go on there?—Music, singing, dancing, acrobats, &c.

7807. Mr.

7807. Mr. *Locke.*] Are there a great many penny gaffs, as they are called, in Whitechapel-road?—There are two.

7808. Are those places licensed?—I think so, for music, by the county magistrates.

7809. For music and dancing?—Yes.

7810. What performances do they give; what are their nature?—They are comic songs, principally, and sometimes a negro dance.

7811. What are the names of those two places?—We know them by the name of penny gaffs.

7812. They have no particular name?—No; I think not. I have only been in one.

7813. Was there any performance of the stage at this penny gaff?—There was singing only while I was there.

7814. Negro melodies, and that sort of thing?—Yes.

7815. Where was that?—In High-street, Whitechapel, near the "Effingham."

7816. Have you been into any of those places in Ratcliff-highway?—No. But there are music-rooms attached to many of the public-houses, and I have been to them.

7817. Those are dancing-houses, where the visitors dance themselves, are they not?—Yes; they are principally sailors and females.

7818. What licenses have they?—They are licensed victuallers, most of them; and, in addition, many of them have dancing licenses, and some music and dancing license.

7819. *Chairman.*] Do you know of any cases where the police have reported misconduct in the performance in those places?—I do not.

7820. Are they singing places?—Many of them are.

7821. Mr. *Locke.*] Have they a stage?—Some of them have a slightly-raised stage, when they are licensed for music and dancing.

7822. *Chairman.*] If improper songs were sung there, would the police interfere?—Yes; on the ensuing licensing day.

7823. It would be brought up the next licensing day?—There is no doubt of it.

7824. Have you known cases where such matters were brought up?—No.

7825. How do you account for that?—I am not attached to that district; it is the H and K Division at the East-end of London.

7826. But in the district to which you are attached, are you aware that cases of that kind have been brought before the magistrates?—No. My special duties, before alluded to, do not give me much opportunity of gaining information on this subject.

7827. But have the police ever reported upon improprieties in the performances at those places?—Never, within my knowledge.

7828. Do you believe that they do?—I have not the slightest doubt that they do it, but I do not know of any cases in particular.

7829. Do children go much to those penny theatres?—Yes, that is the worst part of it; very few adults go there, they are principally children.

7830. Are the places licensed?—They must be.

7831. By the county magistrates?—Yes.

7832. *Chairman.*] Not in London?—Yes, for music and dancing.

7833. Mr. *Locke.*] But we are speaking of penny gaffs?—There is a penny admission for each person.

7834. Is there any low-class theatre in the Whitechapel-road, or in that neighbourhood?—Only those two penny gaffs that I am aware of.

7835. What kind of performances are there?—Dancing and singing.

7836. But are there any theatrical performances at those places?—None that I am aware of.

7837. Do children go to those places for dancing and singing?—There is nothing else for them to see, that I am aware of.

7838. Is there drinking going on at the same time in those places?—No.

7839. Colonel *Sturt.*] Is there smoking going on?—I think they do smoke At the dancing rooms attached to the public-houses there is drinking going on.

7840. *Chairman.*] What do they get for their penny at the penny gaffs?—There is a little dancing, and they probably hear a little comic singing.

7841. Dancing on the stage?—Yes.

7842. A kind of ballet?—No, a man or a women will come on and sing a song and retire.

7843. Then the dancing is on a stage?—Yes.

7844. Do you know what is the lowest charge for admission at the theatres at the East-end?—I should think that sixpence is the lowest charge of admission to the theatres in that neighbourhood.

7845. Do the police go into these theatres at all?—Yes. In some they are applied for specially to be in attendance at the doors or in the interior.

7846. Colonel *Sturt.*] You do not know who licenses those penny theatres?—I imagine it to be the county magistrate.

7847. Do you think that those penny theatres are an evil?—I think so, by encouraging so many children, because they will get a penny to go there somehow or other.

7848. Mr. *Powell.*] The boys and girls are led into mischief at these penny gaffs, you think?—I have no doubt of it, but I do not know.

7849. From your knowledge of that class of society, you think it is likely to be so?—Yes.

7850. Mr. *Locke.*] Have they plays acted there?—No.

7851. Merely dancing and singing?—Yes.

7852. *Chairman.*] Do you think that those little theatres at the East-end are as well conducted as the theatres at the West-end?—Yes.

7853. Mr. *Miller.*] What part of London are you speaking of?—Whitechapel-road, just beyond the Church.

7854. Do you know a place called the "Rodney," at Whitechapel?—No.

7855. A place licensed for the sale of spirits and for music and dancing?—There is a theatre, the "Effingham Arms," where they sell both spirits and wine; that is in the Whitechapel-road, on the right-hand side.

7856. That is a theatre licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, I suppose?—Yes.

7857. Are there many of those penny gaffs?—I have never been to more than one.

7858. How many would each one hold?—I think that the one I have been into would hold 120 people.

7859. If there was any impropriety going on, I suppose a report would be made to the magistrates on the licensing day?—Yes, if it came to the knowledge of the police.

7860. That is to say, if complaints were made?—Yes.

7861. And upon complaint and conviction, the license would be lost?—Yes.

Mr. Inspector *R. Reason.*

8 June 1866.

7862. Has any such case occurred?—Not to my knowledge.

7863. How long have those places existed?—One of them has existed to my knowledge for 14 or 15 years; how long previously I do not know.

7864. Are those places visited principally by the poor?—Yes, by the poorer class of children.

7865. Exclusively?—Yes. The place is too dirty inside to invite any person of respectability.

7866. When the children get inside do they witness a kind of scene which you think is injurious to them?—No; but it is pitiful to see the poor faces there, the dirt and filth they are in.

7867. How late do those places keep open?—Eleven o'clock. They have perhaps two or three performances during the evening. They do not keep up all the evening any one performance; they let the people out, and then admit a fresh audience.

7868. Do the children go by themselves?—Yes, principally.

7869. Do they consist of the criminal population chiefly?—I have no doubt that they do, but I am not in a position to say.

7870.—And if they are not criminals when they go there, they soon get contaminated, I suppose; but has it ever occurred to you whether any check could be placed on those proceedings?—Only this, that I think it would be well to give the proprietors a caution not to admit children under a certain age into the place; that might do good perhaps.

7871. Do you think that that is practicable?—Not to the strict letter, perhaps, but very young children might be excluded.

7872. Are you aware that that plan is adopted in some provincial places?—No.

7873. Mr. *Locke.*] Is there any impropriety going on in those places?—No.

7874. If the children were not there they might be at some place that would be worse for them, I suppose?—I do not know.

7875. You say that there is no impropriety going on there, and there must be a great many places where there is impropriety going on?—No doubt.

7876. Are the songs proper songs?—Yes.

7877. And is the music proper music?—It is bad music.

7878. But the poor children like it, it amuses them?—Just so.

7879. Colonel *Sturt.*] What is the class of people who go there?—I should think there is a great number of the criminal class, and some of the children of the working classes.

7880. Mr. *Locke.*] The boys do not pick one another's pockets while they are there I suppose?—No, I suppose not.

7881. And when they are inside, they are not picking other people's pockets?—No.

7882. Therefore it keeps them out of mischief?—Yes.

7883. *Chairman.*] Have the police much occasion to interfere with the dancing-rooms where the sailors go?—I think not.

7884. Have the police instructions to see what kind of performances are going on at those places?—I have no doubt they have some such instructions.

7885. They have instructions to report if they see any misconduct, you think?—Decidedly.

LIST OF APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAGE

Papers handed in by Mr. Spencer Ponsonby:

Memorandum on Theatres - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 279

Number of Persons whom the Metropolitan Theatres will contain, as reported by the Managers - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 295

Papers handed in by Mr. Donne:

Appointment of William Bodham Donne, Esq. - - - - - - - - - 296

Authority as Inspector of Theatres - - - - - - - - - - - 296

Theatres Licensed by the Lord Chamberlain - - - - - - - - - 297

Manuscripts Licensed, 1857–1865 - - - - - - - - - - - 297

Titles of Plays refused a License - - - - - - - - - - - 297

Paper handed in by Mr. Tomlins:

Document regarding the Authority of the Master of the Revels over Play-makers, Plays, and Players, in 1581 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 298

Appendix, No. 2.

Papers handed in by Mr. Pownall:

Suggestions - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 300

Public Music and Dancing Licenses under 25 Geo. 2, c. 36 - - - - - - 300

Paper handed in by Mr. D. Saunders:

Copy of Music and Dancing License granted under a Local Act in Birmingham - - - 305

Appendix, No. 3.

Papers handed in by Mr. Frederick Stanley:

Statement of Mr. Frederick Stanley, of No. 19, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, Solicitor, on behalf of the London Music Hall Proprietors' Protection Association - - - 306

Bill to Amend the Acts concerning Places of Amusement - - - - - - - 312

London Concert Halls, Music Halls, and Entertainment Galleries - - - - - 313

Paper handed in by Mr. Francis:

Letter from Mr. T. J. Jerwood to the Secretary of the Beaumont Institution, dated 7 March 1861 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 314

Letter from the Honourable Spencer Ponsonby to the Secretary of the Beaumont Institution, dated 27 April 1865 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 314

Appendix, No. 4.

Papers received from the Foreign Office, and laid before the Committee by the Clerk of the Committee:

Décret du 6 Janvier 1864, relatif à la Liberté de l'Industrie Théâtrale - - - - - 315

Ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux Arts. Surintendance Générale des Théâtres - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 316

Ordonnance concernant l'Etablissement des Salles de Spectacle; Emplacements; Abords; Mode de Construction; Distribution; Aménagement au point de vue des mesures de Sûreté publique; Circulation; Salubrité; Exploitation; Police, Intérieure et Extérieure—Juillet 1864 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 317

Appendix, No 4—*continued.*

Papers handed in by Mr. Boucicault:

PAGE

The Decree concerning the Liberty of the Theatres, copied from the "Moniteur Universel" of the 7th January 1864 - - - - - - - - - - 322

Extrait de l'Ordonnance du 1er Juillet 1864, concernant les Théâtres - - - - 322

Appendix, No. 5.

Papers handed in by Captain Shaw:

Captain E. M. Shaw's Remarks on the Schedule of the Bill to amend the Law relating to Theatres, &c., June 1866 - - - - - - - - - - - 325

List of Fires which have taken place in London Theatres during the 33 Years ending 1st January 1866 - - - - - - - - - - - - 327

Remarks by Captain Shaw - - - - - - - - - - - 330

Appendix, No. 6.

Papers handed in by Mr. Jackson:

Rules for the Regulation of Theatres within the Borough of Sheffield - - - - 332

Rules for the Regulation of Theatres in the Borough of Liverpool - - - - 333

APPENDIX.

Appendix No. 1.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Spencer Ponsonby*.

MEMORANDUM ON THEATRES.

Lord Chamberlain's Office,
12 March 1866.

THE following observations as to the licensing of theatres and public entertainments, and as to the Lord Chamberlain's supervision of them from 1628 to the present date (1866) are drawn from the Records in the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

The Lord Chamberlain's authority over theatres and public entertainments in early times, was no doubt derived from the Royal prerogative. The Court was the mainstay of the different companies of actors, the best of whom were sworn in as servants of the king, acted before him in London, and accompanied him in his progresses through England. The Lord Chamberlain and his subordinate officer, the Master of the Revels, thus came to be licensers of theatrical entertainments and of theatrical pieces. That the Chamberlain's authority proceeded from the Sovereign alone is clear, from the fact that no Act of Parliament, previous to the 10 Geo. 2, c. 28 (passed in 1737), alludes to his licensing powers, though he was constantly exercising them.

The Office Records prove that between 1628 (when they commence) and 1660, the Lord Chamberlain licensed and closed theatres, interfered in the copyright of plays, and either personally, or through the Master of the Revels, had complete control over managers and actors.

In 1662 and 1663, King Charles II. granted the two well known patents to Thomas Killigrew and Sir William Davenant, for all kinds of stage entertainments as therein named, and by these two Patents all other companies in London and Westminster were silenced.

The two patents were united by indenture in 1692, the intention of the combining patentees being to create a monopoly for their exclusive advantage, The Duke of Dorset, then Lord Chamberlain, represented the matter to the king, who took the opinion of his law officers, and was advised that a patent by one Sovereign could not tie up the hands of his successor. Accordingly, in 1695, King William III. granted a license to Betterton and his company of actors, to set up another theatre, and from that time forward there were again two theatres in London. The license granted to Betterton was renewed from time to time, and at last converted into a patent of 21 years' duration, and it was under this authority, and under the Killigrew and Davenant patent united in one, that the Theatres Royal Covent Garden and Drury Lane kept their position for so many years as the two national theatres; the only two theatres, in fact, where the legitimate drama could be played at all times and seasons.

The position of the two great theatres was not maintained without dispute or opposition; in fact the bulk of the correspondence preserved in this office from 1660 to 1843, consists of endeavours on the part of the patent theatres to put all others down, and of attempts by the minor theatres (which were established from time to time) to encroach on the privileges of the great theatres.

The Italian Opera House was the result of a license granted by Queen Anne to Sir John Vanbrugh in 1704, and it was soon settled by authority that at this theatre (now represented by Her Majesty's Theatre) English plays should not be given, and that on the other hand Italian operas should not be given at the patent theatres.

About the year 1731, the theatre now known as the Haymarket Theatre came into existence; it was occasionally licensed from 1749, was known as Foote's Theatre, and, after 1778, received an annual license for the regular drama; but only during the summer months, so that it might not hurt the interests of the winter theatres, as Covent Garden and Drury Lane were then called.

In 1809, the Lyceum, which, for some years before, had been licensed for music and dancing, was licensed for "musical dramatic entertainmens and ballets of action." And about the same time the theatre, now called the Adelphi, was permitted to give "burlettas,

Appendix, No. 1.

music and dancing, with spectacle and pantomime." In 1813, the Olympic was licensed for the same performances, and for horsemanship, and another minor theatre in Catherine-street, Strand, was similarly licensed. Burletta licenses were also granted for the St. James's Theatre in 1835, and for the Strand Theatre in 1836.

At this time also various theatres had been established beyond the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, such as the Surrey, the Coburg, Astley's, and others; and several places called saloons sprung up, which were really public-houses, enlivened by theatrical entertainments. These theatres and saloons were beyond the liberties of Westminster, and there was no law in existence under which they could be licensed; they pretended, however, to be open under a magistrate's license for "music, dancing, and public entertainments"; but this authority afforded them no protection, when it was thought worth while to prosecute the managers.

As regards legislation between 1660 and 1843, it may be remarked, that the early Acts of Parliament relating to players were, in reality, Vagrant Acts, and it was not till 1737 that the question of theatrical licenses, and of the censorship, received a solution at the hands of Parliament. The 10 Geo. 2, c. 28, passed in that year, empowered the Lord Chamberlain to grant licenses for theatrical entertainments, as therein defined, within the city and liberties of Westminster, and wherever the Sovereign might reside, and it constitutes him licenser of all new plays throughout Great Britain.

Copy of Act, Appendix A.

The 25 Geo. 2, c. 30, passed in 1751, enabled the justices of the peace to license houses for music, dancing, and public entertainment after 5 o'clock in the afternoon, but Section 4 of the Act excepts the patent theatres, Crown licenses, and the Lord Chamberlain's licenses from the penalties of the Act.

List of occasional Licenses, Appendix B.

Under this power, therefore, the Lord Chamberlain granted licenses for music, dancing, recitation, conjuring, and many kinds of public entertainments, which cannot be classed as stage plays, from 1751 to 1843. He ceased to grant these licenses in 1843, when the 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, was passed, believing it to be the intention of the Legislature that his licenses should thenceforward be limited to stage plays; but the law officers of the Crown have recently reported (1866) that his powers to grant licenses for music, dancing, and miscellaneous entertainments under this Act have not been repealed by the 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68.

Copy of Act, Appendix C.

In 1787, the 28 Geo. 3, c. 30, enabled justices of the peace to license theatrical entertainments occasionally under the restrictions therein contained, but they could not grant licenses within 20 miles of London, nor near any Royal residence.

Theatrical matters stood thus immediately before the Act of 1843.

The two patent theatres were open for all performances, as they still are, under the patents as before explained. The Lord Chamberlain, under the 10 Geo. 2, c. 28, was giving, within the liberties of Westminster, annual licenses to the Opera House for Italian operas and ballets; to the Haymarket Theatre, for plays during a portion of the year; to the Lyceum, for English operas and ballets; and, to the several minor theatres, for burlettas, spectacle, and pantomime, which terms seems to have comprised all performances except tragedy and comedy. He was also licensing, under the 25 Geo. 2, c. 30, music, dancing, and all kinds of public entertainments. The justices of the peace were also under the latter Act, licensing public houses, gardens, &c., for music and dancing after 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and, finally, various theatres and saloons were open illegally for stage performances beyond the liberties of Westminster.

Copy of Act, Appendix D.

The Act of 1843, 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68,* extended the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, from Westminster to the Parliamentary boundaries, and so defined the word "stage plays," that the Lord Chamberlain decided to grant the same license to all theatres, both those in Westminster and those brought within his authority by the new Act. The managers of all theatres and saloons were licensed to give stage plays in the fullest sense of the word, and during the whole year, under a bond with the Lord Chamberlain, as prescribed by the Act of Parliament, 24 theatres or saloons were thus licensed at Michaelmas 1843, after the passing of the Act; of these seven had been previously licensed by the Lord Chamberlain; and 10 theatres and seven saloons came, for the first time, under the Lord Chamberlain's authority. All respectable places of entertainment established before the passing of the Act were licensed; and in the case of saloons the Lord Chamberlain ruled that the entrances to the stage should not be through the bars or taprooms of the taverns to which they were attached, that no drinking or smoking should be allowed during the hours of performance,† and that no saloon should be open before 5 o'clock P.M.

Form of Theatre License and Bond signed by manager, Appendix E.

Form of Saloon License, Appendix F.

List of Theatres and Saloons licensed in 1843, Appendix G.

The form of license to the saloons was somewhat altered in 1845, smoking being still interdicted, and refreshments allowed only during the intervals between the performances, as at theatres. Tables or stands for refreshment were also forbidden.

Of the saloons licensed in 1843 not one remains in 1866. The Grecian, Britannia, Effingham, and Bower Saloons are now regular theatres, and the Albert, Albion, and Apollo Saloons have been pulled down or converted to other purposes.

All the metropolitan theatres licensed in 1843 still exist, and in addition to these the Gallery of Illustration was licensed in 1861, the Cabinet Theatre in 1862, and the Alexandra Theatre in 1865. The plans of a new theatre, to be erected in Holborn, have also been approved in 1865.

List of Licenses, 1865; Appendix H.

The number of theatres in London, licensed by the Lord Chamberlain in 1865, was 25.

It

* Repealed 3 James 1, c. 21, 10 Geo. 2, c. 28, Part of 10 Geo. 2, c. 19, 28 Geo. 3, c. 30.

† Although no condition against smoking or drinking appears in the License to Theatres, it was clearly understood that they were forbidden.

Appendix, No. 1.

It would appear that the 24 or 25 theatres licensed, annually, from 1843 to the present time, have been sufficient for the theatrical wants of the metropolis, for it is certain that no *bonâ fide* application for a new theatre to meet the wants of increasing population has been received by the Lord Chamberlain until the last year. Many applications for stage play licenses have been made and declined, but they have been for buildings not originally designed as theatres and not safe for the reception of large audiences; sometimes the applicants have asked for the Lord Chamberlain's license on forfeiture of their music and dancing licenses; some of the applications have been to give stage plays at baths, taverns, music halls, or in parts only of larger buildings. Some literary institutions have applied for occasional licenses, either for charitable purposes or to raise funds for their own benefit. The majority of applicants, however, of late years, have been proprietors of music halls, who, in consequence of the pressure put upon them by the theatres, have endeavoured to obtain protection for the quasi-theatrical performances which they have given to attract visitors.

Many of the applicants had no *primâ facie* case at all in favour of a license. If there appeared to be any reasonable ground for entertaining their request, an inspection of the building was at once made by the inspector of theatres (an officer in the Lord Chamberlain's Department), assisted by a professional surveyor. The result of the inspection usually brought to light that the place was not safe for the reception of audiences, or did not possess sufficient means for egress in case of alarm.

In deciding upon applications for new licenses, the question of safety has been the first consideration, but the Lord Chamberlain has been, in other respects, guided by the interests of the public. He has required that an applicant should produce a petition signed by many of the inhabitants in the immediate vicinity, in favour of the proposed theatre, he has requested the Police Commissioners to verify the truth of the petition, and to report whether inconvenience was likely to result in the way of interruption of traffic, or otherwise, from the establishment of a new theatre. He has usually obtained the opinion of the parish authorities, and, in short, he has endeavoured to convince himself generally that the grant of the license would satisfy a legitimate want and not create a permanent nuisance.

Copy of Letter to Mr. Parkinson, Appendix I.

The views of the Lord Chamberlain, in 1844, are well explained, in answer to an application to give stage plays at the Rotunda.

In the case of building a new theatre, the Lord Chamberlain now requires that a plan of the site should be produced, and examines the site; and if the establishment of a new theatre appears to be free from objection he examines the plans of the proposed building, so as to be convinced that the passages and exits are sufficiently large, and that the security of the audience is cared for in all essential points. The plans, as finally approved, must be adhered to in the construction of the building, and there is a final inspection of the theatre when completed.

It may be here conveniently explained in full what measures the Lord Chamberlain has taken of late years in regard to the security and convenience of the public.

No Act of Parliament enjoins any survey or inspection of existing theatres, though the Metropolitan Building Act comes into operation in the case of new theatres, so far as the stability of the structure and the use of certain materials are concerned.

The earliest instance of a compulsory survey of a theatre by the Lord Chamberlain appears to be that of the Pantheon, in 1812.

The Opera House in the Haymarket was surveyed between 1825 and 1829; and in 1828 the Covent Garden Theatre proprietors were compelled to produce an architect's report of the safety of the building before it was opened.

In the same year the Surveyor of His Majesty's works caused a survey to be made of all the theatres in the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, at the request of the latter. The reports, however, were confined to the stability of the walls and structure generally of the buildings, and no notice appears to have been taken of accessory arrangements as affecting the security and comfort of the audience.

The first move in this direction was made in 1850, when the Commissioners of Police were requested by the Lord Chamberlain to report as to the means of egress from all the theatres in London. They reported unfavourably of five theatres, and notice to this effect was sent by the Lord Chamberlain to the managers.

In 1852, the Lord Chamberlain, after consulting the official referees under the Building Act, required from the proprietor of every theatre a certificate as to the safety of the structure, to be made either by the district surveyor or some other competent architect or surveyor; and it was desired that the architect should also certify that the theatre possessed sufficient means of egress in case of alarm, and should further attest the stability of the gallery fronts, of the stair balustrades, and of such other accessories of the building as in any way involved the safety of the public.

In 1853, the Lord Chamberlain addressed a circular to all the managers, recommending improved ventilation in their theatres.

In the licenses of 1854–55, a condition was attached to the grant of every license making its validity depend on an observation of the rules as to ventilation, facility of egress, and other precautions, which the Lord Chamberlain might think fit to make during the currency of the license.

In the autumn of 1855, the first annual inspection took place of the whole of the metropolitan theatres. It was made by an officer of the Lord Chamberlain's Department, assisted by a surveyor, and the chief points of investigation were—

1st. Means of egress in case of fire or other alarm, involving alteration of doors, removal of inconvenient barriers and awkward steps, and alteration of staircases.

2d. Improvement of ventilation.

Appendix, No. 1.

3d. Means of extinguishing fire, state of water supply, force pumps, supply of buckets, and state of gas burners.

4th. Safe hanging of chandeliers.

5th. Cleanliness of the building, and state of urinaries and closets.

In the spring of 1856, letters were sent to the managers pointing out the defects which had been observed, enjoining them at once to remedy the most important, and recommending improvements of lesser moment.

Since 1856, the metropolitan theatres have been examined once every year from roof to basement, and the inspector reports that very great improvement has resulted from the examination, and that, taking into consideration the indifferent sites upon which many of the theatres are built, they are now as safe and convenient as they can be made; the labour of the inspection has in consequence much decreased. There is no door in any theatre in London which opens inwards, so as to obstruct the escape of the audience. Many barriers have been removed, and staircases strengthened. Considerable water supplies have been added, and force-pumps, buckets, and other precautions against fire are provided at all the theatres. Pewter gas-piping, which is liable to breakage resulting in accidents, has been also generally superseded by iron piping. Alterations and improvements of still more importance have been carried out at several of the theatres, at the earnest advice of the Lord Chamberlain, involving a partial reconstruction of the theatre, and the addition of new staircases and exits for the public.

The Lord Chamberlain has further, within the last few years, extended his inspection to some of the stage arrangements, in consequence of fatal accidents which occurred to dancers from the ignition of their dresses. Without relieving the managers from their responsibility in these respects, he has enjoined that the footlights shall at all theatres be protected by wire guards, and that no lights shall be placed at the wings lower than four feet from the ground. He has also, without making a positive order, recommended the use of uninflammable material for women's dresses on the stage.

It is due to the proprietors and managers to state, that they have shown great willingness to follow the Lord Chamberlain's directions and advice in all matters connected with the inspection of theatres.

In describing the further intervention of the Lord Chamberlain in theatrical matters, his office as licenser of plays, under the 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, must be first mentioned.

List of Plays refused, Appendix K.

The returns show that from the beginning of 1852 to the end of 1865, 2,816 plays were submitted for license, out of which only 19 were rejected; of those, two were from Scripture subjects, seven were of the swell mob and burglary school, and the bulk of the remainder were French plays of an immoral tendency or English versions of them.

The Lord Chamberlain has always endeavoured to exercise his power as censor without vexatious interference. In order, however, to make the supervision effective, the playbills of all London theatres are sent weekly to the Lord Chamberlain's office, and examined by the Reader of Plays, who also attends any performance when important alterations have been made in a piece submitted for license.

By a circular to the managers in 1847, the Lord Chamberlain expressed his disapprobation of the practice which had existed of admitting prostitutes into the theatres, as such; and from that time there is reason to believe that the system has been entirely discontinued.

In 1846, he required that the police should be admitted to all London theatres, and particular tickets were then provided for the purpose.

At various times the Lord Chamberlain has prohibited at theatres certain performances which had become popular from the excitement of the risk attending them, such as the exhibition of trained wild beasts, and performances like those of Blondin. He has also discouraged masquerades, which, if they have taken place at any of the theatres, have been contrary to his express wish.

In 1846, the Lord Chamberlain was memorialised by the manager of the Surrey Theatre to order a discontinuance of the low prices which had been commenced by some of the saloon managers, and followed by the smaller theatres; his Lordship, however, declined to interfere, looking to the meaning of the law which, by allowing the additional theatres and saloons in 1843, had no doubt in view the enlargement of the means of entertainment to the poorer classes of London; while endeavouring by proper rules to keep these low priced theatres within the bounds of propriety, he declined to use any repressive action as to their prices of admission.

The correspondence on the above-mentioned memorial elicited a fact which deserves consideration, that the theatrical saloons depending upon the sale of excisable liquors and refreshments, could afford to open at less prices than the theatres where wine and spirits could not legally be sold. It must also be mentioned that for the few years after 1843, when the theatrical saloons were first licensed, many more complaints were made against them than against the theatres. It was found necessary to suspend their licenses, or to grant them for a very limited time, so as to keep the managers in check; and the Lord Chamberlain has gladly conceded from time to time to the saloon proprietors the privilege of converting them into regular theatres.

It should here be mentioned that, in 1835, an Act was passed, 5 & 6 Guilmo. c. 39, empowering the Excise to give spirit licenses to all places licensed by the justices of the peace or by the Lord Chamberlain. At the representation of the publicans, this Act was suspended by a Treasury Order, dated 28th August 1835. In 1859, however, on a petition from the managers to the Treasury, the opinion of the law officers was taken, who reported that the order in question could not be maintained, and upon this, excise licenses were taken out by most of the metropolitan managers.

It

It was competent to the Lord Chamberlain to prevent this by his regulations in the case of theatres, but as he was perfectly aware that excisable liquors had all along been illegally sold at the theatres, he did not think it advisable to interfere. It was, however, understood that the sale should be confined to the refreshment rooms of the theatres, and not take place in the parts of the theatre set apart for the audience. No evil has resulted from this measure, and no complaints whatever have resulted from it as to disorderly conduct or drunkenness.

The saloons have been succeeded by the music halls, where ballets and effects of scene and costume are nightly represented, although the proprietors have no license for stage plays.

The difference between theatres and music halls is this, that at the former, the dramatic element is the chief feature, and the refreshment very subordinate; whereas, at the music halls, the performances are entirely accessory to the drinking, smoking, and refreshment.

The practice of introducing pantomime and ballet in the music halls commenced some years ago at Canterbury Hall, and was soon followed by other music halls.

The managers of theatres who considered their licenses to be invaded by this innovation, requested the Lord Chamberlain's interference, but as the law does not make him prosecutor, he preferred to leave the matter in the hands of those whose interests were most concerned. The managers of theatres thereupon took proceedings, and various decisions, chiefly adverse to the music halls, were obtained. The late decision, however, in the Court of Common Pleas, though it went to the question of fact, and not to the question of law, has practically left the music halls proprietors in a position to give ballets with costume and scenic effect, without any such control or precautions, as are exercised in theatres under the Lord Chamberlain's authority.

The length of the litigation was due, no doubt, to the obscurity of the definition of the word "stage plays" in the 6 & 7 Vict., c. 68, and of "music, dancing," and public entertainments in the Act 25 of George 2, c. 30.

The Lord Chamberlain has also not considered it his province to prosecute the managers of unlicensed places of entertainment, although, from time to time, he has called the attention of the police authorities to complaints which have reached him. In 1858 Sir Richard Mayne reported that 28 unlicensed places of entertainment were open in London, and, no doubt, this number has since considerably increased. The police authorities do not consider themselves bound to make a voluntary crusade against them, and Sir Richard Mayne has explained that the Police Act, under the provisions of which they would summarily interfere, bears a construction different to the 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68. Practically, therefore, many unlicensed places exist without check or control.

It should also be mentioned that up to 1861 the theatres in the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction were closed for dramatic performances during Passion Week. In consequence, however, of the strong representations made by the managers of the hardship inflicted upon them by restrictions, which were placed upon no other class in the community, the limitation clause as to Passion Week was omitted in the licenses issued in 1861, always excepting Good Friday, and the question of opening in Passion Week is now left to the discretion of managers.

Another point to be mentioned is, that of late years the theatres have been used on Sundays for prayers and preaching. An application was made to the Lord Chamberlain to put a stop to this, but as, in his opinion, no harm could result from it, he declined to interfere.

Appendix (A) 1747.

Anno Vicesimo Quinto Georgii II. Regis.

Cap. XXXVI.

AN ACT for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping disorderly Houses.

WHEREAS the advertising a Reward with no Questions asked, for the Return of things which have been lost or stolen is one great Cause and Encouragement of Thefts and Robberies: Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of *June* One thousand seven hundred and fifty-two, any person publicly advertising a Reward with no Questions asked for the Return of Things which have been stolen or lost, or making use of any Words in such public Advertisement purporting that such Reward shall be given or paid without seizing or making Inquiry after the Person producing such Thing so stolen or lost, or promising or offering in any such public Advertisement to return to any Pawnbroker or other Person who may have bought or advanced Money by way of Loan upon such Thing so stolen or lost the Money so paid or advanced, or any other sum of Money or Reward, for the Return of such Thing, and any Person printing or

The Person advertising a Reward for the Return of Things stolen or lost, &c., and the Printer of such Advertisement to forfeit 50*l.*

App. No. 1.

or publishing such Advertisement, shall respectively forfeit the sum of Fifty Pounds for every such offence to any Person who shall sue for the same.

Unlicensed Places of public Entertainment deemed disorderly Houses.

II. And whereas the Multitude of Places of Entertainment for the lower Sort of People is another great Cause of Thefts and Robberies as they are thereby tempted to spend their small Substance in riotous Pleasures, and in consequence are put on unlawful Methods of supplying their Wants and renewing their Pleasures: In order, therefore, to prevent the said Temptation to Thefts and Robberies, and to correct as far as may be the Habit of Idleness which is become too general over the whole Kingdom, and is productive of much Mischief and Inconvenience: Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the First Day of *December* One thousand seven hundred and fifty-two any House, Room, Garden, or other Place kept for public Dancing, Music, or other public Entertainment of the like Kind, in the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or within Twenty Miles thereof, without a Licence had for that Purpose from the last preceding *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County, City, Riding, Liberty, or Division in which such House, Room, Garden, or other Place is situate (who are hereby authorized and empowered to grant such Licences as they in their Discretion shall think proper), signified under the Hands and Seals of Four or more of the Justices there assembled, shall be deemed a disorderly House or Place; and every such Licence shall be signed and sealed by the said Justices in open Court, and afterwards be publicly read by the Clerk of the Peace, together with the Names of the Justices subscribing the same; and no such Licence shall be granted at any adjourned Sessions, nor shall any fee or reward be taken for any such Licence; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any Constable or other Person, being thereunto authorised by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County, City, Riding, Division, or Liberty where such House or Place shall be situate, to enter such House or Place, and to seize every Person who shall be found therein, in order that they may be dealt with according to Law; and every Person keeping such House, Room, Garden, or other Place, without such Licence as aforesaid, shall forfeit the Sum of One hundreds Pounds to such Person as will sue for the same, and be otherwise punishable as the Law directs in Cases of disorderly Houses.

Constables may enter and seize all Persons found therein.

Person keeping the same to forfeit 100 *l.*

Licensed Places to have an Inscription over them;

and not to be opened before Five in the Evening.

III. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, in order to give public Notice what Places are licensed pursuant to this Act, there shall be affixed and kept up in some notorious Place over the Door or Entrance of every such House, Room, Garden, or other Place kept for any of the said purposes, and so licensed as aforesaid, an Inscription in large Capital Letters in the Words following; *videlicet*, LICENSED PURSUANT TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH OF KING GEORGE THE SECOND; and that no such House, Room, Garden, or other Place, kept for any of the said Purposes, although licensed as aforesaid, shall be open to any of the said Purposes before the Hour of Five in the Afternoon; and that the affixing and keeping of such Inscription as aforesaid, and the said Limitation or Restriction in point of Time, shall be inserted and made Conditions of every such Licence; and in case of any Breach of either of the said Conditions such Licence shall be forfeited, and shall be revoked by the Justices of Peace in their next General or Quarter Sessions, and shall not be renewed, nor shall any new Licence be granted to the same Person or Persons, or any other Person on his or their or any of their Behalf, or for their Use or Benefit, directly or indirectly, for keeping any such House, Room, Garden, or other Place for any of the Purposes aforesaid.

On Breach of either of the said Conditions the Licence to be revoked.

The Theatres and other Places licensed by the Crown or Lord Chamberlain excepted out of this Act.

IV. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to the Theatres Royal in *Drury Lane* and *Covent Garden*, or the Theatre commonly called the King's Theatre, in the *Haymarket*, or any of them, nor to such Performances and public Entertainments as are or shall be lawfully exercised and carried on under or by virtue of Letter Patents, or Licence of the Crown, or the Licence of the Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household, anything herein contained notwithstanding.

Constable's Duty upon Notice given him of Persons keeping a Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly Houses, &c.

V. And in order to encourage Prosecutions against Persons keeping Bawdy Houses, Gaming Houses, or other disorderly Houses, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Two Inhabitants of any Parish or Place, paying Scot and bearing Lot therein, do give Notice in Writing to any Constable (or other Peace Officer of the like Nature, where there is no Constable), of such Parish or Place of any Person keeping a Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly House in such Parish or Place, the Constable, or such Officer as aforesaid so receiving such Notice, shall forthwith go with such Inhabitants to One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County, City, Riding, Division, or Liberty in which such Parish or Place does lie, and shall upon such Inhabitants making Oath before such Justice that they do believe the Contents of such Notice to be true, and entering into a Recognizance in the penal Sum of Twenty Pounds each to give or produce material Evidence against such Person for such Offence, enter into a Recognizance in the penal Sum of Thirty Pounds to prosecute with Effect such Person for such Offence at the next General or Quarter Session of the Peace, or at the next Assizes to be holden for the County in which such Parish or Place does lie, as to the said Justices shall seem meet; and such Constable or other Officer shall be allowed all the reasonable Expenses of such Prosecution, to be ascertained by any Two Justices of the Peace

The Charges of Prosecution, and 10 *l.* on Conviction,

Peace of the County, City, Riding, Division, or Liberty where the Offence shall have been committed, and shall be paid the same by the Overseers of the Poor of such Parish or Place; and in case such Person shall be convicted of such Offence the Overseers of the Poor of such Parish or Place shall forthwith pay the Sum of Ten Pounds to each of such Inhabitants; and in case such Overseer shall neglect or refuse to pay to such Constable or other Officer such Expenses of the Prosecution as aforesaid, or shall neglect or refuse to pay, upon Demand, the said Sums of Ten Pounds, and Ten Pounds, such Overseers, and each of them, shall forfeit to the Person entitled to the same double the sum so refused or neglected to be paid.

to each of the Two Inhabitants, to be paid by the Overseers, on Penalty of forfeiting double the Sum.

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That upon such Constable or other Officer entering into such Recognisance to prosecute as aforesaid, the said Justice of the Peace shall forthwith make out his Warrant to bring the Person so accused of keeping a Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly House before him, and shall bind him or her over to appear at such General or Quarter Sessions or Assizes, there to answer to such Bill of Indictment as shall be found against him or her for such Offence; and such Justice shall and may, if in his Discretion he thinks fit, likewise demand and take Security for such Person's good Behaviour in the meantime, and until such Indictment shall be found, heard, and determined, or be returned by the Grand Jury not to be a true Bill.

Persons keeping such Bawdy House, &c., to be bound over to appear to answer the Indictment.

VII. Provided also, That in case such Constable shall neglect or refuse, upon such Notice, to go before any Justice of the Peace, or to enter into such Recognizance, or shall be wilfully negligent in carrying on the said Prosecution, he shall for every such Offence forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds to each of such Inhabitants so giving Notice as aforesaid.

Constable neglecting his Duty forfeits 20 *l.*

VIII. And whereas, by reason of the many subtle and crafty Contrivances of Persons keeping Bawdy Houses, Gaming Houses, or other disorderly Houses, it is difficult to prove who is the real Owner or Keeper thereof, by which Means many notorious Offenders have escaped Punishment: Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any Person who shall at any Time hereafter appear, act, or behave him or herself as Master or Mistress, or as the Person having the Care, Government, or Management of any Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly House, shall be deemed and taken to be the Keeper thereof, and shall be liable to be prosecuted and punished as such, notwithstanding he or she shall not in fact be the real Owner or Keeper thereof.

Who shall be deemed the Keeper of such Bawdy House, &c.

IX. Provided nevertheless, That upon any such Prosecution against any Person for keeping a Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly House, any Person may give Evidence against the Defendant, or on behalf of the Defendant, in such Prosecution, notwithstanding his or her being an Inhabitant or Parishioner of the said Parish or Place, or having entered into such Recognizance as aforesaid.

Evidence may be given for or against the Defendant, by an Inhabitant, &c.

X. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Indictment shall at any Time after the said First Day of *June* be preferred against any Person for keeping a Bawdy House, Gaming House, or other disorderly House, shall be removed by any Writ of Certiorari into any other Court, but such Indictment shall be heard, tried, and finally determined at the same General or Quarter Session or Assizes where such Indictment shall have been preferred (unless the Court shall think proper, upon Cause shown, to adjourn the same), any such Writ or Allowance thereof notwithstanding.

Indictment not removable by Certiorari into any other Court.

XI. And whereas many Persons are deterred from prosecuting Persons guilty of Felony upon account of the Expense attending such Prosecutions, which is another great Cause and Encouragement of Thefts and Robberies: In order, therefore, to encourage the bringing Offenders to Justice, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be in the Power of the Court before whom any Person has been tried and convicted of any Grand or Petit Larceny or other Felony, at the Prayer of the Prosecutor, and on consideration of his Circumstances, to order the Treasurer of the County in which the Offence shall have been committed to pay unto such Prosecutor such Sum of Money as to the said Court shall seem reasonable, not exceeding the Expenses which it shall appear to the Court the Psosecutor was put unto in carrying on such Prosecution, making him a reasonable Allowance for his Time and Trouble therein; which Order the Clerk of Assize or Clerk of the Peace respectively is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and to deliver unto such Prosecutor, upon being paid for the same the Sum of One Shilling, and no more; and the Treasurer of the County is hereby authorised and required, upon Sight of such Order, forthwith to pay to such Prosecutor or other Person authorised to receive the same, such Sum of Money as aforesaid, and shall be allowed the same in his Accounts.

In Prosecutions for Felony, Court may make Orders for Payment of the Prosecutor's Expenses.

Clerk's Fee for such Order.

County Treasurer to pay the Order on Sight.

XII. And for the better discovering and bringing to Justice Thieves, Robbers, and other Persons maintaining themselves by pilfering and defrauding Mankind, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in any County, City, or Liberty, in case any Person apprehended, upon any general privy Search, or by virtue of any special Warrant, shall be charged before them with being a Rogue and Vagabond, or an idle and disorderly Person, or with Suspicion of Felony (although no direct Proof be then made thereof), to examine such Person upon Oath, not only as to the Parish or Place where he was last legally settled, but also as to his Means of Livelihood, the Substance of which

Justices may examine on Oath Rogues, Vagabonds, and other disorderly Persons brought before them:

the Examination to be signed, and transmitted to the Quarter Sessions.

Person not giving a satisfactory Account of himself, &c., to be committed; and an Advertisement to be published, describing his Person, and the Things found on him.

Examination shall be put into Writing, and be subscribed or signed by the Person so examined, and the said Justices shall likewise sign the same, and transmit it to the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the same County, City, or Liberty, there to be filed and to be kept on Record, and if such Person shall not make it appear to such Justices that he has a lawful Way of getting his Livelihood, or shall not procure some responsible Housekeeper to appear to his Character, and to give Security for his Appearance before such Justice at some other Day to be fixed for that Purpose (in case the same shall be required), to commit such Person to some Prison or House of Correction for any Time not exceeding Six Days, and in the meantime to order the Overseers of the Poor, or One of them, of the Parish or Place in which such Person shall be apprehended, to insert an Advertisement in some public Paper, describing such suspicious Person, and any Thing or Things which shall have been found upon him or in his Custody, and which he shall be suspected not to have come honestly by, and mentioning the Place to which such Person is committed, and specifying the Time and Place when and where such Person is to be again brought before them to be re-examined, and if no Accusation shall be then laid against him, then such Person shall be discharged, or otherwise dealt with according to Law.

Recovery of Forfeitures.

XIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that any Person entitled to any of the Forfeitures by this Act imposed may sue for the same by Action of Debt in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, in which it shall be sufficient to declare that the Defendant is indebted to the Plaintiff in the sum of being forfeited by an Act, intituled *An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping disorderly Houses;* and the Plaintiff, if he recover in any such Action, shall have his full Costs.

Full Costs.

Limitation of Actions.

XIV. Provided, That no Action shall be brought by virtue of this Act unless the same shall be commenced within the Space of Six Calendar Months after the Offence committed.

Act to be in force for Three Years.

XV. And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall continue in force until the Expiration of Three Years, to be computed from the First Day of this Session of Parliament, and from thence to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, and no longer.

Appendix (B.)

Appendix (B.)

VARIOUS ENTERTAINMENTS licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, from 1628 to 1866.

(The List is by no means a List of all Licences, but only illustrates the different species of Entertainments licensed from time to time.)

1628	Comedyes, Historyes, Interludes, and other Stage Playes.
1635	French Comedians to act Interludes and Stage Playes.
1666	Rope vaulting on a Stage.
1672	Drolls and Interludes.
1695	Licence to Betterton and others for Tragedyes, Comedyes, Playes, Interludes, Opera, and all other theatrical and musical Entertainments whatever.
1731	Tragedyes, Comedyes, Playes, Opera, Music, Scenes, and all other Entertainments of the Stage.
1738	A Puppet Show.
1745	Pantomime Entertainments and Concerts.
1749	French and Italian Comedies and Comic Operas.
1755	Burlettas or Italian Comedies
1759	Scotts' Musical Pastoral, "The Gentle Shepherd."
1760	Concert of Music at Mr. Cock's Great Room in Spring Gardens.
1773	Concerts and Assemblies.
1781	Masquerades.
1792	Dibdin's "Recitation, Singing, and Music," by himself alone.
1794	Astronomical Lectures.
1794	Public Music and Dancing.
1795	Readings and Music.
1799	Oratorios.
1805	Musical and Dramatic Interludes in German.
1805	Juvenile Entertainment of Burlettas, Operatic Ballets, Pantomime and Action Songs, by Children under 12.
1806	Dancing, Song, Recitations, Optical and Mechanical Exhibitions, at Adelphi.
1807	Music, Dancing, Pantomime, and Horsemanship.
1810	Mechanical Exhibitions, Hydraulic Experiment, and Artificial Fireworks.
1811	A Ballet Performance.
1815	Fantoccini, with Music and Singing.
1816	Music, accompanying an Exhibition of Mechanical and Picturesque Views.

1818 Melodrama

1818	Melodrama and Comic Pantomime.
1821	Ventriloquism, Music, Dancing, and Experimental Philosophy.
1822	Fancy Dress Ball.
1823	Horsemanship and Ropedancing.
1824	Extempore Recitations.
1825	Music, Dancing, and Assemblies.
1828	A Dramatic Concert.
1833	Monodramatic Entertainment.
1839	Promenade Concerts.
1840	Magical Experiments, and Legerdemain.
1842	Equestrian Performances, and Trained Animals.

The word Spectacle is also used in some of the Licences.

Appendix (C).

Anno Vicesimo Octavo Georgii III. Regis.

Cap. XXX.

AN ACT to enable Justices of the Peace to license Theatrical Representations occasionally, under the Restrictions therein contained.

Preamble 10 Geo. 2, c. 28.

Whereas by an Act passed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, certain Penalties and Punishments were inflicted on every Person who should, for Hire, Gain, or Reward, act, represent, or perform, or cause to be acted, represented, or performed, any Interlude, Tragedy, Comedy, Opera, Play, Farce, or other Entertainment of the Stage, or any Part or Parts therein, except as in the said Act is excepted: And whereas divers Acts of Parliament have since been solicited and obtained for divers Cities, Towns, and Places, for exempting them respectively from the Provisions of the said Law: And whereas it may be expedient to permit and suffer, in Towns of considerable Report, Theatrical Representations for a limited Time, and under Regulations; in which nevertheless it would be highly impolitic, inexpedient, and unreasonable to permit the Establishment of a constant and regular Theatre: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Justices of the Peace of any County, Riding, or Liberty, in General or Quarter Sessions assembled, at their Discretion, to grant a Licence to any Person or Persons, making Application for the same by Petition, for the Performance of such Tragedies, Comedies, Interludes, Operas, Plays, or Farces, as now are or hereafter shall be acted, performed, or represented at either of the Patent or Licensed Theatres in the City of *Westminster*, or as shall, in the Manner prescribed by Law, have been submitted to the Inspection of the Lord Chamberlain of the King's Household for the Time being, at any Place within their jurisdictions, or within any City, Town, or Place situate within the Limits of the same, for any Number of Days not exceeding Sixty Days, to commence within the then next Six months, and to be within the Space of such Four Months as shall be specified in the said Licence, so as there be only One License in Use at the same Time within the Jurisdiction so given, and so as such Place be not within Twenty Miles of the Cities of *London*, *Westminster*, of *Edinburgh*, or Eight Miles of any Patent or Licensed Theatre, or Ten Miles of the Residence of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, or of any Place within the same Jurisdiction at which, within Six months preceding, a Licence under this Act shall have been had and exercised, or within Fourteen Miles of either of the Universities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, or within Two Miles of the outward Limits of any City, Town, or Place having peculiar Jurisdiction; and so also as no Licence under this Act shall have been had and exercised at the same Place within Eight Months then next preceding; any Law or Statute for the Punishment of Persons employed in Theatrical Representations to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Justices of the Peace may at the General or Quarter Sessions grant Licences for the Performance of Plays, &c. under the Restrictions herein specified.

II. Provided always, That no such Licence shall be granted by the Justices as aforesaid, to be exercised within any City, Town, or Place having peculiar Jurisdiction, unless Proof shall be made that the Majority of the Justices acting for such peculiar Jurisdiction have, at a public Meeting, signed their Consent and Approbation to the said Application, or unless an express Condition shall be therein inserted, that the same shall not be valid and effectual until it shall have been approved by the Majority of the Justices of such peculiar Jurisdiction, at a Meeting holden expressly for taking the same into Consideration.

Licenses not to be granted within any Place having peculiar Jurisdiction, without the Consent of the Majority of the Justices acting for such Jurisdiction.

III. Provided also, that no such Licence shall be granted by the Justices as aforesaid within any City, Town, or Place, unless Notice shall have been given by the Person or Persons applying for such Licence, at least Three Weeks before such Application to the Mayor, Bailiff, or other Chief Civil Officer or Officers of such City, Town, or Place, of his or their intending to make such Application.

No Licence to be granted unless Three Weeks notice be given the Mayor, &c. previous to Application for a Licence.

App. No. 1.

Appendix (D).

ANNO SEXTO ET SEPTIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Cap. LXVIII.

AN ACT for regulating Theatres.—[22d *August* 1843.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Laws now in force for regulating Theatres and Theatrical Performances be repealed, and other Provisions be enacted in their Stead: Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That an Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of King *James* the First, intituled *An Act to restrain the Abuses of Players;* and so much of an Act passed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second for the more effectual preventing the unlawful playing of Interludes within the Precincts of the Two Universities in that part of *Great Britain* called *England,* and the Places adjacent, as is now in force; and another Act passed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act to explain and amend so much of an Act made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen* Anne, *intituled 'An Act for reducing the Laws relating to Rogues, Vagabonds, Sturdy Beggars, and Vagrants into One Act of Parliament, and for the more effectual punishing such Rogues, Vagabonds, Sturdy Beggars, and Vagrants, and sending them whither they ought to be sent, as relates to common Players of Interludes;* and another Act passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to enable Justices of the Peace to license Theatrical Representations occasionally, under the Restrictions therein contained,* shall be repealed; Provided always, that any Licence now in force granted by the Lord Chamberlain, or granted by any Justices of the Peace under the Provisions of the last recited Act, shall continue in force for the Times for which the same were severally granted, or until revoked by the Authority by which they were severally granted.

Repeal of 3 Jac. 1, c. 21.
Part of 10 G. 2, c. 19.
10 G. 2, c. 28.
28 G. 3, c. 30.
Proviso as to Licences now in force.

All Theatres for the Performance of Plays must be licensed.

II. And be it enacted, That, except as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for any Person to have or keep any House or other Place of public Resort in *Great Britain,* for the public Performance of Stage Plays, without Authority by virtue of Letters Patent from Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, or Predecessors, or without Licence from the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household for the Time being, or from the Justices of the Peace as herein-after provided; and every Person who shall offend against this Enactment shall be liable to forfeit such Sum as shall be awarded by the Court in which or the Justices by whom he shall be convicted, not exceeding Twenty Pounds for every Day on which such House or Place shall have been so kept open by him for the Purpose aforesaid, without legal Authority.

What Licences shall be granted by the Lord Chamberlain.

III. And be it enacted, That the Authority of the Lord Chamberlain for granting Licences shall extend to all Theatres (not being Patent Theatres) within the Parliamentary Boundaries of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster,* and of the Boroughs of *Finsbury* and *Marylebone,* the *Tower Hamlets, Lambeth* and *Southwark,* and also within those Places where Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, shall, in their Royal Persons, occasionally reside: Provided always, that, except within the Cities and Boroughs aforesaid, and the Boroughs of *New Windsor* in the County of *Berks,* and *Brighthelmstone* in the County of *Sussex,* Licences for Theatres may be granted by the Justices as herein-after provided, in those Places in which Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, shall occasionally reside; but such Licences shall not be in force during the Residence there of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors; and during such Residence it shall not be lawful to open such Theatres as last aforesaid (not being Patent Theatres) without the Licence of the Lord Chamberlain.

Fee for Lord Chamberlain's Licence.

IV. And be it enacted, That for every such Licence granted by the Lord Chamberlain a Fee, not exceeding Ten Shillings for each Calendar Month during which the Theatre is licensed to be kept open, according to such Scale of Fees as shall be fixed by the Lord Chamberlain, shall be paid to the Lord Chamberlain.

Licences may be granted by Justices.

V. And be it enacted, That the Justices of the Peace, within every County, Riding, Division, Liberty, Cinque Port, City, and Borough in *Great Britain* beyond the limits of the Authority of the Lord Chamberlain, in which Application shall have been made to them for any such Licence as is herein-after mentioned, shall, within Twenty-one Days next after such Application shall have been made to them in Writing signed by the Party making the same, and countersigned by at least Two Justices acting in and for the Division within which the Property proposed to be licensed shall be situate, and delivered to the Clerk to the said Justices, hold a Special Session in the Division, District, or Place for which

which they usually act, for granting Licences to Houses for the Performance of Stage Plays, of the holding of which Session Seven Days' Notice shall be given by their Clerk to each of the Justices acting within such Division, District, or Place; and every such Licence shall be given under the Hands and Seals of Four or more of the Justices assembled at such Special Session, and shall be signed and sealed in open Court, and afterwards shall be publicly read by the Clerk, with the Names of the Justices subscribing the same.

Fee for Justices' Licence.

VI. And be it enacted, That for every such Licence granted by the Justices a Fee, not exceeding Five Shillings for each Calendar Month during which the Theatre is licensed to be kept open, according to such Scale of Fees as shall be fixed by the Justices, shall be paid to the Clerk of the said Justices.

To whom Licences shall be granted.

VII. And be it enacted, That no such Licence for a Theatre shall be granted by the Lord Chamberlain or Justices to any Person except the actual and responsible Manager for the Time being of the Theatre in respect of which the Licence shall be granted; and the Name and Place of Abode of such Manager shall be printed on every Play Bill announcing any Representation at such Theatre; and such Manager shall become bound himself in such penal Sum as the Lord Chamberlain or Justices shall require, being in no Case more than Five Hundred Pounds, and Two sufficient Sureties, to be approved by the said Lord Chamberlain or Justices, each in such penal Sum as the Lord Chamberlain or Justices shall require, being in no Case more than One Hundred Pounds, for the due Observance of the Rules which shall be in force at any Time during the Currency of the Licence for the Regulation of such Theatre, and for securing Payment of the Penalties which such Manager may be adjudged to pay for Breach of the said Rules, or any of the Provisions of this Act.

Rules for the Theatres under the Control of the Lord Chamberlain.

VIII. And be it enacted, That in case it shall appear to the Lord Chamberlain that any Riot or Misbehaviour has taken place in any Theatre licensed by him, or in any Patent Theatre, it shall be lawful for him to suspend such Licence or to order such Patent Theatre to be closed for such time as to him shall seem fit; and it shall also be lawful for the Lord Chamberlain to order that any Patent Theatre or any Theatre licensed by him shall be closed on such public Occasions as to the Lord Chamberlain shall seem fit; and while any such Licence shall be suspended, or any such Order shall be in force, the Theatre to which the same applies shall not be entitled to the Privilege of any Letters Patent or Licence, but shall be deemed an unlicensed House.

Rules for enforcing Order in the Theatres licensed by the Justices.

IX. And be it enacted, That the said Justices of the Peace at a Special Licensing Session, or at some Adjournment thereof, shall make suitable Rules for insuring Order and Decency at the several Theatres licensed by them within their Jurisdiction, and for regulating the Times during which they shall severally be allowed to be open, and from Time to Time, at another Special Session, of which Notice shall be given as aforesaid, may rescind or alter such Rules; and it shall be lawful for one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to rescind or alter any such Rules, and also to make such other Rules for the like Purpose, as to him shall seem fit; and a Copy of all Rules which shall be in force for the Time being shall be annexed to every such Licence; and in case of any Riot or Breach of the said Rules in any such Theatre shall be proved on Oath before any Two Justices usually acting in the Jurisdiction where such Theatre is situated, it shall be lawful for them to order that the same be closed for such Time as to the said Justices shall seem fit; and while such Order shall be in force the Theatre so ordered to be closed shall be deemed an unlicensed House.

Proviso for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

X. Provided always, and be it enacted, That no such Licence shall be in force within the Precincts of either of the Universities of *Oxford* or *Cambridge*, or within Fourteen Miles of the City of *Oxford* or Town of *Cambridge*, without the Consent of the Chancellor or Vice Chancellor of each of the said Universities respectively; and that the Rules for the Management of any Theatre which shall be licensed with such Consent within the Limits aforesaid shall be subject to the Approval of the said Chancellor or Vice Chancellor respectively; and in case of the Breach of any of the said Rules, or of any Condition on which the Consent of the Chancellor or Vice Chancellor to grant any such Licence shall have been given, it shall be lawful for such Chancellor or Vice Chancellor respectively to annul the Licence, and thereupon such Licence shall become void.

Penalty on Persons performing in unlicensed Places.

XI. And be it enacted, That every Person who for Hire shall act or present, or cause, permit, or suffer to be acted or presented, any Part in any Stage Play, in any Place not being a Patent Theatre or duly licensed as a Theatre, shall forfeit such Sum as shall be awarded by the Court in which or the Justices by whom he shall be convicted, not exceeding Ten Pounds for every Day on which he shall so offend.

No new Plays or Additions to old ones to be acted until submitted to the Lord Chamberlain.

XII. And be it enacted, That One Copy of every new Stage Play, and of every new Act, Scene, or other Part added to any old Stage Play, and of every new Prologue or Epilogue, and of every new Part added to an old Prologue or Epilogue, intended to be produced and acted for Hire at any Theatre in *Great Britain*, shall be sent to the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household for the Time being, Seven Days at least before the first acting or presenting thereof, with an Account of the Theatre where and the Time when the same is intended to be first acted or presented, signed by the Master or Manager, or One of the Masters or Managers, of such Theatre; and during the said Seven Days no Person shall for Hire act or present the same, or cause the same to be acted or presented; and in case the Lord Chamberlain, either before or after the Expiration of the said Period

App. No. 1.

of Seven Days, shall disallow any Play, or any Act, Scene, or Part thereof, or any Prologue or Epilogue, or any Part thereof, it shall not be lawful for any Person to act or present the same, or cause the same to be acted or presented, contrary to such Disallowance.

Fees to be paid for Examination of Plays, &c

XIII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Lord Chamberlain to charge such Fees for the Examination of the Plays, Prologues, and Epilogues, or Parts thereof, which shall be sent to him for Examination, as to him from Time to Time shall seem fit, according to a Scale which shall be fixed by him, such Fee not being in any Case more than Two Guineas, and such Fees shall be paid at the Time when such Plays, Prologues, and Epilogues, or Parts thereof, shall be sent to the Lord Chamberlain; and the said Period of Seven Days shall not begin to run in any Case until the said Fee shall have been paid to the Lord Chamberlain, or to some Officer deputed by him to receive the same.

The Lord Chamberlain may forbid any Play.

XIV. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Lord Chamberlain for the Time being, whenever he shall be of opinion that it is fitting for the Preservation of good Manners, Decorum, or of the public Peace so to do, to forbid the acting or presenting any Stage Play, or any Act, Scene, or Part thereof, or any Prologue or Epilogue, or any Part thereof, anywhere in *Great Britain*, or in such Theatres as he shall specify, and either absolutely or for such Time as he shall think fit.

Penalty for acting Plays before they are allowed or after they have been disallowed.

XV. And be it enacted, That every Person who for Hire shall act or present, or cause to be acted or presented, any new Stage Play, or any Act, Scene, or Part thereof, or any new Prologue or Epilogue, or any part thereof, until the same shall have been allowed by Lord Chamberlain, or which shall have been disallowed by him, and also every Person who for Hire shall act or present, or cause to be acted or presented, any Stage Play, or any Act, Scene, or Part thereof, or any Prologue or Epilogue, or any Part thereof, contrary to such Prohibition as aforesaid, shall for every such Offence forfeit such Sum as shall be awarded by the Court in which or the Justices by whom he shall be convicted, not exceeding the Sum of Fifty Pounds; and every Licence (in Case there be any such) by or under which the Theatre was opened, in which such Offence shall have been committed, shall become absolutely void.

What shall be Evidence of acting for Hire.

XVI. And be it enacted, That in every Case in which any Money or other Reward shall be taken or charged, directly or indirectly, or in which the Purchase of any Article is made a Condition for the Admission of any Person into any Theatre to see any Stage Play, and also in every Case in which any Stage Play shall be acted or presented in any House, Room, or Place in which distilled or fermented Exciseable Liquor shall be sold, every Actor therein shall be deemed to be acting for Hire..

Proof of Licence in certain cases to lie on the Party accused.

XVII. And be it enacted, That in any Proceedings to be instituted against any Person for having or keeping an unlicensed Theatre, or for acting for Hire in an unlicensed Theatre, if it shall be proved that such Theatre is used for the public Performance of Stage Plays, the Burden of Proof that such Theatre is duly licensed or authorised shall lie on the Party accused, and until the contrary shall be proved such Theatre shall be taken to be unlicensed.

Proceedings begun before the passing of this Act may be discontinued.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for any Person against whom any Action or Information shall have been commenced, for the Recovery of any Forfeiture or pecuniary Penalty incurred under the said Act of the Tenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, to apply to the Court in which such Action or Information shall have been commenced, if such Court shall be sitting, or if such Court shall not be sitting, to any Judge of either of the Superior Courts at *Westminster*, for an Order that such Action or Information shall be discontinued, upon Payment of the Costs thereof incurred to the Time of such Application being made, such Costs to be taxed according to the Practice of such Court; and every such Court or Judge (as the Case may be), upon such Application, and Proof that sufficient Notice has been given to the Plaintiff or Informer, or to his Attorney, of the Application, shall make such Order as aforesaid; and upon the making such Order and Payment, or Tender of such Costs as aforesaid, such Action or Information shall be forthwith discontinued.

Penalties how to be recoverable.

XIX. And be it enacted, That all the pecuniary Penalties imposed by this Act for Offences committed in *England* may be recovered in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, and for Offences committed in *Scotland* by Action or summary Complaint before the Court of Session or Justiciary there, or for Offences committed in any Part of *Great Britain*, in a summary Way, before Two Justices of the Peace for any County, Riding, Division, Liberty, City, or Borough where any such Offence shall be committed, by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, or by the Confession of the Offender, and in default of Payment of such Penalty, together with the Costs, the same may be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, rendering the Overplus to such Offender, if any there be above the Penalty, Costs, and Charge of Distress; and for Want of sufficient Distress the Offender may be imprisoned in the Common Gaol or House of Correction of any such County, Riding, Division, Liberty, City or Borough, for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months.

Appeal.

XX. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Person who shall think himself aggrieved by any Order of such Justices of the Peace to appeal therefrom to the next General or Quarter Session of the Peace to be holden for the said County, Riding, Division, Liberty, City, or Borough, whose Order therein shall be final.

XXI. And

XXI. And be it enacted, That the said penalties for any Offence against this Act shall be paid and applied in the first instance toward defraying the Expenses incurred by the Prosecutor, and the Residue thereof (if any) shall be paid to the Use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors. Appropriation of Penalties.

XXII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That no Person shall be liable to be prosecuted for any Offence against this Act unless such Prosecution shall be commenced within Six Calendar Months after the Offence committed. Limitation of Actions.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That in this Act as the word "Stage-Play" shall be taken to include every Tragedy, Comedy, Farce, Opera, Burletta, Interlude, Melodrama, Pantomime, or other Entertainment of the Stage, or any Part thereof: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to any Theatrical Representation in any Booth or Show which by the Justices of the Peace or other Persons having Authority in that behalf, shall be allowed in any lawful Fair, Feast, or customary Meeting of the like Kind. Interpretation of Act.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall extend only to *Great Britain*. Limits of the Act.

XXV. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament. Act may be amended this Session.

Appendix (E.)

Form of License for Theatres.

I do hereby give leave and license unto to have stage plays performed at during one year from the date hereof, with the exception of the Lord's Day (commonly called Sunday), Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, and Good Friday, according to the Act of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 68, for regulating theatres.

This license is granted upon the understanding that the above-named actual and responsible manager shall be subject to such rules and regulations as shall be made in regard to the said theatre.

Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of September, 18 , in the year of Her Majesty's reign.

L. S.

Lord Chamberlain.

Form of Bond signed by the Manager of a Theatre and his Sureties on receiving a License according to the 6 & 7 Victoria, cap. 68.

Know all Men by these presents, that we

are severally held and firmly bound unto Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household in the several sums of money following, that is to say, the said in the sum of Three hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, the said in the sum of Fifty pounds of like lawful money, and the said in the sum of Fifty pounds of like lawful money, such sums to be respectively paid to the said or his attorney, executors, administrators, or assigns, for which several payments so to be well and truly made by us respectively, we bind ourselves respectively and our respective heirs, executors, and administrators firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals. Dated this day of in the year of our Lord 186 .

Whereas under or by virtue of a certain Act of Parliament made and passed in the 6th and 7th years of the reign of Queen Victoria, entitled "An Act for regulating Theatres," the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household for the time being is empowered to grant licenses for theatres within the limits therein mentioned, and is also given certain jurisdiction over such theatres and the performances therein. And the manager for the time being of any such theatre is thereby required to do or abstain from doing certain Acts therein specified, and other provisions are therein contained for carrying into effect the purposes of the said Act, and certain penalties to be awarded, recovered and paid, together with

App. No. 1.

with costs as therein mentioned, are thereby imposed for the breach of any of the requisitions or provisions of the said Act. And it is thereby, amongst other things, enacted that no such license for a theatre shall be granted by the Lord Chamberlain to any person except the actual and responsible manager for the time being of the theatre in respect of which the license shall be granted. And such manager shall become bound himself in such penal sum as the Lord Chamberlain shall require, being in no case more than Five hundred pounds, and two sufficient sureties to be approved by the said Lord Chamberlain, each in such penal sum as the Lord Chamberlain shall require, being in no case more than One hundred pounds, for the due observance of the rules which shall be in force at any time during the currency of the license for the regulation of such theatre, and for securing payment of the penalties which such manager may be adjudged to pay for breach of the said rules, or any of the provisions of the said Act. And whereas the above named as such Lord Chamberlain for the time being hath granted a license to the above bounden as the actual and responsible manager for the time being of the theatre called theatre situate within the limits of the said Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction, under the said recited Act, for keeping open such theatre from the day of 186 until the day of 186 according to the provisions of the said Act. And whereas pursuant to the provisions in that behalf contained in the said recited Act, the said as such Lord Chamberlain, hath required that the above written Bond or Obligation shall be entered into and executed, and he has approved of the above bounden as sufficient sureties to join therein with the said

Now the Condition of the above written Bond or Obligation is, that if the said do and shall, from time to time, and at all times during the continuance or currency of the license so granted to him for keeping open the theatre called theatre as aforesaid, duly and regularly observe, perform and obey all and every the rules or regulations which now are or at any time or times during the continuance or currency of such license shall be enjoined or imposed by the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household for the time being, or otherwise in existence or force for the regulation of such theatre, and also do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid all and every the penalties or sums or sum of money which he the said shall be at any time or times hereafter awarded or adjudged to pay for or on account of the breach or non-performance of all or any of such rules or regulations, or all or any of the provisions of the said recited Act of Parliament for regulating theatres, according to any such award or judgment, together with the costs attending the same, then and in such case the above written Bond or Obligation to be void, but otherwise to be and remain in full force.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered, in the presence of

_____

_____

_____

Appendix (F.)

As there are no Saloons remaining in 1866, this Form is obsolete.

Form of License for Theatrical Saloons.

I do hereby give leave and license unto to have stage plays performed at during one year from the date hereof, with the exception of the Lord's Day (commonly called Sunday), Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, and Good Friday, according to the Act of the 6th & 7th of Victoria, cap. 68, for regulating theatres, provided that there be no smoking in the said saloon during the hours it is open for performances under the authority of this license, and that refreshments are supplied only during the intervals between the performances, as at the theatres, and that there be no tables or stands to place refreshments upon in the saloon, and the said saloon shall not open for such performances on any day whatever before the hour of five in the afternoon.

This license is granted upon the understanding that the above named actual and responsible manager shall be subject to such rules and regulations as shall be made in regard to the said saloon.

Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of September, 18 , in the year of Her Majesty's reign.

L. S.

Lord Chamberlain.

Appendix (G.)

LICENSES granted by the Lord Chamberlain in 1843, after the passing of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68.

Albert Saloon	-	One year from 29 Sept. 1843	City-road.
Albion ditto	-	- - ditto	Whitechapel.
Apollo ditto	-	- - ditto	Yorkshire Stingo, New-road.
Adelphi Theatre	Licensed also before 1843	- - ditto	Strand.
Astley's ditto	-	- - ditto	Westminster Bridge-road.
Britannia Saloon	-	- - ditto	Shoreditch.
Bower - ditto	-	- - ditto	Upper Marsh, Lambeth.
City of London Theatre	-	- - ditto	Norton Folgate.
Effingham Saloon	-	- - ditto	Whitechapel-road.
Garrick Theatre	-	- - ditto	Leman-street, Whitechapel.
Grecian Saloon	-	- - ditto	City-road.
Haymarket Theatre	Licensed before 1843	- - ditto	Haymarket.
Her Majesty's ditto	- ditto	- - ditto	- ditto.
Lyceum - ditto	- ditto	At intervals in 1843	Strand.
Marylebone ditto	-	One year from 29 Sept.	Church-street, Marylebone.
Olympic - ditto	Licensed before 1843	- - ditto	Wych-street, Strand.
Princess's - ditto	-	- ditto	Oxford-street.
Pavilion - ditto	-	- ditto	Whitechapel.
Queen's - ditto	-	- - ditto	Tottenham-street.
Sadler's Wells ditto	-	- - ditto	New River Head.
St. James's ditto	Licensed before 1843	- - ditto	King-street, St. James's.
Standard - ditto	-	- - ditto	Shoreditch.
Strand - ditto	Licensed before 1843	- - ditto	Strand.
Surrey - ditto	-	- - ditto	Blackfriars Bridge-road.
Victoria - ditto	-	- - ditto	New Cut, Lambeth.

Mem.—Miss Kelly's theatre in Dean-street, Soho, and the Cabinet Theatre in Liverpool-street, King's Cross, were vacant in 1843, or would have been licensed.

Appendix (H.)

LICENSES granted by the Lord Chamberlain for Stage Plays, in 1865.

			Number of Persons who can be Accommodated.
Adelphi - Theatre	For 1 year from 29 September 1865.	Strand	1,560
Alexandra - ditto	- - ditto	Highbury	1,330
Astley's - - ditto	- - ditto	Westminster Bridge-road	3,780
Britannia - ditto	- - ditto	Hoxton	3,923
Bower - - ditto	- - ditto	Upper Marsh, Lambeth	1,000
Cabinet - - ditto	- - ditto	Liverpool-street, King's Cross	360
City of London ditto	- - ditto	Norton Folgate	2,500
Effingham - ditto	- - ditto	Whitechapel-road	2,150
Gallery of Illustration	- - ditto	Regent-street	360
Grecian - Theatre	- - ditto	City-road	2,120
Haymarket - ditto	- - ditto	Haymarket.	1,822
Her Majesty's ditto	- ditto	- ditto.	
Lyceum - - ditto	- - ditto	Strand	1,490
Marylebone - ditto	- - ditto	Church-street, Marylebone	1,500
New Royalty ditto	- - ditto	Dean-street, Soho	762
Olympic - - ditto	- - ditto	Wych-street, Strand	1,140
Pavilion - - ditto	- - ditto	Whitechapel	3,500
Princess's - ditto	- - ditto	Oxford-street	1,580
Prince of Wales's Theatre, late Queen's Theatre.	- - ditto	Tottenham-street	8,814
Sadler's Wells Theatre	- - ditto	New River Head, Islington	2,300
St. James's - ditto	- - ditto	King-street, St. James's-street	1,220
Standard - - ditto	- - ditto	Shoreditch	3,400
Strand - - - ditto	- - ditto	Strand	1,081
Surrey (rebuilt) ditto	From 16 December 1865 to 28 September 1866.	Blackfriars Bridge-road	1,802
Victoria - - ditto also	For 1 year from 29 September 1866.	New Cut, Lambeth	3,008
Windsor Theatre	-	Windsor.	
Mem.—The Garrick Theatre was not open in 1865.		About	1,000
	Drury Lane Theatre open under Patent		3,800
	Covent Garden Theatre - ditto, say		3,000

App. No. 1.

Appendix (I.)

LETTER to Mr. *Parkinson* declining a License for the ROTUNDA.

Sir, 9 May 1844.

I HAVE received and fully considered your application for a license for the performance of stage plays at the Rotunda, near Blackfriars Bridge, in the borough of Southwark, and all the papers from you in support of that application; and I have received from the rector, churchwardens and overseers of Christchurch, Surrey, the parish in which the Rotunda is situate, the expression of their decided opinion that such a license is not only wholly unnecessary, but highly objectionable; an opinion, which, upon further reference to them, it is stated they have arrived at after mature deliberation, and after having fully considered the improper purposes to which the Rotunda has been so long applied. Having also come to the conclusion, from the best information which I have been able to collect, that the wishes of a large number of the most respectable residents, inhabitants of the district, are in opposition to the prayer of the petition, and as it is not shown that any public necessity exists for such a grant, there being already three licensed theatres within a short distance from the Rotunda, I beg to acquaint you, that with every wish to deal with the question upon its utmost merits, it does not appear to me that I should be justified in complying with your request.

I am, &c.
(signed) *De La Warr.*
Lord Chamberlain.

John Parkinson, Esq.,
Cambridge Terrace.

Appendix (K).

PLAYS submitted for License from 1852 to 1865.

	Licensed.	Refused.		Theatres.
1852 -	225	2	"Hebrew Son, or Child of Babylon" (Joseph and his Brethren).	Olympic.
			"Swell Mobsman" - - - - - - -	Pavilion.
1853 -	204	2	"Camille" ("Dame aux Camélias") - - -	Drury Lane.
			"Wrath's Whirlwind; or, The Degraded Man" -	Britannia.
1854 -	219	3	"Spectre Dog" - - - - - - - -	Victoria.
			"Rotherhithe; or, The Olden Time, or The Female Highwayman."	Pavilion.
			"Gallant Forty-First; or, Ladies and Officers." -	Grecian.
1855 -	162	none -	"Triumph of Jewish Queen"; taken from Esther; at first refused, afterwards altered, and licensed.	
1856 -	176	1	"Myrrha"; tragedia in 5 atti - - - -	Lyceum.
			Scene from "Dred" expunged - - - -	Britannia.
1857 -	183	1	"How is it to be done?" - - - - -	Strand.
1858 -	165	2	"The Bloodspot; or, The Maiden, the Miser, and the Murderer."	Queen's.
			"The Discarded Son; or, Gambler's Progress" -	Victoria.
1859 -	202	2	"Le Torreador; ou, l'Accord parfait"; opera buffa	St. James's.
			"Dame aux Camélias" - - - - - -	Ditto.
			Mem.—"Jack Sheppard" forbidden at all theatres.	
1860 -	242	3	"Le Demi Monde."	
			"La Seconde Jeunesse."	
			"Le Père Prodigue."	
1861 -	217	1	"Money Lender"; (founded on Murray and Roberts' tragedy.)	Standard.
1862 -	201	1	"Gipsy of Edgware; or, The Crime in Gill's Hill Lane" (Murder by Thurtell).	Marylebone.
1863 -	220	none.		
1864 -	200	none.		
1865 -	181	1	"The Last Slave" (Federals and Confederates).	Adelphi, Liverpool.
	2,797	19		
	2,816			

METROPOLITAN THEATRES.

NUMBER of PERSONS whom the METROPOLITAN THEATRES will contain, as reported by the Managers. App. No. 1.

	Boxes (including Private).	Stalls.	Pit.	Gallery.	TOTAL.
Adelphi	566	394	300	300	1,560
Alexandra	530	100	700	none	1,330
Astley's	796	122	1,675	1,187	3,780
Britannia	895	-	2,151	877	3,923
Bower	300	-	500	200	1,000
Cabinet	130	-	150	80	360
City of London	500	-	1,100	900	2,500
Covent Garden	-	-	-	-	6,880 At Promenade Concert.
Drury Lane	1,320	180	1,000	1,300	3,800
Effingham	700	950	500	-	2,150
Gallery of Illustration	-	196	166	-	362
Grecian	500	120	800	700	2,120
Haymarket	842	60	320	600	1,822
Her Majesty's	690	300	75	590	1,655
Lyceum	470	170	400	450	1,490
Marylebone	200	-	700	600	1,500
New Royalty	100	72	250	300	722
Olympic	330	100	350	360	1,140
Pavilion	500	800	1,000	1,200	3,500
Princess's	471	108	600	400	1,579
Prince of Wales	184	90	300	240	814
Sadler's Wells	400	100	1,000	800	2,300
St. James's	320	100	300	500	1,220
Standard	1,000	-	1,600	800	3,400
Strand	179	77	325	500	1,081
Surrey	395	47	800	560	1,802
Victoria — Boxes	618	350	750	640	3,008
Victoria — Amphitheatre	650				

Lord Chamberlain's Office,
22 March 1866.

Appendix No. 1.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Donne*.

Appointment of *William Bodham Donne*, Esq.

March 31, 1857.

Whereas in consequence of an Act of Parliament made in the 10th year of the reign of His late Majesty King George II., for the better regulation of the stage, I am empowered to constitute, nominate, and appoint an officer to examine all plays, tragedies, comedies, operas, farces, and interludes, or any other entertainment of the stage of what denomination soever;

These are, therefore, to require you to swear and admit William Bodham Donne, Esq., into the place and quality of an Examiner of all and every the above recited plays, tragedies, comedies, operas, farces, interludes, or other entertainment of the stage of what denomination soever, in the room of John Mitchell Kemble, deceased;

To have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the same, together with all salaries, fees, and other emoluments to the said office that may arise, or in any wise legally appertain. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of March 1857, in the 20th year of Her Majesty's reign.

(signed) *Breadalbane*,
Lord Chamberlain. L.S.

William Bodham Donne, Esq., has been sworn and admitted in conformity with the above warrant.

(signed) *William Martin*,
Gentleman Usher to the Queen in Daily Waiting.

Authority as Inspector of Theatres.

"The Lord Chamberlain in order to insure greater efficiency in the Office of Examiner of Plays, has desired it to be communicated to that officer, and to be registered in the books of the Lord Chamberlain's Office.—1st. That the Reader of Plays shall reside in London for the greater facility of communication with the Lord Chamberlain, and with the managers of theatres, as well as for the general efficient performance of his duties; and that he shall attend at the Lord Chamberlain's Office at least once a week to examine the Play Bills of all the Metropolitan Theatres, so as to satisfy himself that no theatrical pieces are announced contrary to the Lord Chamberlain's decision. 2d. That the Reader shall attend personally at Theatres or Saloons in any case when important alterations have been made in Plays submitted to the Lord Chamberlain for license, or whenever any report has been made of impropriety either in a drama itself, or the mode of placing it on the stage; it being the opinion of the Lord Chamberlain that the duty of Examiner is not only to read plays submitted for license and advise him thereon, but that he is responsible to him for seeing that the play when acted corresponds in every respect with the play as licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. 3d. That as the Lord Chamberlain's attention has been directed during the last few years to the improvement of the theatres, especially as regards a proper space being afforded to the public, not only in the boxes, but more particularly in the pit and the galleries, with a view of insuring by such arrangements increased comfort, order, and decency, and also as regards a more perfect system of lighting and ventilation, security from fire, and an easy ingress and egress in the case of a sudden panic, he wishes the attention of the Reader of the Plays to be particularly directed to these points, and to consider it his duty (with the assistance of a professional surveyor), annually, or, should it be deemed necessary, more frequently, to report to the Lord Chamberlain the state of progress which is made in these respects, and to offer any suggestions which may advance the objects the Lord Chamberlain has in view.

By order of the Lord Chamberlain,

Norman.

Appendix No. 1.

Theatres Licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.

1. Adelphi, Strand.
2. Alexandra, Highbury.
3. Astley's, Westminster.
4. Bower Operetta House, Stangate.
5. Britannia, Hoxton.
6. Cabinet, King's Cross.
7. City of London, Norton Folgate.
8. Effingham, Whitechapel.
9. Grecian, City-road.
10. Haymarket.
11. Her Majesty's, Haymarket.
12. Lyceum, Strand.
13. Marylebone, Church-street, Edgware-road.
14. New Royalty, Dean-street, Soho.
15. Olympic, Wych-street.
16. Pavilion, Whitechapel.
17. Prince of Wales's, Tottenham-street.
18. Princess's, Oxford-street.
19. Sadlers Wells, Islington.
20. St. James's, King-street, St. James's.
21. Standard, Shoreditch.
22. Strand.
23. Surrey, Blackfriars-road.
24. Victoria.
25. German Reed's Gallery of Illustration, 14 Regent-street.
26. The Royal Windsor.

Theatres Royal, Covent-garden and Drury-lane require licenses only for theatrical manuscripts.

Manuscripts Licensed, 1857–1865.

	Licenses granted.	Licenses refused.
1857	184	1
1858	165	2
1859	203	1
1860	245	–
1861	217	1
1862	202	1
1863	220	–
1864	200	–
1865	181	1
	1,817	7

Licenses granted in Nine years - - - 1810.

Titles of Plays refused a License.

1857 - - (1) How it's to be Done. Two Acts. Strand Theatre.
1858 - - (1) The Blood-spot; or the Maiden, the Miser, and the Murderer. Two Acts. Queen's Theatre.
„ - - (2) The Discarded Son; or the Gambler's Progress. Two Acts. Victoria Theatre.
1859 - - (1) Le Toréador; ou l'Accord Parfait. Two Acts. St. James's Theatre.
1861 - - (1) The Money Lender. Two Acts. Standard Theatre.
1862 - - (1) The Gipsy of Edgware; or the Crime in Gill's Hill Lane. Two Acts. Marylebone Theatre.
1865 - - (1) The Last Slave. Two Acts. New Adelphi Theatre. Liverpool.

In 1860, the Examiner of Plays gave notice to M. Talexy, then in management of the St. James's Theatre, that three Plays on his programme, viz., *Demi-monde*, *La Seconde Jeunesse*, and *Le Père Prodigue*, were unsuited to the English stage, and they were accordingly withdrawn without examination.

App. No. 1.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Tomlins*.

DOCUMENT regarding the Authority of the Master of the Revels over Play-makers, Plays, and Players, in 1581.

"ELIZABETH by the Grace of God &c. To all manner our Justices, Maiors, Sheriffes, Bayliffes, Constables, and all other our officers, ministers, true Liege Men and Subjectes, and to every of them Greetinge.

"We lett you witt, that We have authorized licensed and commaunded, and by these presentes do authorise licence and commaunde our Welbeloved Edmunde Tylney Esquire, Maister of our Revells, aswell to take and retaine for us and in our Name at all tymes from hensforth, and in all places within this our Realme of England, as well within Francheses and Liberties as without, at competent Wages, aswell all suche and as many Painters, Imbroderers, Taylors, Cappers, Haberdashers, Joyners, Carvers, Glasiers, Armorers, Basketmakers, Skinners, Sadlers, Waggen Makers, Plaisterers, Fethermakers, as all other Propertie makers and conninge Artificers and Laborers whatsoever, as our said Servant or his assigne, bearers hereof, shall thinke necessarie and requisite for the speedie workinge and fynisheinge of any exploite, workmanshippe, or peece of service that shall at any tyme hereafter belonge to our saide office of the Revells, as also to take at price reasonable, in all places within our said Realme of England, as well within Francheses and Liberties as without, any kinde or kindes of Stuffe, Ware, or Marchandise, Woode, or Coale, or other Fewell, Tymber, Wainscott, Boarde, Lathe, Nailes, Bricke, Tile, Leade, Iron, Wier, and all other necessaries for our said workes of the said office of our Revells, as he the said Edmunde or his assigne shall thinke behoofefull and expedient from tyme to tyme for our said service in the said office of the Revells. Together with all carriages for the same, both by Land and by Water, as the case shall require.

"And furthermore, we have by these presents authorised and commaunded the said Edmunde Tylney, that in case any person or persons, whatsoever they be, will obstinately disobey and refuse from hensforth to accomplishe and obey our commaundement and pleasure in that behalfe, or withdrawe themselves from any of our said Workes, upon warninge to them or any of them giuen by the saide Edmunde Tylney, or by his sufficient Deputie in that behalfe to be named, appointed for their diligent attendance and workmanship upon the said workes or devises, as to their naturall dutie and alleigeance apperteineth, that then it shalbe lawfull unto the same Edmund Tilney, or his Deputie for the tyme beinge, to attache the partie or parties so offendinge, and him or them to commyt to warde, there to remaine, without baile or maineprise, untill suche tyme as the saide Edmunde, or his Deputie, shall thinke the tyme of his or their imprisonment to be punishement sufficient for his or their saide offence in that behalfe; and that done, to enlarge him or them, so beinge imprisoned, at their full Libertie, without any Losse, Penaltie, Forfaiture, or other damage in that behalfe to be susteined or borne by the saide Edmunde Tilney, or his said Deputie.

"And also, if any person or persons, beinge taken into our said workes of the said office of our Revells, beinge arrested, comminge or goinge to or from our saide Workes of our said office of our Revells, at the sute of any person or persons, then the said Edmunde Tilney, by vertue and authoritie hereof, to enlarge him or them, as by our speciall protection, duringe the tyme of our said workes.

"And also, if any person or persons, beinge reteyned in our said workes of our said office of Revells, have taken any manner of taske worke, beinge bounde to finishe the same by a certen day, shall not runne into any manner of forfeiture or penaltie for breakinge of his day, so that he or they, ymmediatly after the fynishinge of our said workes, indevor him or themselves to fynishe the saide taske worke.

"And furthermore, also, we have and doe by these presents authorise and commaunde our said Servant, Edmunde Tilney, Maister of our said Revells, by himselfe or his sufficient Deputie or Deputies, to warne, commaunde, and appointe, in all places within this our Realme of England, as well within Francheses and Liberties as without, all and every plaier or plaiers, with their playmakers, either belonginge to any Noble Man, or otherwise, bearinge the Name or Names of usinge the Facultie of Playmakers, or Plaiers, of Comedies, Trajedies, Enterludes, or what other Showes soever, from tyme to tyme, and at all tymes, to appeare before him, with all suche Plaies, Tragedies, Comedies, or Showes as they shall have in readines, or meane to sett forth, and them to presente and recite before our said Servant, or his sufficient Deputie, whom wee ordeyne, appointe,

and

and authorise by these presentes of all suche Showes, Plaies, Plaiers, and Playmakers, together with their playinge places, to order and reforme, auctorise and put downe, as shalbe thought meete or unmeete unto himselfe, or his said Deputie, in that behalfe.

" And also, likewise, we have by these presentes authorised and commaunded the said Edmunde Tylney, that in case if any of them, whatsoever they bee, will obstinatelie refuse, upon warninge unto them given by the said Edmunde, or his sufficient Deputie, to accomplishe and obey our commaundement in this behalfe, then it shal be lawful to the saide Edmunde, or his sufficient Deputie, to attache the partie or parties so offendinge, and him or them to commytt to Warde, to remayne, without bayle or mayneprise, untill suche tyme as the same Edmunde Tylney, or his sufficient Deputie, shall thinke the tyme of his or theire ymprisonment to be punishement sufficient for his or their said offence in that behalfe ; and that done, to inlarge him or them so beinge imprisoned at their plaine Libertie, without any losse, penaltie, forfeiture, or other Daunger in this behalfe to be susteyned or borne by the said Edmunde Tylney, or his Deputie, any Acte, Statute Ordinance, or Provision, heretofore had or made, to the contrarie hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

" Wherefore we will and commaunde you, and every of you, that unto the said Edmunde Tylney, or his sufficient Deputie, bearer hereof, in the due execution of this our authoritie and comaundement ye be aydinge, supportinge, and assistinge from tyme to tyme, as the case shall require, as you and every of you tender our pleasure, and will answer to the contrarie at your uttermost perills. In Witnesse whereof, &c., Witnes our selfe at Westm. the xxiiijth day of December, in the xxiiijth yere of our Raigne.

Per Bre. de Privato Sigillo.

App. No. 2.

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Pownall.*

SUGGESTIONS.

1. Total repeal of the present Act, so far as relates to Licenses.
2. Not only all Theatres and other places for scenic representations, but also all places at which any stage dancing, whether "ballet d'action," or "ballet divertissement," (*see* Wigan *v.* Strange, 1 Law Reports, Common Pleas), takes place to be licensed solely by the Lord Chamberlain.
3. The justices to be empowered to grant Licenses either for music only, or for music and dancing, but such dancing to be that of the public and not of performers.
4. No place to be licensed for dancing (except under a special temporary License) unless rated at not less than 200 *l.* a year.
5. No place licensed either for music, or for music and dancing, to be open for any such purpose between midnight and 6 a.m., or on Sundays, &c.
6. Justices to be empowered to grant special temporary License to any place, either for music, or music and dancing, in the same manner as now provided as to a temporary License for the sale of exciseable liquors.
7. Places licensed for music, or for music and dancing, to be subject to like visitation and inspection of police, as houses licensed for sale of exciseable liquors, and all offences to be dealt with in like manner, but the penalties should be more heavy. No penalties by *qui tam* actions.
8. Licenses to be granted to the holder of the place of entertainment, and not for the user of the place without regard to the holder.
9. Any License for music, or for music and dancing, to be transferred at Petty Sessions, as in the case of Licenses for sale of exciseable liquors.
10. A fee of 10 *s.* to be paid on the grant of a License, and a fee of 5 *s.* on a transfer.

PUBLIC MUSIC and DANCING LICENSES under 25 Geo. 2, c. 36.

The statute empowering justices to grant music and dancing licenses is the 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, and owes its origin to a pamphlet published by the celebrated Henry Fielding, entitled, "An Enquiry into the Causes of the late Increase of Robbers, &c.," which he attributes to the increased luxury of the higher classes, and the attempts to imitate them by the classes. But while (says our author) I am recommending some restraint of this luxury, namely, public entertainments, I would be understood to aim at the retrenchment only, not at the extirpation of diversion. Throughout this pamphlet the object is to curtail the amusements of the working classes, which it must be admitted participated largely in the barbarous and debauching character of the age. A few advertisements of the day will abundantly prove.

The Act is entitled "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of Public Entertainments, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses."

The first clause recites, "that the advertising a reward with no questions asked, for the return of things which have been lost or stolen, is one great cause and encouragement of thefts and robberies," and prohibits under pains and penalties the issuing such advertisements.

The second section then proceeds to recite, "that the multitude of places of entertainment for the *lowest sort* of people is another cause of thefts and robberies, as they are thereby tempted to spend their small substance in riotous pleasures, and in consequence are put on unlawful methods to supply their costs and renew their pleasures," and enacts, "that in order to prevent the said temptation to theft and robbery and to correct, as far as may be by the habit of idleness, which is become too general over the whole kingdom, and is productive of much mischief, and it enacts no house, room, garden, or other place shall be kept for public dancing, music, or *other public entertainment of the kind* within the city of London or Westminster, or within 20 miles thereof, without a license from the justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, under a penalty of 100 *l.*, and that all houses or places which shall be so kept or used without such license shall be deemed to be disorderly houses or places, and punished accordingly; and power is given to any constable or other person being thereto authorised by a justice's warrant, to enter into such house or place and seize every person who shall be found therein, to be dealt with according to law." This provision is repealed by Stat. 5 Geo. 4, c. 83. The third section provides, that all persons so licensed shall place an inscription in large capital letters over the entrance of every such house or place, and shall not open such house for any other purpose of the Act before the hour of 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and upon breach of either of these

these conditions the license shall be forfeited and not renewed, and that *no new license shall ever hereafter be granted to the person so offending.* The 4th section exempts from the operation of the Act the two great theatres and the Opera-house, and all such performances and public entertainments as shall be lawfully carried on by virtue of letters-patent or license of the Crown or the Lord Chamberlain. It is almost impossible to take even a cursory view of the morals, habits, amusements, or pursuits of the community at the period when these enactments became law, without arriving at the conclusion that it was framed to meet the requirements of a state of society differing widely in character, circumstances, and conduct from that of the present day. (*See* Advertisements.)

"We are informed by the 'St. James's Chronicle' of August 1779, that in 1768 two women fought for a new shift valued 2*s.* 6*d.*, in the Spawfields, near Islington. The battle was won by a woman called 'bruising Peg,' who beat her antagonist in a terrible manner.' In the summer of the same year an extraordinary battle was fought in Spawfields by two women against two taylors, for a guinea a head, which was won by the women, who beat the taylors in a severe manner. On Saturday the 28th August 1779, a scene took place in Spawfields, bills had been stuck up and otherwise circulated, that an ox would be roasted whole and been given to the friends of their King and country who were invited to enlist; and that two gold-laced hats should be the reward of the two best cudgel players; that a gown, a shift, and a pair of shoes and stockings, should be run for by four old women; and that 3 lb. of tobacco, three bottles of gin, and a silver-laced hat should be grinned for by three old men, the frightfullest grinner to be the winner. It was no uncommon thing before the passing of this Act to see notices that after dog fighting a man-bull to be drest up with fireworks, and turned loose in the game place; likewise a dog to be drest up with fireworks over him, and turned loose with the bull amongst the men in the ground. Also a bear to be turned loose at the same time, and a cat to be ty'd to the bull's tail."

The powerful body of influential and thinking men who now form the middle classes of society, had then no political existence, whilst the lower classes of society were uneducated, owning few enjoyments but of the most sensual and debasing kind. In those days few of the intellectual pursuits of the present age were unknown. The taste for music (except among the higher classes) was at the lowest ebb; mechanics' institutions and schools of science for tradesman and artisan were unknown. Then our goals were schools of vice and profligacy, whilst our municipal regulations were disgracefully defective, and the poor neglected. Until a few years before the passing of the Act in question, no license was required for the sale of spirituous liquors, which were even carried about in wheelbarrows, and retailed openly in sheds and stalls in the public streets; men used to parade the streets with boards at their backs, notifying where individuals might be drunk for a penny, and have clean straw to lie upon. Such was the character of the age when the law first came into operation, and notwithstanding the increased civilization continues the law at the present time. Such is its exactments, that if the trustees of Exeter Hall should permit the oratorio of the Messiah to be once performed in their splendid building before five o'clock in the afternoon, their license would be forfeited, and the Hall must be for ever closed as a place of public amusement; the same may be said of the Hanover Square and Willis' Rooms, and all similar establishments within 20 miles of the metropolis. What effect the Act had in curtailing the number of places for public music and dancing, it is not easy to determine, but it had little or no effect on the more degrading and brutalising amusement of the lower classes. The cock-pit, badger and dog fighting, continued for many years a favourite amusement.

The number of applications for music and dancing were but few. The number of licensed places for the first 40 years were, Sadlers Wells, Ranelagh (discontinued in 1805), the Mary-le-bone Tea-gardens (discontinued in 1774), the Bell, Edmonton (discontinued in 1781), the Angel, its rival (discontinued in 1802), Hamstead Long Rooms (discontinued 1796), and the King's Head, Enfield, which continues licensed to the present time. In the year 1790, the Festino, or ancient concert-room, Hanover Square, obtained a license, which was discontinued in 1805. In 1798 White Conduit House and Bagnigge Wells obtained licenses, and the Islington Spa, or New Tonbridge Wells, now the site of the Spa Fields Chapel. During the whole of this half century we find instances of 12 rejections only, namely, Bagnigge Wells, in 1772, the Castle Inn, Sunbury, in 1773, the Amphitheatrical Building, St. Pancras, and Astley's Royal Tent, Whitechapel; as also, White Conduit House, in 1785, the Amphitheatre, Mulberry Gardens, Mile End, in 1788, the Lyceum Theatre, in 1795, the Rooms, Rolls Building, in 1797, the Adam and Eve Tea-gardens, in 1798, and the Shepherd and Shepherdess, City-road, and the Hoxton-square Tea-gardens, 1799. It is unnecessary to follow in detail the number of licenses granted or refused. Since the formation of the Sacred Harmonic Society, and the unrivalled concerts which they have given at Exeter Hall and the Crystal Palace, a general desire for musical entertainments has manifested itself in all classes of society. It was not, however, deemed to be in accordance with the Licensing Act to grant licenses either for music or dancing separately, although the justices were desirous of doing so. In 1834 a case was laid before Lord Campbell, upon this point, and it was his opinion that a license could not be given for music only, but that every license must follow the words of the statute, and include public dancing, music, and other public entertainments of the like kind. The justices, therefore, continued to grant licenses as heretofore till 1851, when the following case and opinion was taken, and has been since acted upon. The following are the number of licenses granted before this opinion was taken, and since:—

The number of licenses granted in—

1845.	For music and dancing (the license for music only was not granted until 1851) - -	67
1855.	For music only - - -	255
	For music and dancing - -	50
1865.	For music only - - -	291
	For music and dancing - -	60

The following are the orders and regulations of the Court of Quarter Sessions relating to these licenses:—

CASE and OPINION referred to above.

CASE.

Exparte the Justices of the Peace for Middlesex.

By the statute of 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, s. 2, intituled

App. No. 2.

intituled "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of Public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses," it is declared and enacted as follows:—

"And whereas the multitude of places of entertainment for the lower sort of people is another great cause of thefts and robberies, as they are thereby tempted to spend their small substance in riotous pleasures, and in consequence are put on unlawful methods of supplying their wants and renewing their pleasures; in order, therefore, to prevent the said temptation to thefts and robberies, and to correct as far as may be the habit of idleness which is become too general over the whole kingdom, and is productive of much mischief and inconvenience, be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the 1st day of December 1752, any house, room, garden, or other place kept for public dancing, music, *or other public entertainment of the like kind*, in the Cities of London and Westminster, or within 20 miles thereof, without a license had for that purpose from the last preceding Michaelmas quarter sessions of the peace, to be holden for the county, city, riding, liberty, or division in which such house, room, garden, or other place is situate (who are hereby authorised and empowered to grant *such* licenses *as they in their discretion* shall think proper) signified under the hands and seals of four or more of the justices there assembled, shall be deemed a disorderly house or place, and every such license shall be signed and sealed by the said justices in open court, and afterwards be publicly read by the clerk of the peace, together with the names of the justices subscribing the same, and no such license shall be granted at any adjourned sessions, nor shall any fee or reward be taken for any such license; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any constable or other person, being thereunto authorised by warrant under the hand and seal of one or more of his Majesty's justices of the peace of the county, city, riding, division, or liberty where such house or place shall be situate, to enter such house or place, and to seize every person who shall be found therein, in order that they be dealt with according to law; and every person keeping such house, room, garden, or other place, without such license as aforesaid, shall forfeit the sum of 100 *l.* to such person as will sue for the same, and be otherwise punishable as the law directs in cases of disorderly houses."

Hitherto it has been customary for the justices of the peace for Middlesex to grant licenses for "public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind," adopting all the words of the statute, and under colour of those licenses, the persons licensed have given *scenic representations*.

By the Act of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, s. 2, intituled "An Act for regulating Theatres," it is enacted that, except as to licenses then in force, "it shall not be lawful for any person to have or keep any house, or other place of public resort in Great Britain, for the public performance of stage plays, without authority, by virtue of letters patent from Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, or predecessors, or without license from the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's household for the time being, or from the justices of the peace as* thereinafter provided; and every person who shall offend against this enactment, shall be liable to forfeit" a specified penalty.

By section 22, it is enacted, "That in this Act the word *stage play* shall be taken to include every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, *or other entertainment of the stage, or any part thereof.*

On the subject of the licenses granted under the Act of 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, Mr. Serjeant Adams, the Assistant Judge of the Middlesex Sessions, addressed a letter to the Middlesex Justices in February 1850, of which a print is herewith left. In a note to page 19, he seems to think that, so far as relates to "other public entertainment of the like kind," the Act of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, has superseded the power of the Justices to grant licenses in London and Westminster, or within 20 miles thereof.

By the statute 5 Geo. 4, c. 83, s. 1, it is enacted, that all provisions theretofore made relative to idle and *disorderly* persons, rogues, or other vagrants in England, shall be and the same are thereby repealed, except as thereinafter excepted.

The Middlesex Justices are desirous of being advised—

1st. Whether the Middlesex Justices are at liberty to grant licenses under the 25 Geo. 2, for any one sort of entertainment of the nature specified or referred to in that Act, exclusively of all others, viz., for "public dancing and music," or "public music" only, or whether the Justices' powers are confined to the grant of licenses for "public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind," collectively?

2dly. Whether the statute 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, does or not indirectly repeal the statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 37, so far as relates to "other public entertainment of the like kind," and whether persons who, under colour of the licenses granted under the 25 Geo. 2, suffer scenic representations to be performed in their houses, are not liable to the penalty given by the 6 & 7 Vict.

3dly. Whether the enactment of the 5 Geo. 4, c. 83, referred to in the case, takes away the power given to Justices of the Peace by the 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, s. 2, to issue their warrants to constables to enter the houses or places therein mentioned (and which, by the last-mentioned Act, are to be deemed *disorderly* houses or places) and to seize the persons found therein?

Opinion.

1. We are of opinion that the Middlesex Justices are not compelled to grant licenses for "public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind," collectively, but that they may, at their discretion, grant the license for music only, or for dancing only, or for music and dancing; nor can we entertain any doubt upon this point when we observe the words of the Act to be in the disjunctive, which seems to leave no ground for any other construction.

2. We should have thought, if the question had been open to us, that the 25 Geo. 2 did not apply to scenic representations at all, but the words "other public entertainment of the like kind," have been so long treated or acted upon as including scenic representations, that we are precluded from expressing our own independent opinion

* *N.B.*—Section 5 authorises Justices in special session *beyond the limits of the Lord Chamberlain's authority* to grant licenses for these purposes.

opinion upon the point, and are compelled to accept the interpretation which has been put upon them, and from which it necessarily follows that the 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, does indirectly repeal this portion of the 25 Geo. 2, and that parties would be liable to the penalties of the latter Act, for suffering scenic representations to be performed in their houses.

3. We are of opinion that the 5 Geo. 4 does not repeal the 25 Geo. 2, as to the power given in the last-named statute for the Justices to issue their warrants to constables to enter disorderly houses. We find some difficulty in understanding what the Act intended should be done with the persons, not the keepers of the houses, who may be seized "in order that they may be dealt with according to law." Provision is made for punishing the keepers of disorderly houses, but nothing is said as to how the persons are to be dealt with who are found in them.

(signed) *Frederick Thesiger.*
Charles Crompton.

Temple, 16 August 1851.

RESOLUTIONS adopted by the Court on the 4th September 1851.

Resolved, That the Court will not in future insert in licenses to be granted under the Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, the words "or other public entertainment of the like kind," but will in all cases specify the particular entertainment which may be given.

Resolved, Also, that notice of the above Resolution be given to the several persons who were licensed under that Act at the last Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, and that the same be advertised in the usual papers, by way of information to persons not licensed last year, and intending to apply at the next October Quarter Session.

Resolved, Further, that the necessary alterations consequent on the passing of the above Resolutions be made by the Clerk of the Peace in publishing the notice of which the form is given in the Standing Order No. 69.

And B. Rotch, Esq., gave notice, that he would move on the next County Day, "That the Standing Orders of the Court respecting the grant of music and dancing licenses, be respectively altered in conformity with the resolutions passed by the Court on the last County Day."

And, 2d, "That Standing Order 59, be amended, so that the notice required to be given by new applicants to the Clerk of the Peace, and to the Clerk of Petty Session, be '*fourteen days' notice at the least*,' instead of '*seven days*,' before the commencement of the Michaelmas Quarter Session."

MIDDLESEX.

ORDERS made by the Quarter Session, holden on the 16th day of July 1863, as to the granting of Licenses under Statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 36.

1. *Ordered*, That all persons intending to apply for licenses for music, dancing, or other public entertainments of the like kind, under Statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 36 (except the parties mentioned in Order No. 7), shall give *two months'* notice at the least, previously to the commencement of the Michaelmas Quarter Session to the Clerk of the Peace for this county, and to the Clerk of the Petty Sessions of the division wherein the premises are situate, of their intended application; and shall also, *two months* at the least before the commencement of such Session, cause a notice in the undermentioned form to be affixed upon the outer door or other conspicuous part of the premises sought to be licensed, and upon the outer door of the police-station, or other place of confinement in the parish, in which such premises shall be situate, and shall also serve copies of the last-mentioned notice upon the Churchwardens and Overseers of the parish in question, and also upon the Clerk to the Vestry or Guardians of the union or parish in which the house is situate, with the view to such notice being affixed in the entrance hall, or some conspicuous part of the building in which the meetings of such Vestry or Guardians are held, *two months* before the commencement of the said Sessions. App. No. 2.

Form of Notice.

I of do hereby give notice, that I intend to apply under the provisions of the statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, at the next Michaelmas Quarter Session for the county of Middlesex, to be holden at Clerkenwell, on the day of 18 for a license for [*here insert the particular sort or sorts of public entertainment for which the license is required*], to be carried on within the house or premises situate at

or known by the name of (*as the case may be*), and now in the occupation of me the subscriber hereto.

2. *Ordered*, That every person presenting a petition against the grant or renewal of a license shall leave with the Clerk of the Peace *fourteen clear days before the commencement of the Michaelmas Quarter Session*, a copy of such counter petition, for the inspection of the party applying for such grant or renewal.

3. *Ordered*, That the blank forms of the licenses shall have printed upon the back of them the title of the Act by authority of which the licenses are granted, and the statement that such licenses are to be granted without fee or reward.

4. *Ordered*, That previous to the first day of the Michaelmas Quarter Session, the Clerk of the Peace shall transmit a list of the persons making application for music or dancing licenses, under the Statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, to the Excise Office, and to the police-courts of the districts in which the houses occupied by such persons are situate, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any and what complaints have been made against them; and that the return to such application be laid before the Court when such licenses are applied for.

5. *Ordered*, That annually, in the first week in August, application be made by the Clerk of the Peace to the Justices acting in their several special sessions' divisions throughout the county, requesting they will present to the Court, on the first day of the Michaelmas Quarter Session, a written report in the undermentioned form, of the houses with respect to which notices of intended applications for licenses for music and dancing, or for music only, shall have been received by the Clerk to such Justices.

6. *Ordered*, That every applicant for a music or dancing license be required to attend the Court personally, unless a reason satisfactory to the Court shall be assigned for his absence.

7. *Ordered*, That in every case when any person having a music or dancing license, shall transfer his

App. No. 2.

his premises to any other person, such in-coming tenant shall be required to give *one month's* notice instead of the *two months'* notice required by Order No. 1.

(By the Court.)
C. Heaton Ellis,
Clerk of the Peace.

---

186 .— DIVISION.

REPORT of the Justices of the Division with respect to the intended Applications, of which they have received Notice, for Licenses for Music and Dancing, or for Music only.

Christian and Surname of Applicant.	Situation of Premises.	Whether Licensed Public House, Beer House, or Private House.	Whether Application is to be made for License for Music and Dancing, or for Music only.	Whether in the Opinion of the Justices the Public requirements of the locality justify the Grant of such License.

I, of in the parish of do hereby give notice, that I intend to apply under the provisions of the statute 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, at the next Michaelmas quarter session for the county of Middlesex, to be holden at Clerkenwell on the day of October 186 , for a license for public music to be carried on within the house or premises situate at and known by the name of and now in the occupation of me the subscriber hereto.

Dated the day of 186 .

October Quarter Session, 1865.

Applications for Licenses for Music and Dancing.

Notices to be served on—

Churchwardens - -	Transfers, on or before 5 September.
Overseers - - -	
Clerk to Vestry - -	
Clerk of the Peace -	
Clerk of the Petty Sessions.	New applications, on or before 7 August.
On door of premises -	
On Police Station -	

MIDDLESEX.

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed and set, being four of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Middlesex, assembled in the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the peace holden in and for the said county in the twenty- year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, being the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions preceding the 1st day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord 186 , do, in consequence of an order of this present session, and by virtue of the power given us by the Act of Parliament made in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating places of Public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses," hereby license to keep a certain house or place, called with other buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging, in the parish of in the said county, for public And the said to take care, as far as in h lies that no disorders be committed within the said house or place, and that nothing contrary to sobriety, decency, and good manners be exhibited, represented, or transacted therein; and that he do not suffer any of the aforesaid entertainments to very late and unseasonable hours of the night; and that he do not presume to open h said house on the Lord's day (commonly called Sunday), Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, nor on any day of solemn Fast and Humiliation which now is or hereafter shall be by lawful authority appointed; and that he do in all things conduct the said house and place decently, soberly, and orderly, according to the true intent and meaning of this license, and of the said Act of Parliament. Provided nevertheless, that the said in order to give public notice that the said house or place is so licensed as aforesaid, do affix and keep up in some notorious place over the door or entrance thereof an inscription in large capital letters in the words following:—"Licensed pursuant to Act of Parliament of the twenty-fifth of King George the Second." And provided likewise that the said house and place so licensed as aforesaid shall not open for any of the said purposes on any day whatever, before the hour of five in the afternoon. Given under our hands and seals at the said sessions, and signed and sealed by us the said justices in open court.

(L.S.)
(L.S.)
(L.S.)
(L.S.)

The Court has expressed a strong opinion of the impropriety of keeping open on Sundays the saloon and other parts of the premises used for public amusements, and that such practice should be discontinued, and the house used on Sundays only as a common tavern, if licensed as such.

The within license is granted by authority of the Act of the 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, intituled "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating places of Public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses;" the second section of which Act directs that no fee or reward shall be taken for the license.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *D. Saunders.*

App. No .2.

COPY of MUSIC and DANCING LICENSE granted under a LOCAL ACT in *Birmingham.*

AT the general Annual Licensing Meeting of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the borough of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, holden at the public office, in Moor-street, in the borough aforesaid, on the 21st day of August, in the year 1863, for the purpose of granting licenses to persons keeping Inns, Ale Houses, and Victualling Houses, to sell excisable liquors by retail, to be drunk or consumed on their premises:—

We, the undersigned, being ten of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said borough, and being the majority of those assembled at the said session, do, by virtue of the power given to us by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the Session of Parliament held in the 24th and 25th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, Queen Victoria, intituled, "The Birmingham Improvement Act, 1861," hereby authorise and empower James Day, now dwelling at Smallbrook-street, in the said borough, and keeping a house known by the sign of "The Crystal Palace," in Smallbrook-street aforesaid, in the borough aforesaid, duly licensed for the sale of wines, spirits, beer, and other fermented and distilled liquors, to keep and use a certain room, now numbered 1, on the first floor of the said house, and called "The Concert Hall," for public dancing and music on every day (except Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, and any day appointed for a public fast or thanksgiving); provided that he, the said James Day, do affix and keep up on some conspicuous place on the door or entrance of the house of which such room forms part, an inscription in large capital letters, in the words following: "Licensed pursuant to Act of Parliament," and do not open or use the said room for any of the purposes aforesaid, on any day on which the said James Day is hereby authorised, as aforesaid, to use the same for such purposes before six nor after eleven of the clock at night.

This license to continue in force from the day of the date hereof until the 30th day of September 1864, and no longer.

Given under our hands and seals on the day and at the place first above written.

John Ratcliffe.
Sam. Buchley.
J. Phillips.
David Malins.
Samuel Thornton.
Henry Smith.
W. Westley Richards.
Samuel Rawlings.
William Sands Cox.

Note.—By Section 12 of the above Act, in case of any breach of either of the said conditions, such license is liable to be forfeited and revoked by the Justices at their Quarterly Gaol Sessions.

Appendix, No. 3.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Frederick Stanley*.

App. No. 3.

STATEMENT of Mr. *Frederick Stanley*, of No. 19, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, Solicitor, on behalf of the London Music Hall Proprietors' Protection Association.

I HAVE had considerable experience, during a period of about 17 years, in the management of music halls, having been connected with the "Canterbury Hall" from the time it was first opened.

I subsequently, in 1860, became one of the proprietors of the "Canterbury Hall," in partnership with Mr. Charles Morton, the originator of the present system of music halls. We shortly afterwards built "The Oxford," in Oxford-street, and carried on the business of both establishments until March 1863, when I was desirous of resuming my profession. I then sold my interest to Mr. Morton, who became sole proprietor of both establishments.

My experience is confined to London.

In consequence of a Bill having been brought into Parliament in 1860, at the instigation of the theatrical managers, for the purpose of extending the definition of "stage plays," in the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, a protection society was formed by the music hall proprietors, of which society I was appointed chairman, and so acted until my retirement from the business. I was then appointed solicitor to the society. I have therefore had opportunities of observing how the music halls of London have been conducted.

Upon the present question, I represent nearly all the proprietors of the principal music halls in London, who are members of the society, and am well acquainted with their views upon the present question.

Origin of music halls.

The first "Canterbury Hall," which was the first music hall in London, was opened by Mr. Morton about 17 or 18 years ago. Prior to the hall being built, the house was an ordinary public-house called the "Canterbury Arms," situate in a narrow, unfrequented street in the Westminster-road.

At this period many publicans were in the habit of holding singing meetings, generally about once a week; these meetings were attended by tradesmen and mechanics, who amused themselves by singing. This kind of singing-room was known as a "Free-and-easy."

Mr. Morton opened a singing-room in the "Canterbury Arms." The room was capable of holding about 100 persons; it was opened once a week, from about seven until twelve o'clock, and was visited by respectable tradesmen and mechanics. Subsequently it was opened twice a week. At first professional singers were not engaged, but afterwards two or three were engaged, and subsequently a larger number.

The visitors continually urged Mr. Morton to open the room upon one evening each week, and admit their wives. This he did, and the place soon obtained a good reputation; and visitors came, with their wives and friends, from long distances.

Mr. Morton soon found his room was not large enough. He then obtained some ground at the back of the premises, and built a handsome hall, capable of holding about 400 or 500 persons, and having succeeded in getting a licence from the magistrates, he opened it as a concert-room. The entertainment was by professional singers from a platform, and consisted of glees, madrigals, choruses, songs, and comic songs.

This was the first "Canterbury Hall," and was opened about 17 or 18 years ago.

The visitors were tradesmen, mechanics, their wives and families. Children were not admitted, and it was a rule that all visitors should be properly attired.

A small price for admission was charged.

Women of a certain class did not visit the place.

Attempts to raise the character of music halls.

A musical conductor was engaged, and the glees, choruses, &c., were rehearsed, and afterwards performed before the public in a manner which soon gained for the place a widely-spread reputation. The hall very soon became crowded every night. On Monday and Saturday evenings hundreds of persons were in the habit of waiting for the opening of the doors, and in consequence I have seen the street almost impassable.

This went on for a few years, when Mr. Morton, finding he had not room for his visitors, built the present "Canterbury Hall," which has been open for about 12 years. It is capable of holding nearly 2,000 persons.

Before

Before the first hall was opened, I should think a large number of the visitors had never heard a glee or chorus properly sung; but it soon became evident that the entertainment had created a taste for music.

Mr. Morton then engaged a gentleman of talent as a musical director, and a staff of operatic singers, and selections from some of the best operas were produced. These selections have from that period to the present time formed the leading part of the entertainment offered by Mr. Morton to the public.

As Mr. Morton progressed in the character of his entertainment, so did his visitors improve. I cannot say in respectability; but judging from their apparent station in life.

It has always been the steady aim of Mr. Morton to raise the character of his establishment, and with this view he added a handsome picture gallery to the "Canterbury Hall," at a cost of about 8,000 *l.* He purchased first-class pictures at a cost of nearly 10,000 *l.*, which were always open to the view of the public.

The total cost of the hall, picture gallery, and pictures, must have amounted to at least 40,000 *l.*

In order to induce first-class vocalists to sing at music halls, Mr. Morton offered Mr. Sims Reeves 1,200 *l.* for a month, to sing once each evening.

The next hall was opened by Mr. Weston, in Holborn, and afterwards music halls were opened in various parts of London. There are now about 23 places of entertainment which may be designated as music halls.

Low singing-rooms have ceased to exist since the establishment of music halls.

During the early portion of the period I have alluded to, there were many singing rooms at the west end of London where professional singers were engaged. These rooms were not opened until late at night, or if opened, were not attened by visitors until about the time the theatres closed. They were considered to be supper-rooms, and were only visited by men. The principal or most attractive portion of the entertainment consisted of obscene songs.

Since the establishment of music halls the old established "free-and-easy" concerts at public-houses have ceased to exist. So also have the supper-rooms I have described, and with them the disgusting obscene songs. In the present day I do not think a place exists where an obscene song could be heard, and I do not think they would be tolerated by the public.

Before the establishment of music halls, persons who now frequent them were in the habit of spending their evenings in public-houses. They now take their wives and families with them to music halls.

"The Oxford" and "Canterbury Hall."

"The Oxford," in Oxford-street, was built by Mr. Morton and myself. We opened it in 1861. We expended about 35,000 *l.* upon it before it was opened.

Attempts to improve the character of the entertainment.

We were very anxious to raise the character and tone of music halls, and with this view we engaged some of the first artistes of the day, including Madame Parepa and Mr. Santley. We offered Mr. Sims Reeves 100 guineas to sing one song, but he was engaged and could not appear. We also offered the latter gentleman his own terms to sing and assist us in the object we had in view. He expressed his willingness to do so, and promised to endeavour to arrange an engagement at a future time.

"The Oxford" and "Canterbury Hall" being then under one management, the operatic selections were always kept as the leading entertainment at both establishments.

During the two years I was interested in the two establishments we paid 24,828 *l.* for salaries of artistes and professional persons, or at the rate of 12,414 *l.* per year, or about 238 *l.* per week. As much as 20 *l.* and 30 *l.* per week has been paid for a single performer.

The operatic selections are not produced without a vast amount of trouble and expense. A new selection is usually rehearsed three or four months almost daily before it is produced to the public.

A large portion of the public have become familiar with the music of the great masters, entirely through the selections at the music halls.

Many new operas, composed abroad, have been produced at "The Oxford" for the first time in this country, and have been subsequently produced at the opera houses.

The great feature in music halls, and upon which their success has depended, is the variety of the entertainment, and the limited time allotted to each kind of entertainment. A selection from an opera would last from half an hour to 40 minutes, which would be followed by some comic singing, and other entertainments.

Although there has not been any difficulty in keeping pace with the improving taste of the public in the production of good music, yet there has been immense difficulty in improving the comic element, and the other parts of the general entertainment, owing to the restrictions by the Theatrical Act.

I believe it is impossible to get a comic song written worthy of the present age. Mr. Morton once offered, and paid a premium for the purpose, but it was unsuccessful.

Prosecutions by theatrical managers.

An attempt was made at "Canterbury Hall" during the festive season of Christmas to produce a pantomimic sketch, its chief object being to show the talent of two persons in representing the various characters usually seen in a Christmas pantomime, and the rapidity with which the change of dress was accomplished; they represented about seventeen characters.

No suggestion was made that there was the slightest impropriety in the performance, but the theatrical managers combined, and the performance was attacked by a summons

App. No. 3.

before a police magistrate upon the ground that it was a stage play; after much discussion and evidence, a fine of 5 *l.* was inflicted.

The theatrical managers openly announced their intention of taking proceedings against music hall proprietors, if they brought themselves within the operation of the Stage Play Act; they even contended that a comic duet or a comic song, if in character, was an infringement of the law.

The music hall proprietors have frequently urged the theatrical managers to come to an agreement upon the question, by defining the line, the music hall proprietors disclaiming all idea of performing legitimate stage plays; and ultimately the theatrical managers were induced to meet the music hall proprietors at the Adelphi Theatre, but after a long discussion, the meeting ended in the theatrical managers declaring they did not require any alteration in the law.

Subsequently a general attack was made upon the music halls, and several of the proprietors were fined for performing stage plays. One proprietor was fined for permitting two persons to burlesque "Mazeppa," with the aid of an imitation horse made of basket-work. I believe there was no scenery or other necessaries of a theatre.

The next objectionable performance was the introduction of the celebrated scientific optical illusion, known as the "Ghost" performance, brought out by Mr. Pepper at the Polytechnic Institution. This entertainment was offered to the public at the "Canterbury Hall," and at Day's "Crystal Palace," Birmingham. Proceedings were taken for both these performances, and fines inflicted.

The last case was that of the ballet at the "Alhambra," which was taken on appeal to the Court of Common Pleas.

None of these proceedings had been originated by the public, or by any public officer, but by the theatrical managers, and their only ground is, that they are entitled to a monopoly in stage plays.

Opinion of the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

In the "Alhambra" case it was suggested that the ballet was immoral. The Lord Chief Justice, in his judgment, remarked (see Law Reports, C. P. 182):—"Much has been said by the learned serjeant about the danger to the interests of morality and decency, if an entertainment like this be held to be removed from the control of the Lord Chamberlain. But I cannot perceive that these are at all endangered by the performance here described. The simple question for us to determine is, whether a cheap entertainment of this sort should be allowed to be given in a place licensed by the magistrates, or is to be confined for the future to the theatres licensed by and under the control of the Lord Chamberlain. Those who contend for the latter proposition ought to show something in the shape of a necessity for such a construction of the Acts of Parliament."

It was decided that the ballet in question was not a stage play.

In consequence of the conflict between the music hall proprietors and the theatrical managers, I put myself in communication with the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis, when he was Secretary of State for the Home Department, with the view to an alteration in the law concerning stage plays. Sir George Cornewall Lewis was of opinion that a line should be drawn defining the kind of amusements to be given at music halls, and at his suggestion I prepared a draft Bill, and ultimately submitted it to him. He approved of it, and requested me to get it introduced by a private Member, and he promised me his support.

Copy of this Bill I shall be prepared to hand to the Committee.

The definition of stage plays was fully discussed by all the music hall proprietors in London; and the Bill was the result of their deliberations.

Immediately after the draft Bill was submitted to Sir George Cornewall Lewis, he was transferred to the War Department. Consequently the Bill was never introduced to the House.

The theatrical managers for a time stayed their prosecutions, and the question of stage plays was allowed to drop.

It may be here convenient to state that the music hall proprietors of London do not desire that the right of performance of stage plays should be entirely thrown open. They only desire the right of performance of light pieces, and that the number of performers in a stage play should be limited, say to five or six persons.

Management of music halls.

With reference to the conduct of management of the music halls in London:—

They usually open between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, and close before twelve. The proprietors are, as a rule, in constant attendance at their halls; they constantly walk about, ready to check any impropriety which may by possibility take place.

It is a very rare occurrence that disturbance takes place at a music hall. I believe complaints against the conduct of the public in music halls are almost unknown. At all events the police reports are free from charges connected with music halls.

I have never heard of a complaint by the neighbours of a music hall as to its being a nuisance, or in any way an annoyance to them, and I believe none such have ever been made.

Very few women of a certain class visit "The Oxford" and "Canterbury Hall."

In order to discourage them as much as possible, there is a rule at "The Oxford" and "Canterbury Hall" prohibiting any lady entering the stalls (being the most commodious part of the house), unless accompanied by a gentleman; and women are not allowed to promenade.

The

The opinions of the press have always been complimentary to the proprietors of music halls.

I can refer to extracts from the "Times" and other leading newspapers in support of the statement.

Private rooms.

With reference to the statement which has been given in evidence before the Committee, that there are private rooms in music halls used by the public where immoralities prevail, I can give a most positive denial that there is anything of the kind, or ever has been, at either the "Canterbury Hall" or "The Oxford;" and, with reference to the other music halls, with the conduct of which I have been personally acquainted, I can make the same statement.

I have consulted the proprietors upon the subject, and they most indignantly deny that there is any ground for the suggestion.

There is a canteen behind the stage at the Alhambra, used by Mr. Strange, I believe, for the accommodation of the persons employed by him; but I do not believe any immorality takes place there.

The general body of music hall proprietors do not approve of such places, upon the ground that they might possibly give rise to suggestions that music halls are not properly conducted, and I believe Mr. Strange is the only person who permits any of the public to go behind his stage. At "The Oxford" and "Canterbury" strangers are not permitted behind the stage upon any consideration.

Sale of spirits and refreshments in music halls.

With reference to the sale of spirits and refreshments in music halls:

I believe such of the public who visit music halls in preference to theatres are those who are desirous of obtaining amusement for a limited period; and inasmuch as most of those persons are smokers, they can enjoy their cigar or pipe, as the case may be, and be amused with short entertainments, without the necessity of attending at a fixed time and sitting for some hours throughout a performance, as at a theatre.

The entertainments at music halls are varied, and it is seldom that any single entertainment lasts more than 20 minutes or half an hour, except selections from operas, which may last a little longer.

I believe the enjoyment is derived from the privilege of smoking and the lounge whilst witnessing the performance.

I have made a calculation in order to show the average amount expended in refreshments. The calculation is from my balance-sheets during the two years I was one of the proprietors of "The Oxford," and I find the average amount expended by each person is from 6 *d.* to 7 *d.*

During the year ending March 1862, at "The Oxford," the number of persons who paid at the doors was 384,982, and during the following year the number was 428,448, or at the rate of 8,239 per week.

It has been stated in evidence that the system of the music halls is, that persons paying at the doors receive the value of the admission money in drink. This is not the case; there is a distinct price for admission to the performance, and the public are not required or called upon to have any refreshment at all unless they please.

The profit on refreshments is certainly not the primary object of the music halls. At the same time, without the aid of such profit it would be impossible for the music halls to be kept open and give a good entertainment at a cheap rate.

Music-hall proprietors frequently expend more than their receipts for admission in the cost of the entertainments which they produce. They expend a portion of their profits on refreshments, and therefore if the privilege of selling refreshments be taken away, the prices of the entertainment must be considerably higher, or its quality lower, or music halls cannot be carried on at a profit.

System of licensing.

The present system of licensing is bad.

I think the tribunal for granting music and dancing licenses is unsatisfactory. It is composed of a vast number of gentlemen who are appointed magistrates by political influence.

The number of judges is too great; they have no fixed rules for the granting or withholding of music and dancing licenses; it is entirely a matter of discretion, and is decided according to the opinion of the magistrates who happen to be present upon the occasion. Upon another occasion a different decision might be arrived at, so that it is a matter of accident.

Persons who have had their licenses refused, ultimately succeed by continual applications upon the same facts.

Their mode of taking evidence is objectionable, inasmuch as the evidence is not always confined to facts, but matters of opinion are entertained, and irregular discussions take place.

There is no appeal from the October sessions.

There is a good deal of private influence used in matters of licenses.

If one or two magistrates are desirous, in consequence of their opinions, of restricting licenses, there is not the slightest difficulty in their going round to the other magistrates and getting a majority upon a particular occasion.

Upon the application of Mr. Morton and myself for a renewal of a license which had been granted for the ground upon which "The Oxford" is built, I discovered that a great deal of private influence had been brought to bear in support of an opposition to the license, and I found it necessary to take steps to get a very large attendance of magistrates in order to overwhelm any private influence, and upon that occasion there was a very large attendance.

App. No. 3

I have been concerned professionally in applications for and oppositions against music licenses, and I have constantly attended the sessions for the purpose. I have noticed that at times there is a disposition to grant licenses very freely, and at other times the feeling of the Bench has been quite the reverse.

No reasons are given for the decisions arrived at.

A proprietor may be ruined by the extreme opinions of the majority of the magistrates present on any particular occasion.

I remember hearing one case where an application was made for a renewal of a dancing license for a public-house by the widow of a person who had died within the 12 months, and whose husband had carried on the place for a great number of years under the license. A clergyman of the district attended, and made a complaint against the system of dancing in public-houses. A discussion consequently arose between the magistrates, and ultimately the license was lost by a small majority. The applicant had no opportunity of meeting such an opposition, and had no appeal.

Stage plays.

The present law defining stage plays is very objectionable.

It is extremely difficult even for lawyers to ascertain what is a stage play, yet the police have power to enter any place not licensed for stage plays, and take into custody the whole of the audience, if an entertainment be produced which ultimately turns out to be a stage play.

At the "Canterbury Hall" a constable is provided from the police station, and paid for by the proprietor, in order to have some person in authority in case of need.

Mr. Morton applied to have a policeman allotted to him at the "Oxford," but was refused by the police authorities.

Although constables are employed in the way described, it is a very rare occurrence that their services are required. In the case of any slight disturbance on the part of the audience, I have always found a little persuasion remedied the matter. I have never known a serious disturbance at a music hall.

As to Stage Plays.

Suggestions for an amendment of the law.

The restriction on the performance of stage plays should be partially removed.

There is no reason why their performance should be confined to a few theatres, as at present.

The proprietors of the principal music halls in London have fully discussed the subject, and they are of opinion that it would not be prudent at present entirely to remove the restriction, because the music halls are not adapted to the performance of heavy theatrical pieces, and because the public do not require long entertainments.

The public who frequent music halls prefer the comfort of a music hall, where they can enjoy a cigar and a lounge, to the formality of a theatre, where it is necessary to sit still for hours.

The proprietors therefore desire the right to perform small pieces, limiting the number of performers, say to five or six persons—say operas, operettas, pantomimes, burlesques, interludes, farces, ballets, or by whatever name they may be called.

It must be understood that the limitation of number should not apply to the representation of the music in any opera unless accompanied by acting and scenery.

It is desirable that there should be a distinction between theatres and music halls; many persons object to smoking.

It is advisable to proceed by steps; first, the restriction should be partially removed, which will give an opportunity of ascertaining whether it will be advisable to remove the restriction entirely hereafter.

Licensing of Plays or Entertainments.

It is not necessary that these should be licensed before being produced before the public.

Public feeling is against anything immoral or indecent being placed upon a stage; anything of the kind would be hissed off the stage.

Hitherto the proprietors of music halls have not been compelled to submit their entertainments for approval. No complaints had been made of anything immoral or indecent having been produced. I can state from experience that the proprietors have an objection to anything of the kind.

Licensing plays affords no protection.

Ballets and pantomimes cannot be read, although they may tend to immorality.

It would be extremely difficult, almost impossible, for proprietors of music halls to submit their entertainments for approval; they are so numerous.

The entertainment is not determined before the evening commences. The programme is frequently arranged as the performances proceed.

Make the proprietors liable to penalities if anything improper is put upon the stage. This will be sufficient protection.

The proprietors ought to have the privilege of selecting their entertainments; they know best how to please the public.

The suggestion that particular kinds of entertainments should be provided in certain places would not work well.

The public like variety in every establishment.

New Tribunal for Licensing.

It is advisable that a new tribunal should be appointed, for the purpose of granting licenses for music halls and of hearing complaints against the proprietors.

It should be composed of at least two persons, who should be high in authority, inasmuch as the property under their control represents great wealth.

They should have assistants or inspectors to visit the places. These should not be policemen.

It is very undesirable and unfair to the proprietors that the Lord Chamberlain should have control over the music halls.

1st. Because he is an officer attached to, and his principal duties are in connection with, the Royal Family and the nobility, and therefore not acquainted with the habits and requirements of the middle and lower classes.

2d. Because he and his officers, in consequence of their long connection with the theatrical managers, have become strong partisans in the theatrical interest.

Theatres and music halls should not be under the same authority—

Because they are distinct in character, and should be kept so, to suit the different tastes of the public.

If it be desirable that a theatre should be turned into a music hall, let the proprietor make application for a license, and conform to the law. So, also, if it be required to turn a music hall into a theatre.

The new tribunal should sit in open court, at stated intervals, to hear applications and complaints.

All matters should be determined by legal evidence. Parties should have liberty to appear either in person or by attorney or counsel.

There should be leading rules to govern decisions, particularly with regard to applications for beer licenses.

The granting of music licenses should depend upon the requirements of the neighbourhood, it being objectionable to promote too much competition, inasmuch as places of entertainment, if not successful, would degenerate.

The capabilities of the building should be taken into consideration, and particularly the means of ingress and egress.

The character of the applicant should also be considered.

In matters of complaint against proprietors due notice of the complaint should be given by way of summons, in order to give opportunity for defence and for production of evidence.

Upon points of law there should be an appeal to one of the superior courts, but not upon matters of discretion.

Licensing of Places of Entertainment for the Sale of Wines, Spirits, and Refreshments.

The new tribunal should have power to add a license for this purpose to any new license for amusements or entertainment.

It would be unfair and ruinous to the present proprietors to interfere with their existing licenses so long as they conduct their establishments with propriety.

Some of the present music halls have ordinary public-houses attached to them, wherein the ordinary business of a licensed victualler is carried on. These public-houses are quite disconnected from the halls.

It is suggested that the license for the sale of spirits, &c., which will be under the control of the new tribunal, should be confined to sales in the music halls, leaving the public-house license to be dealt with, as at present, by the licensing magistrates.

Police Supervision.

No more police supervision is necessary. This is proved by the evidence of the police magistrates, given before the Committee, of the absence of charges connected with music halls.

The police are not favourites with the public; they are uneducated, and therefore officious when in power.

Their presence is objectionable amongst orderly persons who desire rational amusement.

Their functions should be confined to disorderly persons and criminals.

Their aid would be called in by proprietors if requisite.

App. No. 3.

A BILL to Amend the Acts concerning Places of Amusement.

Preamble.

25 Geo. 2, c. 26.

2 & 3 Vict. c. 67, s. 46.

6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, s. 2.

Whereas by the Act of the Session holden in the 25th year of the reign of King George the Second, chapter 36, intituled "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of Public Entertainment, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses," justices at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the peace are authorised and empowered to grant licenses for any house, room, garden, or other place to be kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind in the Cities of London and Westminster, or within 20 miles thereof: And whereas by an Act of the session holden in the second and third years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 47, section 46, provision is made concerning any house or room kept or used within the Metropolitan Police District for stage-plays or dramatic entertainments, into which admission is obtained by payment of money, and which is not a licensed theatre: And whereas by an Act of the session holden in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 68, section 2, intituled "An Act for regulating Theatres," it is enacted, that (except as in the said Act is mentioned) it shall not be lawful for any person to have or keep any house or other place of public resort in Great Britain for the public performance of stage-plays without authority, by virtue of letters patent from Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, or predecessors, or without license from the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's household for the time being, or from the justices of the peace as thereinafter provided; and every person who shall offend against this enactment shall be liable to forfeit such sum as shall be awarded by the court in which, or the justices by whom, he shall be convicted, not exceeding 20 *l.* for every day on which such house or place shall have been so kept open by him for the purpose aforesaid without legal authority. And by section 23 of such last mentioned Act it is enacted, "That in this Act the word stage-play shall be taken to include any tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, or other entertainment of the stage, or any part thereof."

And whereas it is expedient that the two last-mentioned Acts should be amended: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Acts of the second and third year of Her Majesty, chapter 47, and the sixth and seventh year of Her Majesty, chapter 68, shall not be construed to prevent or prohibit any person using or keeping any concert room or public garden for the performance or representation of the music of any opera, operetta, burlesque, or other piece, or for the performance or representation (without acting or change of scene) of the music of any opera, operetta, burlesque, or other piece, or for the performance or representation of dancing on a platform or stage, or for the performance or representation (without change of scene) of any entertainment consisting of dancing, singing, or dialogue, by not more than persons, or for the performance or representation of any negro or Ethiopian entertainment: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to render it unnecessary to obtain a license from the said justices pursuant to the the said Act of the 23d year of King George the Second, chapter 26.

London Concert Halls, Music Halls, and Entertainment Galleries. App. No. 3.

Estimated Figures.

	Cost of Buildings and Fittings.	Number of Persons Accommodated Daily.
	£.	
Crystal Palace	1,000,000	100,000
Agricultural Hall	50,000	20,000
St. James's Hall	50,000	5,000
St. Martin's Hall	50,000	4,000
Exeter Hall	50,000	6,000
Gallery of Illustration	5,000	500
Egyptian Hall	5,000	500
Polygraphic Hall	5,000	500
Polytechnic	20,000	1,000
Alhambra, Leicester-square	50,000	5,000
Oxford, Oxford-street	40,000	2,000
Strand, Strand	30,000	1,500
Canterbury Hall, Lambeth	25,000	1,500
Metropolitan, Edgware-road	25,000	2,000
Regent, Westminster	25,000	1,500
Wilton's, Wellclose-square	20,000	1,500
Evans's, Covent Garden	20,000	1,000
Weston's, Holborn	20,000	1,500
Philharmonic, Islington	20,000	1,500
Highbury Barn, Highbury	20,000	2,000
Cambridge, Shoreditch	16,000	2,000
Winchester, Southwark	15,000	2,000
Lord Raglan, Theobald's-road	12,000	1,500
Middlesex, Drury-lane	12,000	1,200
London Pavilion, Coventry-street	12,000	2,000
South London, London-road	8,000	1,200
Marylebone	8,000	800
Oriental, Poplar	7,000	800
Borough	6,000	1,000
Bedford, Camden Town	5,000	800
Deacon's, Clerkenwell	5,000	800
Trevor, Knightsbridge	5,000	800
Sun, Knightsbridge	5,000	800
Lansdowne, Islington	4,000	600
Rodney, Whitechapel	3,000	600
Apollo, Bethnal-green	3,000	600
Westminster, Pimlico	3,000	800
Nag's Head, Lambeth	2,000	500
Woodman, Hoxton	2,000	500
Eastern Alhambra	2,000	1,000
Swallow-street	2,000	500
Total, 41 Places £.	1,667,000	179,300

The London music halls, concert halls, &c. the earliest of which was built in 1851, and the latest in 1864, have their value very fairly, though roughly, estimated in the above table, from which a number of small tavern concert rooms are excluded. Some halls may be overrated and some underrated in this table: for example, the Alhambra is put down at 50,000*l.*, although it cost 100,000*l.*, because the smaller sum more nearly represents its value, but the totals are tolerably correct for an estimate.

The music halls, concert halls, &c. in the country that have sprung into existence since the passing of the Act of 1843, may be estimated as bearing the same proportion to the country theatres as the London halls do to the London theatres, viz., nearly two to one. The capital invested in them cannot be far short of a million sterling, and they provide nightly accommodation for at least half a million persons.

App. No. 3.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Francis*, 11 May 1866.

To the Secretary of the Beaumont Institution, Beaumont-square, Mile End-road.

Sir,

As I am instructed that certain dramatic entertainments are permitted to be given in your institution, I have to call your attention to the Act of Parliament known as "An Act for regulating Theatres" (6 & 7 Vict. c. 68), passed 22d August 1843, and particularly to the sections numbered 2 and 11, and to subjoin a copy of them.

I also have to call your attention to the case of Thorne *v.* Colson, decided in the Court of Queen's Bench on the 23d of January last, and to the case of Webster *v.* Morton, heard before Mr. Elliott, at the Lambeth Police Court, on the 26th ultimo and 4th instant. Should you infringe the Act after this notice, legal proceedings will be taken to vindicate the law, without further notice.

I am, &c.

7 March 1861. (signed) *Thos. John Jerwood,*
Solicitor, 17, Ely-place, Holborn.

Section No. 2.—And be it enacted, that, except as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for any person to have or keep any house or other place of public resort in Great Britain, for the public performance of stage plays, without authority by virtue of Letters Patent from Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, or predecessors, or without license from the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's household for the time being, or from the justices of the peace as hereinafter provided; and every person who shall offend against this enactment shall be liable to forfeit such sum as shall be awarded by the court in which, or the justices by whom, he shall be convicted, not exceeding 20*l.* for every day on which such house or place shall have been so kept open by him for the purpose aforesaid, without legal authority.

Section 11.—And be it enacted, that every person who for hire shall act or present, or cause, permit, or suffer to be acted or presented, any part in any stage play, in any place not being a patent theatre, or duly licensed as a theatre, shall forfeit such sum as shall be awarded by the court in which, or the justices by whom, he shall be convicted, not exceeding 10*l.* for every day on which he shall so offend.

The Honourable *Spencer Ponsonby* to the Secretary of the Beaumont Institution.

Sir, 27 April 1865.

With reference to your letter of yesterday's date on the subject of the performances reported to be about to take place at the Beaumont Institution this evening, I am desired by the Lord Chamberlain to enclose an extract of a letter which has reached his Lordship.

I am, &c.

D. Francis, Esq., Secretary, &c. &c. (signed) *Spencer Ponsonby.*
Beaumont Institution.

Extract from a Letter received by the Lord Chamberlain, 24 April 1865.

"I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the fact that a Dramatic and Musical Entertainment is advertised to take place at the Beaumont institution, Beamount-square, Mile End, on Wednesday evening, 26th inst., the said house or institute not being licensed for the performances of stage plays. The pieces to be performed are the comedy entitled "*Naval Engagements,*" and the farce called "*A Laughing Hyena,*" and the charges for admission are to be 6*d.*, 1*s.*, and 1*s.* 6*d.*"

Appendix No. 4.

PAPERS received from the Foreign Office, and laid before the Committee by the Clerk of the Committee.

Décret du 6 Janvier 1864 relatif à la Liberté de l'Industrie Théâtrale.

Rapport à l'Empereur.

Sire, Paris, le 6 Janvier 1864.

Dans la séance solennelle du 5 Novembre dernier, Votre Majesté annonçait Elle-même la suppression prochaine des priviléges auxquels l'exploitation des théâtres était jusqu'à présent assujettie. Accueillie avec joie et reconnaissance par les écrivains et par les artistes, cette mesure va recevoir aujourd'hui son exécution.

Grâce à la généreuse initiative et aux intentions libérales de Votre Majesté, aucune entrave ne s'opposera plus désormais au libre développement d'une industrie dont l'influence sur le mouvement des lettres et des arts peut être si grande et si féconde.

Tandis que les auteurs et les compositeurs vivants pourront trouver partout des débouchés pour leurs productions nouvelles, les chefs-d'œuvre de l'ancien répertoire, affranchis des liens qui les rattachaient exclusivement aux deux premiers Théâtres français, iront, sans déchoir, honorer les scènes populaires et y porter leur utile enseignement. De son côté, le Gouvernement restera en possession du droit de soutenir, en les subventionnant, des établissements de premier ordre, qui seront pour les autres des exemples à suivre et des modèles à égaler.

On peut donc espérer, Sire, que le niveau de l'art ne fera que s'élever sous l'empire de la législation nouvelle, et que le bon goût public se réveillera lui-même en se sentant plus libre.

Le moment est favorable pour faire loyalement une expérience qui n'a jamais eu lieu dans des conditions pareilles. En permettant à la liberté industrielle, littéraire et artistique, de produire tout le bien qu'on doit en attendre, on n'a pas à en craindre les abus et les excès. La société, l'ordre et la morale conservent toutes leurs garanties, et, loin de désarmer l'Administration, le décret nouveau confirme l'autorité protectrice des lois actuellement en vigueur.

J'ai l'honneur, en conséquence, de soumettre à Votre Majesté le projet de décret ci-joint.

Je suis, avec le plus profond respect,
Sire,
De Votre Majesté,
Le très-humble, très-obéissant serviteur
et très-fidèle sujet,
Le Maréchal de France,

Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur et
des Beaux-Arts,
Vaillant.

Décret.

App. No. 4.

Napoleon, par la grâce de Dieu et la volonté nationale, Empereur des Français,

À tous présents et à venir, salut.

Vu les décrets des 8 Juin 1806 et 29 Juillet 1807;

Vu l'article 3, titre XI., de la loi des 16 et 24 Août 1790;

Vu l'ordonnance du 8 Décembre 1824;

Vu les arrêtés du Gouvernement des 25 Pluviôse et 11 Germinal an iv., 1er germinal an vii. et 12 Messidor an viii.;

Vu les ordonnances de police des 12 Février 1828 et 9 Juin 1829;

Vu la loi du 7 Frimaire an v. et le décret du 9 Décembre 1809 sur la redevance établie au profit des pauvres ou des hospices;

Vu le décret du 30 Décembre 1852;

Notre Conseil d'État entendu,

Avons décrété et décrétons ce qui suit:

Article 1er. Tout individu peut faire construire et exploiter un théâtre, à la charge de faire une déclaration au ministère de notre Maison et des Beaux-Arts, et à la préfecture de police pour Paris; à la préfecture, dans les départements.

Les théâtres qui paraîtront plus particulièrement dignes d'encouragement pourront être subventionnés, soit par l'État, soit par les communes.

Art. 2. Les entrepreneurs de théâtres devront se conformer aux ordonnances, décrets et règlements pour tout ce qui concerne l'ordre, la sécurité et la salubrité publics.

Continueront d'être exécutées les lois existantes sur la police et la fermeture des théâtres ainsi que sur la redevance établie au profit des pauvres et des hospices.

Art. 3. Toute œuvre dramatique, avant d'être représentée, devra, aux termes du décret du 30 Décembre 1852, être examinée et autorisée par le ministre de notre Maison et des Beaux-Arts, pour les théâtres de Paris; par les préfets, pour les théâtres des départements.

Cette autorisation pourra toujours être retirée pour des motifs d'ordre public.

Art. 4. Les ouvrages dramatiques de tous les genres, y compris les pièces entrées dans le domaine public, pourront être représentés sur tous les théâtres.

Art. 5. Les théâtres d'acteurs-enfants continuent d'être interdits.

Art. 6. Les spectacles de curiosités, de marionnettes, les cafés dits cafés-chantants, cafés-concerts et autres établissements du même genre restent

App. No. 4.

restent soumis aux règlements présentement en vigueur.

Toutefois, ces divers établissements seront désormais affranchis de la redevance établie par l'article 11 de l'ordonnance du 8 Décembre 1824 en faveur des directeurs des départements, et ils n'auront à supporter aucun prélèvement autre que la redevance au profit des pauvres ou des hospices.

Art. 7. Les directeurs actuels des théâtres, autres que les théâtres subventionnés, sont et demeurent affranchis envers l'Administration de toutes les clauses et conditions de leurs cahiers des charges, en tant qu'elles sont contraires au présent décret.

Art. 8. Sont abrogées toutes les dispositions des décrets, ordonnances et règlements antérieures dans ce qu'elles ont de contraire au présent décret.

Art. 9. Le ministre de notre Maison et des Beaux-Arts est chargé de l'exécution du présent décret, qui sera inséré au "Bulletin des Lois," et recevra son exécution à partir du 1er Juillet 1864.

Fait au palais des Tuileries, le 6 Janvier 1864.

Napoleon.

Par l'Empereur :
Le Maréchale de France,

Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux-Arts,
Vaillant.

Ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux-Arts.—Surintendance Générale des Théâtres.

Palais de Tuileries, le 28 Avril 1864.

Monsieur le Préfet,

Le décret impérial du 6 Janvier dernier, qui supprime les priviléges auxquels l'exploitation des théâtres était assujettie, devant recevoir son exécution à partir du 1er Juillet prochain, je crois utile de vous donner dès à présent quelques explications sur la marche à suivre pour l'application du décret, afin de prévenir toute difficulté d'interprétation, et de vous mettre à même d'éclairer vos administrés sur les droits et les devoirs résultant pour eux du changement de législation.

Aux termes de l'article 1er, tout individu peut construire et exploiter un théâtre, à la charge de faire une déclaration au ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux-Arts et à la préfecture de police pour Paris ; à la préfecture, dans les départements.

Une autorisation ministérielle n'est donc plus nécessaire comme par le passé, et le préfet lui-même n'intervient pas pour autoriser la construction ou l'exploitation d'un théâtre dans son département ; il reçoit la déclaration du constructeur et celle de l'exploitant, et se borne à faire respecter, aux termes de l'article 2, les ordonnances, décrets et règlements pour tout ce qui concerne l'ordre, la sécurité et la salubrité publics.

Vous pouvez, à cet effet, consulter les ordonnances de police concernant les dispositions intérieures et extérieures à prendre pour la construction des théâtres, notamment celle du 9 Juin 1829.

Une fois les salles construites, c'est à leur propriétaire, ou à tout entrepreneur qui s'en rend locataire, que l'exploitation théâtrale appartient, sans autre limite que celle de leur volonté, de leurs intérêts et de leurs droits.

Toute latitude étant donnée à l'industrie théâtrale, l'art. 1er du décret du 6 Janvier réserve à l'État et aux communes le droit de subventionner les théâtres qui paraîtraient plus particulièrement dignes d'encouragement. Pour le moment, Monsieur le Préfet, vos efforts doivent tendre à ce que les subventions existantes ne soient pas retirées et à ce qu'il en soit plutôt accordé de nouvelles, à la veille d'une épreuve qui veut être faite avec loyauté, mais avec prudence. Ainsi, le mouvement des lettres et des arts sera à la fois développé par la concurrence et soutenu par des libéralités utiles.

Si le décret du 6 Janvier supprime les anciens priviléges dans l'intérêt de l'art et de l'industrie, il ne supprime aucune des garanties qui protégeaient la société, l'ordre et la morale ; il les confirme au contraire, et c'est dans ce but que l'art. 3 consacre la législation relative à la censure théâtrale, conformément au décret du 30 Novembre 1852.

Je vous rappelle à ce propos, Monsieur le Préfet, 1°. que c'est à vous qu'il appartient d'examiner et d'autoriser, s'il y a lieu, les pièces nouvelles destinées à être représentées pour la première fois sur un des théâtres de votre département ; 2°. que celles qui ont été interdites à Paris sont par cela même interdites pour toute la France; 3°. que si, parmi celles qui y ont été autorisées, il s'en trouve que vous jugiez ne pouvoir être jouées sans danger dans votre département, vous avez toujours le droit d'en défendre la représentation, en m'en donnant avis. Les formalités ordinaires continueront donc à être observées ; les brochures et les répertoires devront être visés comme d'habitude ; et je vous adresserai, au moins une fois par an, le titre des pièces qui auraient pu être interdites.

Aux termes de l'article 4, les ouvrages dramatiques de tous les genres, y compris les pièces entrées dans le domaine public, pourront être représentés sur tous les théâtres.

Déjà les théâtres des départements jouissaient de cet avantage, et je ne vous rappelle les dispositions de l'art. 4 que pour vous recommander de veiller à ce que les œuvres des maîtres soient exécutées, autant que possible, avec le respect qui leur est dû, et sans que le texte en soit altéré par aucune mutilation.

L'article 5 n'ayant pas besoin de commentaires, il me reste, Monsieur le Préfet, à appeler votre attention sur l'article 6, par lequel les spectacles de curiosités, de marionnettes, les cafés dits cafés-chantants, cafés-concerts et autres établissements du même genre, restent soumis aux règlements présentement en vigueur, mais sont toutefois désormais affranchis de la redevance établie par l'art. 11 de l'ordonnance du 8 Décembre 1824 en faveur des directeurs des départements.

La liberté accordée à l'industrie spéciale des théâtres ne s'étend pas et ne pouvait s'étendre à tous les établissements publics d'un autre ordre, et notamment aux cafés, qui, comme débits de boisson, sont, vous le savez, soumis à des règlements spéciaux. Vous pourrez, quand vous le jugerez convenable, autoriser les propriétaires des cafés à faire exécuter dans leurs établissements toute espèce de musique instrumentale, et chanter toute sorte de morceaux de musique, même de l'ordre le plus élevé, sans toutefois porter atteinte au droit des auteurs sur les ouvrages du répertoire moderne. Ces exécutions instrumentales et vocales

cales devront toujours, comme par le passé, avoir lieu sans aucun costume ni travestissement, sans décors et sans mélange de prose, de danses et de pantomimes. Autrement, ce seraient de véritables théâtres, et la distinction établie par les articles 1 et 6 du décret ne serait pas respectée.

Les entrepreneurs de cafés-concerts et de cafés-chantants seraient d'autant moins fondés à se plaindre du maintien de cet état des choses qu'ils ont désormais la liberté de construire et d'exploiter des théâtres, si bon leur semble.

Par spectacles de curiosités et autres établissements du même genre que concerne aussi l'article 6, vous devez entendre les petits spectacles de physique et de magie, les panoramas, dioramas, tirs, feux d'artifice, expositions d'animaux, et tous les spectacles forains et d'exercices équestres qui n'ont ni un emplacement durable, ni une construction solide.

Affranchis de la redevance qu'ils payaient aux directeurs des théâtres, ces établissements n'auront plus à supporter qu'un prélèvement au profit des pauvres ou des hospices. La législation nouvelle sera donc pour eux un grand bienfait et leur condition se trouvera sensiblement améliorée.

Les articles 7, 8 et 9 délient, à partir du 1er Juillet prochain, les directeurs actuels des théâtres, autres que les théâtres subventionnés, de toutes les clauses et conditions de leurs cahiers de charges, et abrogent les dispositions des décrets, ordonnances et règlements dans ce qu'elles ont de contraire au décret du 6 Janvier.

Jusque-là, Monsieur le Préfet, et pendant cette période de temps qui sépare encore le régime des priviléges du régime de la liberté, vous ne pouvez mieux faire que de seconder les combinaisons qui seraient de nature à favoriser le maintien des théâtres qui existent et la construction de ceux qu'on voudrait établir dans de bonnes conditions, sans tenir compte des anciens arrondissements ni des anciens itinéraires, qui, ne répondant plus en rien aux besoins de l'époque, devaient cesser d'exister.

Les directeurs ne seront plus astreints à une règlementation uniforme pour les abonnements, les débuts, le tarif du prix des places et autres questions de détail. Ils pourront prendre, à cet effet, les mesures qu'ils jugeront convenables, et, de son côté, l'autorité locale devra veiller à ce que l'ordre public n'ait pas à en souffrir. App. No. 4.

Si mon autorisation n'est plus nécessaire pour l'exploitation des théâtres, ni pour leur construction, je n'en conserverai pas moins le droit et le besoin d'être mis au courant de tout ce que produira, dans chaque département et dans chaque ville, la libre industrie des théâtres. Vous voudrez donc bien, Monsieur le Préfet, m'informer de la création de chaque nouvelle salle et des changements qui auront lieu dans les diverses exploitations.

J'ai tâché de prévoir les difficultés que pourrait soulever l'application du décret du 6 Janvier dernier, et je me suis efforcé de vous mettre d'avance à même d'y pourvoir. Au besoin et dans le cas où des instructions nouvelles vous deviendraient nécessaires, je serais toujours prêt à vous les adresser. Je me résume aujourd'hui en vous disant que, pour obéir aux prescriptions du décret et répondre aux généreuses intentions de l'Empereur, vous devez chercher avant tout à concilier loyalement les droits nouveaux de l'industrie théâtrale avec les droits éternels de la société, de la morale et des arts.

Je vous prie, Monsieur le Préfet, de m'accuser réception de la présente circulaire, à laquelle je joins le texte du décret du 6 Janvier, ainsi que le rapport qui le précédait et qui en explique la pensée.

Recevez, Monsieur le Préfet, l'assurance de ma considération très-distinguée.

Le Maréchal de France,
Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur et
des Beaux-Arts,

——.

À Monsieur le Préfet d——

1864.—Juillet.

N° 8.—Cabinet.—2e Bureau.

PREFECTURE DE POLICE.

ORDONNANCE concernant l'Etablissement des Salles de Spectacle; Emplacements; Abords; Mode de construction; Distribution; Aménagement au point de vue des mesures de Sûreté publique; Circulation; Salubrité; Exploitation; Police intérieure et extérieure.

Paris, le 1er Juillet 1864.

NOUS, Préfet de Police,

Vu la loi des 16-24 Août 1790 (titre XI., art. 3, § 5); celle des 19-22 Juillet 1791 (art. 46, § 1er);

Les arrêtés du gouvernement des 1er germinal an vii. 12 Messidor an viii. et 3 Brumaire an ix.; l'arrêté ministériel du 25 Avril 1807; le décret du 30 Décembre 1852; la loi du 10 Juin 1853 (Art. 1er); le décret du 6 Janvier 1864, et la circulaire de Son Excellence le Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux-Arts, du 28 Avril 1864;

Considérant que le décret du 6 Janvier 1864 supprime les priviléges auxquels l'industrie théâtrale était jusqu'à présent assujettie et confère à toute personne le droit de faire construire et exploiter un théâtre, à la charge d'une déclaration préalable à l'autorité;

Considérant que le décret réserve, outre la censure théâtrale, l'exécution des lois, décrets, ordonnances et règlements de Police de droit commun, et, pour les théâtres subventionnés, celle des clauses et conditions de leurs cahiers des charges envers l'Administration;

Voulant refondre en une seule et même ordonnance les dispositions de l'ancienne réglementation qui intéressent essentiellement la sûreté publique et le bon-ordre et qui sont contenues notamment dans les ordonnances des 9 Juin 1829 et 16 Mars 1857,

App. No. 4.

Ordonnons ce qui suit :

CONSTRUCTION.

Déclaration préalable.

Article premier. Tout individu voulant faire construire et exploiter un théâtre est tenu d'en faire la déclaration préalable au Ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux-Arts ainsi qu'à la Préfecture de Police.

Il sera joint à l'appui les plans détaillés, avec coupes, et l'indication du nombre des places calculé par personne à raison de 0m 80c de profondeur sur 0m 45c de largeur, pour les places en location, et 0m 70c sur 0m 45c, pour les autres places.

Les travaux ne pourront être commencés que sur notre avis formel, après examen du projet.

Sauf les cas de dérogation que nous nous réservons d'admettre, les salles seront établies, construites et distribuées conformément aux prescriptions suivantes :

Mesures d'isolement.

Art. II. L'édifice peut être isolé ou adossé, au choix du constructeur. En cas d'isolement, il sera laissé sur tous les côtés qui ne seront pas bordés par la voie publique un espace libre ou chemin de ronde, qui pourra n'être que de trois mètres de largeur si les maisons voisines n'ont pas de jour sur ledit chemin. Dans le cas contraire, la largeur serait rationnellement augmentée eu égard, notamment, à l'importance et aux dispositions de l'édifice.

En cas d'adossement, il sera construit un contre-mur en briques de 0m 25c, au moins, d'épaisseur, pour préserver les murs mitoyens.

L'épaisseur de ce contre-mur pourrait être augmentée comme la largeur du chemin de ronde ci-dessus et par les mêmes considérations.

Prescriptions concernant la grosse construction, surtout en vue des dangers d'incendie.

III. Les murs intérieurs, les murs qui séparent les loges d'acteurs et le théâtre, le mur d'avant-scène, le mur qui sépare la salle, le vestibule et les escaliers seront en maçonnerie.

IV. Les portes de communication entre les loges d'acteurs et le théâtre seront en fer et battantes, de manière à être constamment fermées.

Le mur d'avant-scène qui s'élève au-dessus de la toiture ne pourra être percé que de l'ouverture de la scène et de baies de communication fermées par des portes de fer.

L'ouverture de la scène doit être fermée par un rideau en fil de fer maillé, de 0m 05c au plus de maille, qui intercepte entièrement toute communication entre les parties combustibles du théâtre et de la salle. Ce rideau doit être soutenu par des cordages combustibles.

Les décorations fixes, dans les parties supérieures de l'ouverture d'avant-scène, doivent toujours être incombustibles.

V. Tous les escaliers, les planchers de la salle et les cloisons des corridors doivent être également en matériaux incombustibles.

VI. La callotte de la salle doit être en fer et plâtre, sans boiseries.

Pompes à incendie et leur alimentation.

VII. Dans l'une des parties les plus élevées du mur d'avant-scène et sous les combles, il sera placé un appareil de secours contre l'incendie, avec colonne en charge, au poids de laquelle il sera, au besoin, ajouté une pression hydraulique assez puissante pour fournir un jet d'eau dans les parties les plus élevées du bâtiment. La capacité de l'appareil se déterminera selon l'importance du théâtre.

VIII. Les pompes doivent être installées au rez-de-chaussée, dans un local séparé du théâtre par des murs en maçonnerie.

IX. Elles seront toujours alimentées par les eaux de la Ville recueillies dans des réservoirs et par un puits, de manière que chacune des deux conduites puisse suffire au jeu des pompes établie.

X. En dehors des salles de spectacle, il doit être établi des bornes-fontaines alimentées par les eaux de la Ville et pouvant servir chacune au débit d'une pompe à incendie ; le nombre en est déterminé par l'autorité.

Chauffage et Ventilation.

XI. La salle ne peut être chauffée que par des bouches de chaleur dont le foyer est dans les caves.

Les bouches s'ouvriront à 0m 30c au-dessus du plancher.

XII. Les salles de spactacle doivent être ventilées convenablement ; l'air y sera renouvelé au moyen de dispositions que l'autorité apprêciera.

Des thermomètres seront placés en vue dans les corridors.

Dispositions relatives à l'établissement d'Ateliers au-dessus du théâtre.

XIII. Aucun atelier ne peut être établi au-dessus du théâtre.

XIV. Des ateliers ne peuvent être établis au-dessus de la salle que pour les peintres et les tailleurs, et sous la condition que les planchers soient carrelés et lambrissés : dans le cas où l'on établirait des ateliers pour les peintres, la sorbonn, à moins que les combles ne soient en fer et plâtre, doit être enfermée dans des cloisons hourdées et enduites en plâtre plafonnée, carrelée et fermée par une porte en tôle.

XV. Aucune division ne peut être faite dans les combles que pour les ateliers désignés ci-dessus.

Corridors et Escaliers de dégagement.

XVI. Le largeur des corridors de dégagement, le nombre et le largeur des escaliers ainsi que des portes de sortie seront proportionnées à l'importance du théâtre.

Toutefois, il doit y avoir au moins deux escaliers spécialement destinés au service de la salle et donnant issue à l'exterieur.

Magasin

Magasin de Décorations et Machines.

XVII. Tout théâtre doit avoir un magasin de décorations et machines hors de son enceinte, établi dans des conditions convenables et avec notre autorisation.

XVIII. Aucun magasin ou approvisionnement inutile de décorations, machines, accessoires ne doit être fait sous le théâtre ou sur la scène: leur lieu de dépôt doit toujours être séparé du théâtre par un mur en maçonnerie.

Interdiction pour certaines locations et logements.

XIX. Il est interdit de louer une boutique ou un magasin dépendant du théâtre à tout commerce ou industrie qui offrirait des dangers exceptionnels d'incendie, notamment par la nature de ses marchandises ou de ses produits.

Les tuyaux de cheminée des boutiques louées, s'ils traversent le théâtre ou ses dépendances, seront en maçonnerie et montés verticalement jusqu'au dessus du comble. Ces tuyaux seront, en outre, dans la hauteur de la salle, garnis d'une enveloppe en briques.

XX. Personne autre que le concierge et le garçon de caisse ne peut occuper de logement dans les salles des théâtres, ni dans aucune partie des bâtiments qui communiquent avec les salles.

EXPLOITATION.

Réception de la salle.—Service d'ordre et de police.

XXI. L'ouverture d'un théâtre ne peut avoir lieu qu'après qu'il a été constaté par nous que la salle est solidement construite et dans des conditions suffisantes de sûreté, de salubrité et de commodité.

Des modifications apportées ultérieurement dans la construction, dans la division et dans les distributions intérieures nécessiteraient un nouvel examen avant la réouverture.

XXII. Les agents de l'Autorité supérieure devront être mis à même d'exercer dans chaque théâtre une surveillance quotidienne, tant au point de vue de la censure dramatique que dans l'intérêt de l'ordre et de la sécurité publique.

XXIII. Il y aura un bureau pour les officiers de police et un corps-de-garde.

XXIV. Un commissaire de police est chargé de la surveillance générale ce chaque théâtre.

Une place convenable lui sera assignée dans l'intérieur de la salle.

XXV. Tout individu arrêté, soit à la porte du théâtre, soit à l'intérieur de la salle, doit être conduit devant le commissaire de police, qui statuera.

XXVI. La garde de police est spécialement chargée du maintien de l'ordre et de la libre circulation au dehors du théâtre, ainsi que de l'exécution des consignes relatives aux voitures.

Elle ne pénètrera dans l'intérieur de la salle que dans le cas où la sûreté publique serait compromise ou sur la réquisition du commissaire de police.

XXVII. Il y aura dans chaque salle de spectacle un service médical organisé conformément à l'arrêté de police du 12 Mai 1852.

XXVIII. Le service des sapeurs-pompiers s'effectuera conformément à la consigne générale du 20 Juillet 1862, approuvée par nous.

Des cadrans-compteurs, servant à constater les rondes faites pendant la nuit, seront placés dans l'intérieur des théâtres, sur les points que désignera le commandant du bataillon des sapeurs-pompiers.

Urinoirs.

XXIX. Les directeurs feront établir des urinoirs, fixes ou mobiles, appropriés aux localités et dans des conditions de convenance et de salubrité que l'autorité appréciera.

Affichage.—Billets.—Location.—Publication des prix.

XXX. Les affiches de spectacles ne pourront être apposées que sur les emplacements où cet affichage ne peut nuire à la circulation et en se conformant d'ailleurs aux prescriptions générales de l'ordonnance de police du 3 Septembre 1851.

XXXI. Est et demeure prohibée, à moins d'une autorisation et à l'exception de l'affiche du spectacle, toute apposition d'affiche ou inscription d'annonces industrielles et autres à l'intérieur des théâtres, soit sur les rideaux, soit dans les péristyles, escaliers et corridors, soit dans les foyers.

XXXII. Il est expressément défendu aux directeurs de faire annoncer sur leurs affiches la première représentation d'un ouvrage sans avoir préalablement justifié au commissariat de police du quartier de l'approbation du manuscrit par l'autorité.

XXXIII. Les affiches obligatoires du spectacle du jour seront imprimées sur papier de format de 0 fr. 05 cent., ou de 0 fr. 10 cent., au gré des directeurs, pourvu que la dimension ne dépasse pas 0m 63c de hauteur sur 0m 43c de largeur.

XXXIV. Ces affiches ne pourront être apposées audessous de 0m 50c, ni à une élévation dépassant 2m 50c, à partir du sol.

XXXV. Les changements survenus dans le spectacle du jour ne pourront être annoncés que par des bandes de papier blanc appliquées sur les affiches du jour, avant l'ouverture de la salle au public.

Il est interdit aux directeurs d'annoncer ces changements par de nouvelles affiches imprimées, quelle que soit la couleur du papier.

XXXVI. Le tarif du prix des places, pour chaque représentation, devra toujours être indiqué très-ostensiblement sur les affiches, en même temps que la composition des spectacles annoncés.

Un exemplaire sera apposé au bureau du théâtre et à tous autres qui pourraient être établis comme succursales.

Ledit tarif devra être inscrit en tête de chaque feuille de location, pour que le public soit toujours utilement averti de ses variations.

Une fois annoncé, le tarif de chaque représentation ne pourra être modifié.

XXXVII. Les

App. No. 4.

XXXVII. Les directeurs ne doivent émettre aucun billet indiquant plusieurs catégories de places, au choix des spectateurs; réciproquement, ceuxci ne peuvent s'installer qu'aux places portées sur leurs billets.

XXXVIII. Ils ne peuvent louer à l'avance que les loges et les places converties en fauteuils ou en stalles, ou, dans tous les cas, numérotées.

La location doit cesser avant l'heure de l'introduction du public dans la salle.

XXXIX. Les places louées doivent être inscrites sur la feuille de location; l'étiquette indicative ne peut être placée que sur celles qui figureront sur ladite feuille.

XL. Il est enjoint aux directeurs de faire remettre au commissaire de police de service, avant l'introduction du public, un double de la feuille de location.

Entrée.—Police extérieure.

XLI. La salle devra être livrée au public et la représentation commencera aux heures indiquées par l'affiche.

Les bureaux de distribution des billets devront être ouverts au moins une demi-heure avant le lever du rideau.

XLII. Il est défendu d'introduire des spectateurs dans la salle avant l'ouverture des bureaux.

Aucun spectateur n'entrera que par les portes ouvertes au public.

Les files d'attente seront établies hors de la voie publique.

XLIII. Il est défendu de s'arrêter dans les péristyles et vestibules servant d'entrées aux théâtres et de stationner aux abords de ces établissements.

XLIV. Il ne peut y avoir pour le service public, à l'entrée des théâtres, que des commissionnaires permissionnés par nous et porteurs de leurs insignes réglementaires.

Prohibition de vente de billets ou contremarques sur la voie publique.

XLV. La vente et l'offre de billets ou contremarques et le racolage, ayant ce trafic pour objet, sont formellement interdits sur la voie publique.

XLVI. Tout individu trouvé vendant ou offrant des billets ou contremarques sur la voie publique, ou racolant pour en procurer aux passants, sur lieu ou dans une localité quelconque, sera conduit devant le commissaire de police qui avisera.

Depôt des armes, cannes et parapluies au vestiaire.

XLVII. Il est défendu d'entrer au parterre et aux amphithéâtres avec des armes, cannes ou parapluies. Un vestiaire destiné à recevoir ces objets en dépôt sera établi dans chaque théâtre, de telle sorte que la circulation ne soit pas gênée.

Un exemplaire du tarif fixé par l'arrêté de police du 10 Décembre 1841 sera affiché au vestiaire.

Police intérieure de la salle et de la sortie.

XLVIII. Il est enjoint aux directeurs de faire fermer, pendant le spectacle, les portes de communication de la salle aux coulisses, aux foyers particuliers et aux loges des artistes, où il ne doit être admis aucune personne étrangère au service du théâtre.

Une clef de la porte communiquant de l'intérieur de la salle à la scène sera mise, avant la représentation, à la disposition du commissaire de police de service.

XLIX. Il est défendu de placer des siéges, chaises ou tabourets dans les passages ménagés pour la circulation, notamment des personnes se rendant à l'orchestre, au parterre, aux galeries et aux amphithéâtres.

L. Il est défendu de parler ou de circuler dans les corridors, pendant la représentation, de manière à troubler le spectacle.

LI. Il est également défendu, soit avant, soit après le lever du rideau, de troubler l'ordre en causant du tapage, en faisant entendre des interpellations ou des clameurs.

LII. Les spectateurs ne peuvent demander l'exécution d'un chant, morceau de musique ou récit quelconque qui n'est pas annoncé dans les affiches du jour.

LIII. Nul ne peut avoir le chapeau sur la tête lorsque le rideau est levé.

LIV. Il est défendu de fumer dans les salles de spectacle et sur la scène.

LV. Toutes les fois que dans une représentation on devra faire usage d'armes à feu, le commissaire de police s'assurera qu'elles ne sont chargées qu'à poudre.

LVI. Il ne peut être annoncé, vendu ou distribué dans l'intérieur comme à l'extérieur des salles de spectacle, d'autres écrits que des pièces de théâtre portant l'estampille du ministère, et les programmes de spectacle, journaux et imprimés dont la vente et la distribution ont été dûment autorisées.

LVII. Les objets perdus par le public et trouvés dans l'intérieur des salles de spectacle par les ouvreuses ou employés du théâtre, qui n'auront pu, pendant la représentation, être remis au commissaire de police de service, devront être déposés le lendemain au bureau du commissariat du quartier où est situé le théâtre.

LVIII. A la fin du spectacle, toutes les portes latérales et autres issues seront ouvertes pour faciliter la sortie du public.

Les battants de ces portes devront s'ouvrir en dehors, et leurs abords, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur, seront constamment libres de tout obstacle ou embarras.

Toutes les portes des loges s'ouvriront de l'intérieur et à la volonté des spectateurs.

LIX. Il est expressément défendu aux directeurs de faire cesser l'éclairage dans l'intérieur de la salle, dans les escaliers, corridors et vestibules avant l'entière évacuation du théâtre.

LX. Des lampes brûlant à l'huile, contenues dans des manchons de verre, allumées depuis l'entrée du public jusqu'à la sortie, seront placées en nombre

nombre suffisant, tant dans la salle que dans les corridors et escaliers, pour prévenir une complète obscurité, en cas d'extinction subite du gaz.

Heure de clôture.

LXI. L'heure de clôture des représentations théâtrales est fixée à minuit précis en tout temps.

Dans le cas de représentations extraordinaires ou à bénéfice, il pourra être dérogé à la règle, mais sur la demande expresse que devront nous adresser les directeurs.

Circulation des voitures.

LXII. Les voitures ne peuvent arriver aux différents théâtres que par les voies désignées dans les consignes.

Il est défendu aux cochers de quitter, sous quelque prétexte que ce soit, les rênes de leurs chevaux pendant que descendent et montent les personnes qui occupent la voiture.

LXIII. Les voitures particulières ou retenues, destinées à attendre jusqu'à la fin du spectacle, doivent aller stationner sur les points désignés.

LXIV. A la sortie du spectacle, les voitures qui auront attendu ne pourront se mettre en mouvement que lorsque la première foule se sera écoulée.

LXV. Les voitures de place ne chargeront qu'après le défilé des autres voitures.

LXVI. Aucune voiture ne pourra aller qu'au pas et sur une seule file jusqu'à ce qu'elle soit sortie des rues avoisinant le théâtre.

DISPOSITIONS GÉNÉRALES.

LXVII. Les directeurs des théâtres subventionnés restent soumis envers l'Administration aux clauses et conditions de leurs cahiers des charges. En conséquence, la présente ordonnance ne leur est applicable que sous les réserves résultant de leur situation exceptionnelle.

LXVIII. Sont astreints, comme par le passé, à notre autorisation préalable, et par conséquent laissés en dehors de la présente ordonnance, les *cafés-concerts* et *cafés* dits *chantants* où les exécutions instrumentales ou vocales doivent avoir lieu en habit de ville, sans costume ni travestissement, sans décors et sans mélange de prose, de danse et de pantomime, les spectacles de curiosités, de physique, de magie, les panoramas, dioramas, tirs, feux d'artifice, expositions d'animaux, exercices équestres, spectacles forains et autres exhibitions du même genre, qui n'ont ni un emplacement durable, ni une construction solide.

LXIX. Sont et demeurent rapportés les ordonnances et arrêtés précédents, en contradiction ou en double emploi avec la présente, notamment les ordonnances des 9 Juin 1829, 26 Décembre 1832, 3 Octobre 1837, 22 Novembre 1838, 7 Mars 1839, 15 Juin 1841, 23 Novembre 1843, 30 Mars 1844; l'arrêté du 11 Mars 1845; et les ordonnances des 8 Mars 1852 et 16 Mars 1857.

LXX. La présente ordonnance sera imprimée, publiée et affichée à Paris et dans les communes du ressort de la Préfecture de Police. Elle sera apposée, au moins en extrait, dans des cadres grillés placés en permanence sous les vestibules et dans les corridors des salles de spectacle, sur les points où la circulation n'en serait pas gênée.

Sont chargés d'en assurer l'exécution, chacun en ce qui le concerne:

A Paris, le commissaire chef de la police municipale, les commissaires de police, inspecteurs divisionnaires, officiers de paix et autres préposés de la Préfecture de Police;

Et dans les villes et communes du département de la Seine et du département de Seine-et-Oise placées sous notre juridiction, les sous-préfets des arrondissements de Saint-Denis et de Sceaux, les maires, commissaires de police et tous les agents de la force publique.

Le colonel de la garde de Paris, le colonel de la 1re légion de gendarmerie, le lieutenant-colonel commandant les sapeurs-pompiers et le commandant de la gendarmerie de la Seine sont requis de concourir à son exécution.

Le Préfet de Police,
Boittelle.

Par le Préfet de Police:
Le Secrétaire-général,
G. Jarry.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Boucicault.*

App. No. 4. The DECREE concerning the Liberty of the Theatres, copied from the "Moniteur Universel" of the 7th of January 1864.

NAPOLEON,

Par la grâce de Dieu et la volonté nationale Empereur des Français,

À tous présents et à venir, salut:

Vu les décrets des 8 Juin 1806 et 29 Juillet 1807;

Vu l'ordonnance du 8 Décembre 1824;

Vu l'article 3, titre XI., de la loi des 16 et 24 Août 1790;

Vu les arrêtés du gouvernement des 25 Pluviose et 11 Germinal, an 4, 1er Germinal, an 7, et 12 Messidor, an 8;

Vu les ordonnances de police des 12 Février 1828 et 9 Juin 1829;

Vu la loi du 7 Frimaire, an 5, et le décret du 9 Décembre 1809, sur la redevance établie au profit des pauvres ou des hospices;

Vu le décret du 30 Décembre 1852;

Notre Conseil d'État entendu,

Avons décrété et décrétons ce qui suit:

Article 1er. Tout individu peut faire construire et exploiter un théâtre à la charge de faire une déclaration au Ministère de notre Maison et des Beaux Arts, et à la Préfecture de Police pour Paris; à la préfecture dans les départements.

Les théâtres qui paraitront plus particulièrement dignes d'encouragement pourront être subventionnés, soit par l'État, soit par les communes.

Art. 2. Les entrepreneurs de théâtres devront se conformer aux ordonnances, décrets et règlements pour tout ce qui concerne l'ordre, la sécurité et la salubrité publics.

Continuéront d'être exécutées les lois existantes sur la police et la fermeture des théâtres, ainsi que sur la redevance établie au profit des pauvres et des hospices.

Art. 3. Toute œuvre dramatique, avant d'être représentée, devra, aux termes du décret du 30 Décembre 1852, être examinée et autorisée par le Ministre de notre Maison et des Beaux Arts, pour les théâtres de Paris; par les préfets pour les théâtres des départements.

Cette autorisation pourra toujours être retirée pour des motifs d'ordre public.

Art. 4. Les ouvrages dramatiques de tous les genres, y compris les pièces entrées dans la domaine publique, pourront être représentées sur tous les théâtres.

Art. 5. Les théâtres d'acteurs enfants continuent d'être interdits.

Art. 6. Les spectacles de curiosité, de marionnettes, les cafés dits cafés-chantants et autres établissements du même genre, restent soumis aux réglements présentement en vigueur.

Toutefois ces divers établissements seront désormais affranchis de la redevance établie par l'article 11 de l'ordonnance du 8 Décembre 1824, en faveur des directeurs des départements, et ils n'auront à supporter aucun prélèvement autre que la redevance au profit des pauvres ou des hospices.

Article 7. Les directeurs actuels des théâtres autres que les théâtres subventionnés, sont et demeurent affranchis envers l'administration de toutes les clauses et conditions de leur cahier des charges, en tant qu'elles sont contraires au présent décret.

Art. 8. Sont abrogées toutes les dispositions des décrets, ordonnances et règlements dans ce qu'elles sont de contraire au présent décret.

Art. 9. Le Ministre de notre Maison et des Beaux Arts est chargé de l'exécution du présent décret, qui sera inséré au "Bulletin des Lois," et recevra son exécution à partir du 1er Juillet 1864.

Fait au palais des Tuileries le 6 Janvier 1864.

(signé) *Napoleon.*

Par l'Empereur,

Le Maréchal de France, Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur et des Beaux Arts,

(signé) *Vaillant.*

Préfecture de Police.

EXTRAIT de l'ORDONNANCE du 1er Juillet 1864, concernant les Théâtres.

Service d'Ordre et de Police.

Art. 24. Un commissaire de police est chargé de la surveillance générale de chaque théâtre.

Une place convenable lui sera assignée dans l'intérieur de la salle.

25. Tout individu arrêté, soit à la porte du théâtre, soit à l'intérieur de la salle, doit être conduit devant le commissaire de police, qui statuera.

27. Il y aura dans chaque salle de spectacle un service médical organisé conformément à l'arrêté de police du 12 Mai 1852.

Urinoirs

Urinoirs.

Art. 29. Les directeurs feront établir des urinoirs, fixes ou mobiles, appropriés aux localités et dans des conditions de convenance et de salubrité que l'autorité appréciera.

Changement dans le Spectacle du Jour.—Publication des Prix.—Billets.—Location.

Art. 35. Les changements survenus dans le spectacle du jour ne pourront être annoncés que par des bandes de papier blanc appliquées sur les affiches du jour, avant l'ouverture de la salle au public.

Il est interdit aux directeurs d'annoncer ces changements par de nouvelles affiches imprimées, quelle que soit la couleur du papier.

36. Le tarif du prix des places, pour chaque représentation, devra toujours être indiqué très-ostensiblement sur les affiches, en même temps que la composition des spectacles annoncés.

Un exemplaire sera apposé au bureau du théâtre et à tous autres qui pourraient être établis comme succursales.

Le dit tarif devra être inscrit en tête de chaque feuille de location, pour que le public soit toujours utilement averti de ses variations.

Une fois annoncé, le tarif de chaque représentation ne pourra être modifié.

37. Les directeurs ne doivent émettre aucun billet indiquant plusieurs catégories de places, au choix des spectateurs; réciproquement, ceux-ci ne peuvent s'installer qu'aux places portées sur leurs billets.

38. Ils ne peuvent louer à l'avance que les loges et les places converties en fauteuils ou en stalles, ou, dans tous les cas, numérotées.

La location doit cesser avant l'heure de l'introduction du public dans la salle.

39. Les places louées doivent être inscrites sur la feuille de location; l'étiquette indicative ne peut être placée que sur celles qui figureront sur ladite feuille.

40. Il est enjoint aux directeurs de faire remettre au commissaire de police de service, avant l'introduction du public, un double de la feuille de location.

Entrée.—Police Extérieure.

Art. 41. La salle devra être livrée au public et la représentation commencera aux heures indiquées par l'affiche.

Les bureaux de distribution des billets devront être ouverts au moins une demi-heure avant le lever du rideau.

42. Il est défendu d'introduire des spectateurs dans la salle avant l'ouverture des bureaux.

Aucun spectateur n'entrera que par les portes ouvertes au public.

Les files d'attente seront établies hors de la voie publique.

43. Il est défendu de s'arrêter dans les péristyles et vestibules servant d'entrées aux théâtres et de stationner aux abords de ces établissements.

44. Il ne peut y avoir pour le service public, à l'entrée des théâtres, que des commissionnaires permissionnés par nous et porteurs de leurs insignes règlementaires.

Prohibition de Vente de Billets ou de Contremarques sur la Voie publique.

Art. 45. La vente et l'offre de billets ou de contremarques et le racolage, ayant ce trafic pour objet, sont formellement interdits sur la voie publique.

46. Tout individu trouvé vendant ou offrant des billets ou des contremarques sur la voie publique, ou racolant pour en procurer aux passants, sur lieu ou dans une localité quelconque, sera conduit devant le commissaire de police qui avisera.

Dépôt des Armes, Cannes et Parapluies au Vestiaire.

Art. 47. Il est défendu d'entrer au parterre et aux amphithéâtres avec des armes, cannes ou parapluies. Un vestiaire destiné à recevoir ces objets en dépôt sera établi dans chaque théâtre, de telle sorte que la circulation ne soit pas gênée.

Un exemplaire du tarif fixé par l'arrêté de police du 10 Décembre 1841 sera affiché au vestiaire.

Police Intérieure de la Salle et de la Sortie.

Art. 48. Il est enjoint aux directeurs de faire fermer, pendant le spectacle, les portes de communication de la salle aux coulisses, aux foyers particuliers et aux loges des artistes, où il ne doit être admis aucune personne étrangère au service du théâtre.

Une clef de la porte communiquant de l'intérieur de la salle à la scène sera mise, avant la représentation, à la disposition du commissaire de police de service.

49. Il est défendu de placer des siéges, chaises ou tabourets dans les passages ménagés pour la circulation, notamment des personnes se rendant à l'orchestre, au parterre, aux galeries et aux amphithéâtres.

50. Il est défendu de parler ou de circuler dans les corridors, pendant la représentation, de manière à troubler le spectacle.

51. Il est également défendu, soit avant, soit après le lever du rideau, de troubler l'ordre en causant du tapage, en faisant entendre des interpellations ou des clameurs.

52. Les spectateurs ne peuvent demander l'exécution d'un chant, morceau de musique ou récit quelconque qui n'est pas annoncé dans les affiches du jour.

53. Nul ne peut avoir le chapeau sur la tête lorsque le rideau est levé.

54. Il est défendu de fumer dans les salles de spectacle et sur la scène.

57. Les objets perdus par le public et trouvés dans l'intérieur des salles de spectacle par les ouvreuses ou employés du théâtre, qui n'auront pu, pendant la représentation, être remis au commissaire de police de service, devront être déposés le lendemain au bureau du commissariat du quartier où est situé le théâtre.

58. À la fin du spectacle, toutes les portes latérales et autres issues seront ouvertes pour faciliter la sortie du public.

Les battants de ces portes devront s'ouvrir en dehors, et leurs abords, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur, seront constamment libres de tout obstacle ou embarras.

Toutes les portes des loges s'ouvriront de l'intérieur et à la volonté des spectateurs.

Heure de Clôture.

Art. 61. L'heure de clôture des représentations théâtrales est fixée à minuit précis en tout temps.

Dans le cas de représentations extraordinaires ou à bénéfice, il pourra être dérogé à la règle, mais sur la demande expresse que devront nous adresser les directeurs.

App. No. 4.

Circulation des Voitures.

Art. 62. Les voitures ne peuvent arriver aux différents théâtres que par les voies désignées dans les consignes.

Il est défendu aux cochers de quitter, sous quelque prétexte que ce soit, les rênes de leurs chevaux pendant que descendent et montent les personnes qui occupent la voiture.

63. Les voitures particulières ou retenues, destinées à attendre jusqu'à la fin du spectacle, doivent aller stationner sur les points désignés.

64. À la sortie du spectacle, les voitures qui auront attendu ne pourront se mettre en mouvement que lorsque la première foule se sera écoulée.

65. Les voitures de place ne chargeront qu'après le défilé des autres voitures.

66. Aucune voiture ne pourra aller qu'au pas et sur une seule file jusqu'à ce qu'elle soit sortie des rues avoisinant le théâtre.

Le Préfet de Police,
Boittelle.

Pour copie conforme :

Le Secrétaire-général,
G. Jarry.

Appendix, No. 5.

PAPERS handed in by Captain *Shaw*.

Captain *E. M. Shaw's* Remarks on the SCHEDULE of the BILL to amend the LAW relating to THEATRES, &c., June 1866.

The Right Honourable G. J. Goschen, M. P., Chairman of the Select Committee on Theatrical Licenses and Regulations, 1866. App. No. 5.

Metropolitan Board of Works Fire Brigade,
Sir, Chief Station, Watling-street, E.C., London, 4 June 1866.

IN compliance with the wish of the Select Committee, I have the honour to offer the following remarks on the Schedule of the Bill to amend the Law relating to Theatres and other Places of Public Amusement.

No. 1. "Every hall and corridor shall have a clear width proportionate to the "number of persons to be accommodated in that part of the building to which such "hall or corridor leads, not being less in any case than five feet, and for each hundred "persons over five hundred, one foot more in width. But this rule does not apply to "private box lobbies or corridors, to which the public have not free access."

This regulation is good so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. I should recommend that most stringent regulations be laid down concerning the *material, construction,* and *size* of these important portions of a theatre. If they be separated from the risk of the other parts by double wrought iron doors, stone would be a proper material to use. If they be not so separated, brick would be the best material, or, if for any reason bricks could not be used, then hard timber, such as oak or ash, would be admissible, but on no account stone.

With regard to the construction, if stone be used, it should be laid on some strong substance capable of supporting it throughout, as stone supported at only one end is liable to be broken by either shock or change of temperature, and is therefore unsafe when exposed either to great heat or to the sudden rush which must take place whenever an alarm of any kind occurs in a theatre.

With regard to the size, it might be advantageously laid down as a rule, that on each landing there should be standing room for at least one-fourth of the persons accommodated in the corresponding floor of the theatre.

No. 2. "There shall be in each part of the building, doorway access of six feet at "least for each five hundred persons to be accommodated in such part, and one foot in "addition for each additional hundred persons to be accommodated in such part; and "no box or other internal doorway shall be less than three feet wide."

These doorways should be built, wherever practicable, the full width of the passage; and wherever this could not be done, the passage should be sloped inwards to the door, so as to avoid the risks inseparable from projecting walls during a rush of excited persons.

No. 3. "All doors shall be so hung as to open outwards, that is, towards the way "of egress."

On every floor at least one or two doors should be constructed to open *both ways*, as there may be, and generally are, heavy risks in other parts of a theatre besides that apportioned to the audience, and the egress from the refreshment-rooms, for instance, may be an ingress to the auditorium, or even in some cases to the stage.

No. 4. "During all times when the building is open to the public, all halls and "corridors shall be maintained free and clear in the direction of egress, and in that "direction unobstructed with barriers or other impediments."

Here again the allusion to *egress alone* appears to me to be undesirable. I should recommend that all the words following "free and clear" be struck out, and that the words "in all directions," be substituted for them.

No. 5. "All alleyways and gangways in those parts of the building where the public "are placed shall, during the times when the building is open to the public, be main-"tained free and clear of seats or other obstructions to the free ingress and egress of "the public, and shall be used as passages only."

App. No. 5.

This is an excellent regulation, and if strictly carried out, cannot fail to reduce materially one of the greatest risks at present existing in all public places of entertainment.

No. 6. "All gaslights in any part of the building which are or may be at any time "within two feet of any inflammable substance, shall be efficiently guarded with wire-"work, or other proper means of security against the communication of fire."

In this paragraph I should recommend an alteration and an addition. The limit of two feet is not sufficient; experience proves that the heat from a common gas jet has considerable effect on wood and other inflammable substances to a distance much greater than two feet, and in all, except the oldest theatres, it will be found possible to place the jets at least three feet from the ceilings. It would be advisable that all jets should be on fixed, *not swinging*, brackets, and that they should be protected on the top by hanging shades or guards not nearer than six inches to the ceilings. I should recommend that the gas meter of every theatre should be in a house or yard wholly separate from the main building, with abundant ventilation above and below, so as to allow a free and immediate exit to any gas that might escape, and thus prevent it accumulating to such an extent as to cause danger.

I enclose a copy of a Report made by me to the Insurance Companies last year, containing three paragraphs bearing on this subject. The first, which will be found in page 6, is on "Fire-proof Buildings," and, if the definition of such structures there given be correct, I think it must be conceded that no theatre can ever be considered fire-proof, and that, therefore, every possible precaution should be taken which may tend to the safety of the vast numbers of lives contained in such places. The other paragraphs referred to will be found in pages 10 and 11, under the head of "Lofty Buildings," and "Theatres, &c." respectively.

I enclose a list of the theatre fires alluded to in my reply to Question No. 6156, and I had intended to append a table with particulars of losses which have occurred in other places of public entertainment, not theatres; but I find so many buildings now made available for public entertainments which were originally constructed, and are still ordinarily used for totally different purposes, that I am obliged to come to the conclusion, that until some clear and precise definition is given as to what constitutes a place of public amusement, it will be impossible either to prepare a reliable history of the accidents which have occurred to such places in times passed, or to lay down rules which may be likely to obviate a recurrence of dangers for the future.

In conclusion, I have only to add that I take very considerable interest in this branch of the question now before the Select Committee; and that I shall be happy to afford any further information, or to assist their deliberations in any other way that may be in my power.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Eyre M. Shaw*,
Chief Officer, Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

LIST

LIST of FIRES which have taken place in London Theatres during the 33 Years ending 1st of January 1866.

Year.	Day of Month.	Time.	Name of Theatre.	Occupier.	Cause.	DAMAGE.
1833	July - 24	3½ a.m. -	Astley's Theatre, Westminster-road.	Ducrow and West - -	Gas - - -	Slight damage to stage fittings.
1834	Sept. - 4	¼ a.m. -	Sadler's Wells Theatre, St. John Street Road.	Richard Hughes - -	Gas - - -	Slight damage to scenery.
1835	Dec. - 16	¼ a.m. -	St. James's Theatre, King-street, St. James.	Braham - - -	Gas - - -	Window in front of building damaged.
1836	Mar. - 4	6 p.m. -	King's Theatre, Great Wind-mill-street.	Sawyer - - - -	Gas - - -	Slight damage to lower part of building.
1837	Mar. - 29	9½ a.m. -	Victoria Theatre, Waterloo-road.	Levy - - - -	Fireworks - -	Slight damage to old scenery under stage.
1838	Jan. - 18	6¾ p.m. -	Drury Lane Theatre - -	Unknown - - -	Escape of gas - -	Escape of gas on the roof.
1839	- - -	- - None.				
1840	- - -	- - None.				
1841	Mar. - 8	5½ p.m. -	Astley's Theatre - - -	Ducrow and West - -	Unknown - -	Flooring and joisting slightly damaged in cellar.
	June - 8	4½ a.m. -	Astley's Theatre - - -	Ducrow and West - -	Unknown - -	Theatre burned down, and front house nearly destroyed; servant girl burned to death (23 houses damaged).
	Oct. - 4	7 p.m. -	Victoria Theatre, Waterloo-road.	Osbaldiston - - -	Gas - - -	A calico scene burned in fly above the stage.
	Dec. - 6	10 p.m. -	Surrey Theatre, Blackfriars-road.	Davidge - - -	Smoking tobacco -	Some brown paper burned in paint room.
1842	- - -	- - None.				
1843	May - 15	7½ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street.	Maddox - - -	Curtain - - -	Some curtains slightly damaged.
	Dec. - 27	11¼ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - - -	Maddox - - -	Gas - - -	About one foot of wood ceiling burned in water closet behind the box circle on first floor.
1844	June - 4	11¾ a.m. -	Queen's Theatre, Tottenham-street.	James - - - -	Explosion of fireworks	Some fireworks, dresses, and shelves burned; ceiling and wall scorched in property-room at the back of stage.
1845	April - 18	1 a.m. -	Princess's Theatre - -	Maddox - - -	Overheat of wall from iron foundry adjoining.	A piece of timber burned in wall; skirting, flooring and joisting pulled up in cloak room.
	Aug. - 4	9 p.m. -	Earl of Effingham, Whitechapel-road.	Sims - - - -	Smoking tobacco -	Part of paper and canvas on ceiling burned, and joists slightly damaged.
1846	April - 5	6 p.m. -	Adelphi Theatre, Strand -	Webster and Manby -	Spark from fire -	A quantity of prepared work and boards burned; roof of carpenter's workshop scorched.
	Nov. - 4	4½ a.m. -	Garrick Theatre, Leman-street	Conquest and Gomersall -	Unknown - -	Theatre burned down, with the exception of staircase and principal entrance.

List of Fires which have taken place in London Theatres during the 33 Years ending 1st of January 1866—*continued.*

Year.	Day of Month.	Time.	Name of Theatre.	Occupier.	Cause.	DAMAGE.
1847	June - 26	11½ p.m. -	Astley's Theatre - - -	Batty - - - -	Carelessness of workmen.	Some calico covering and drapery of the Queen's box slightly burned, and front of gallery scorched.
	Sept. - 7	9½ p.m. -	Strand Theatre - - -	Cooper - - - -	Escape of gas - -	Gas batten burned at the back of the stage.
1848	Aug. - 20	11 p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - - -	Maddox - - -	Unknown - -	Several dresses, two chairs, and sofa partly burned; and green room slightly scorched, ground floor.
1849	Mar. - 29	5½ p.m. -	Olympic Theatre, Wych-street	Davidson and Captain Spicer.	Unknown - -	Theatre burned down (20 houses damaged).
	May - 26	¼ p.m. -	Sadler's Wells Theatre - -	Greenwood and Phelps -	Unknown - -	Firemen refused admittance.
1850	Mar. - 27	1 a.m. -	Surrey Theatre - - -	Shepherd and Creswick -	Doubtful - -	A piece of canvas, basket, and part of lining in wardrobe burned, back room, ground floor; some dresses damaged by water.
	Apr. - 23	6½ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - -	Maddox - - -	Gas - - -	Part of holland covering of boxes and kettle drum burned, and private box slightly damaged.
	June - 30	9¾ a.m. -	Rotunda, Blackfriars-road -	McKay - - - -	Smoking tobacco -	Some wearing apparel burned in front attic.
	July - 5	12 p m. -	Pavilion Theatre, Whitechapel-road.	Thorne - - - -	Fireworks thrown from street.	Front room, second-floor, over entrance, used as a store room, and contents severely damaged by fire; furniture and ceiling under by water.
1851	- - -	- -	None.			
1852	- - -	- -	None.			
1853	July - 27	2¾ a.m. -	Circus, Islington-fields - -	Barton - - - -	Unknown - -	Timber building, used as a circus, burned down (7 horses and 11 dogs burned to death).
	Aug. - 26	10 p.m. -	Cremorne Gardens, Chelsea -	Simpson - - -	Explosion - -	Roof, side of shed, and some fireworks burned.
1854	Sept. - 5	9½ p.m. -	Cremorne Gardens - -	Simpson - - -	Gas - - -	Part of riding circus burned, and rafters scorched.
	Oct. - 25	5½ a.m. -	Queen's Theatre - - -	James - - - -	Unknown - -	Flooring, joisting, and scenery burned; back of stage and door broken open.
1855	- - -	- -	None.			
1856	Feb. - 13	7¼ a.m. -	Pavilion Theatre - - -	Hutchings and Connorton	Unknown - -	Theatre burned down; passage and staircase of front entrance damaged by fire.
	Mar. - 5	4¾ a.m. -	Covent Garden Theatre - -	- - - - -	Unknown - -	Theatre burned down.
	Apr. - 13	¼ a.m. -	Drury Lane Theatre - -	- - - - -	Unknown - -	Large fire annihilator burst on the stage; the conductor seriously hurt.
	Oct. - 25	5½ p.m. -	Surrey Theatre - - -	- - - - -	Plumbers at work -	Part of facia and roof of portico damaged by fire, and cutting away.
1857	May - 13	10¾ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - -	C. Kean - - -	Gas - - -	A velvet curtain partly burned on the stage.
	July - 31	6¼ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - - -	Maddox - - -	Carelessness, lighting gas.	Gauze curtains, battens, and drugget burned on stage, and girder over flies scorched.
1858	Dec. - 37	7 p.m.	Penny Theatre, Shoreditch -	Coke - - - -	Unknown - -	Some scenery burned; firemen refused admittance.

1859	March - 6	¼ a.m. -	Britannia Circus, St. George-street.	Bonner - - - -	Unknown - -	About 30 dresses burned, and canvas over stage considerably damaged by fire.
	June - 29	5½ p.m. -	Surrey Theatre - - -	Shepherd and Creswick -	Unknown - -	Some stage dresses burned, and skylight broken in dressing-room, ground floor.
	Nov. - 25	½ a.m. -	Penny Theatre, Edgware-road	Bailey - - - -	Coke fire on stage -	Flooring of pit and front of stage burned.
1860	April - 10	9¼ p.m. -	Pavilion Theatre - - -	Douglas - - -	Gas - - -	Some scenery damaged by fire on stage.
	Dec. - 11	4 p.m. -	Alhambra Palace, Leicester-square.	E. T. Smith - - -	Escape of gas - -	Wood work of blocked-up window burned in front area.
1861	- - -	- - None.				
1862	- - -	- - None.				
1863	June - 4	½ a.m. -	Exhibition, Strand - -	Brooks - - - -	Burning white fire -	Drop curtain, floor cloth, and flooring slightly damaged by fire on stage.
	Dec. - 6	8 p.m. -	Earl of Effingham Theatre -	Abrahams - - -	Gas - - -	Side wings and flats damaged by fire; machinery and scenery by water.
1864	April - 11	10¾ p.m. -	Earl of Effingham Theatre -	Abrahams - - -	Unknown - -	Some scenery damaged by fire.
1865	Jan. - 30	12 p.m. -	Surrey Theatre - - -	- - - - -	Unknown - -	Theatre and contents all but destroyed.
	May - 24	9 p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - -	Vining - - - -	Escape of gas - -	India rubber gas pipe burned over entrance.
	June - 11	6½ a.m. -	Adelphi Theatre - - -	Webster - - -	Lighted tobacco -	About 4 feet of flooring damaged by fire and cutting away in front entrance.
	Oct. - 30	10 p.m. -	Queen's Theatre, Richmond-Green.	- - - - -	Gas - - -	About 12 feet of beam, flies, and scenery damaged by fire and water.
	Nov. - 25	7½ p.m. -	Princess's Theatre - -	Vining - - - -	Escape of gas - -	Facia and gas fittings damaged by fire, and breakage over front entrance.

Eyre M. Shaw,
Chief Officer, Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

Remarks by Captain *Shaw*.

Fireproof Buildings.

App. No. 5.

Much has been said of late concerning so-called "fireproof" buildings, but so little attention appears to have been paid to the real meaning of the term fireproof, that I think a few words on the subject may not be out of place in this Report.

In treating of fireproof structures, especial reference must be made not only to the style, materials, and capacity of the building itself, but also to the nature, quantity, and classification of its contents. These points are so inextricably mixed up together that they are quite inseparable, and, as far as my judgment goes, much evil is done by the ordinary use of the expression fireproof, and by those unmeaning and mischievous statements in which warehouses to be let or sold are designated fireproof, thus utterly ignoring the obvious fact that with regard to risk of fire the contents of a building are of much greater importance than the building itself.

Thus a building, which would be perfectly fireproof as an office or a private dwelling-house, might be most dangerous and inflammable, if converted into a factory or a warehouse.

A building, to be truly fireproof, should be divided into compartments, and so constructed that the contents of any one compartment might be consumed by fire without calcining, melting, or otherwise destroying the surrounding horizontal and upright partitions, and therefore without communicating fire to the other rooms or floors.

In such a building, even without the attendance of firemen and engines, no fire could destroy a greater quantity of property than the contents of one compartment; but the probability is, that in every case the firemen would be able to realise a large salvage, and thus repay for any additional outlay which might attend the improved construction.

Lofty Buildings.

Space being so valuable in London and ground rent so heavy, buildings have been erected within the last few years to such a height as to render it more than doubtful whether effective aid from without, in case of fire, can be calculated on with any of the appliances at present in use, either here or elsewhere. It is true that improved machinery has supplied the power of forcing water in pipes to a much greater height than the top of any of these buildings, but ordinary leather hose can hardly be relied on to stand so much pressure, except under the most favourable conditions; and, if stronger hose were substituted, its increased weight would render it a difficult matter for the firemen to lay it out and move it about with that quickness on which their success in extinguishing fires entirely depends. The difficulty at present so frequently encountered of obtaining access to the upper parts of lofty buildings beyond the reach of ordinary ladders, when the lower floors are alight and communication with the staircases cut off, makes it very desirable that, in all buildings exceeding 60 feet in height, there should be a ladder, stairs, or other means of obtaining access to each floor from without, and that there should be an abundant supply of water at an elevation of at least 20 feet above the highest part of the roof, with proper mains, service pipes, and hydrants to distribute the water all over the building, so that, in the event of a fire happening in the upper stories or roof, there would be a sufficient head or pressure of water from this source to check it at an early stage, or, failing this, to keep it under some control until the arrival of powerful aid. Many large buildings in London are supplied with water in cisterns on or under the roofs, but this is by no means sufficient, inasmuch as without engines the water cannot be made available for the roof itself, or even for the top floors, as the pressure of a column of 10 or 15 feet of water is not enough to open the ordinary hose. Even in many of the old buildings much improvement might be made at a trifling cost by introducing cisterns into the domes or other ornamental elevations on the roofs, without in any way altering their appearance, or interfering with the light.

Theatres, &c.

In theatres and other places of public amusement there appears to be much room for improvement.

A simple arrangement might be made to divide such places into at least two distinct risks, the stage being in one and the audience in the other. This could be accomplished by building a complete party or fire-wall across the whole building, except where the curtain hangs, and close by the curtain might be suspended a revolving iron shutter with a considerable overlap, which could be lowered at a moment's notice to cut off the risk from

from one portion of the building, thus ensuring to the firemen and others an immediate entry to at least a portion of the premises, and so enabling them to give early and effective aid. The roofs, which are now the most dangerous parts of such places, might with advantage be constructed of iron or other light metal, and divided as before mentioned; and it should be absolutely prohibited to use any portion of the roof, as at present, for either workshops or store-rooms. The curtains, wings, flies, slides, the whole of the stage, and many other parts, might be occasionally washed or soaked in a mixture of alum and water, or some similar substance, which would have the effect of rendering them less inflammable, and, even in the event of their catching fire, would entirely prevent that sudden blazing up which at present constitutes the great risk in all such places. The transverse fire-wall should be perforated at every floor, even to the basement under the stage, and the openings fitted with double wrought-iron doors. Every door for exit should be made to open outwards, and such a space allowed for this purpose that the building could be cleared of the whole audience within five minutes of the time of giving the alarm. If, in addition to this, a separate place of exit were provided for each floor or landing, the probability of a serious panic, with the delay consequent thereon, would be much reduced, the firemen would be enabled to get to their work sooner, and would, I have no doubt, be more successful in stopping a serious fire, than they can hope to be under the existing arrangements.

I N D E X

TO THE

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

THEATRICAL LICENSES AND REGULATIONS.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
28 *June* 1866.

373—I.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

ALPHABETICAL and CLASSIFIED LIST of the PRINCIPAL HEADINGS in the following INDEX, with the Paging at which they will respectively be found.

PAGE

ACTORS:

1. *Want of good Actors since the abolition of the Privileges of the Patent Theatres* - 1
2. *Salaries of Actors; effect of the Music Halls Thereon* - - - - - - - - 2
3. *Effect of Music Halls upon the Art of Acting* - - - - - - - - 2
4. *Adverse feeling of Actors towards the Music Halls* - - - - - - - - 3
5. *Generally as to the present supply of Acting Talent* - - - - - - - 3

Drama, The - - - - - - - - 19
France - - - - - - - - - 24
Leclercq, Miss Carlotta - - - - - 32
Robson, The late Mr. - - - - - - 53
School of Dramatic Art - - - - - 54

ALHAMBRA:

1. *Licenses under which Conducted: refusal of a Lord Chamberlain's License* - - 3
2. *Representations as to the expediency of a Theatrical License being granted* - - 4
3. *Legal Proceedings against Mr. Strange* - 4
4. *Character of the Audiences: Question as to Disorderly or Immoral Behaviour* - - 4
5. *Particulars in connection with the Canteen* 5
6. *Precautions against Fire* - - - - - 5
7. *Details generally as to the Conduct of the Place and the Character of the Entertainments* - - - - - - - - 5

Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39

Audiences (Music Halls) - - - - - - - 6
Alhambra, 4 - - - - - - - - 4
Birmingham - - - - - - - - 7
Cambridge Music Hall - - - - - - 11
Immorality, 1 - - - - - - - - 29

Ballets and Ballet Dancers - - - - - - - 6
Alhambra - - - - - - - - - 3
Dancing Licenses - - - - - - - 17
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39

Beaumont Institution - - - - - - - 6
Literary Institutions - - - - - - - 33
Mr. Toole - - - - - - - - - 62

PAGE

CENSORSHIP:

1. *Particulars as to the Exercise of the Censorship of Plays* - - - - - - 11
2. *Approval of the Censorship as a Check upon objectionable Matter* - - - - - 12
3. *Absence of Check upon Dramatic Authorship* 13
4. *Suggestions for an extension of the Censorship to the Performances in Music Halls* 13
5. *Evidence opposed to a Censorship either as regards Music Halls or Theatres* - - 13
6. *Question of an Appeal from the Decisions of the Censor* - - - - - - 13
7. *Objection to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer* - - - - - 13
8. *Approval of the Censorship by the Committee, with Suggestions for its Extension* 13

Act 10 Geo. 2 - - - - - - - - 1
Examiner of Plays - - - - - - - 23
France - - - - - - - - - 24
"La Traviata" - - - - - - - 32
"Lola Montes" - - - - - - - 34
"Never Too Late to Mend" - - - - 43
Pantomimes - - - - - - - - 46
Withdrawal of Plays - - - - - - 66

COMPETITION:

1. *Between Theatres* - - - - - - 14
2. *Between Music Halls* - - - - - 14
3. *Between Music Halls and Theatres* - - 15

Drama, The - - - - - - - - 19
Foreign Countries - - - - - - - 24
France - - - - - - - - - 24
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39
New York - - - - - - - - 43
Number of Theatres - - - - - - - 43
Paris - - - - - - - - - 44
Refreshments - - - - - - - - 52
United States - - - - - - - - 63

COUNTRY THEATRES:

1. *As to the Number and Condition of the Theatres in Country Towns* - - 15
2. *As to the Licensing and Supervision of the Country Theatres* - - - - - 16
3. *As to the Effect upon Country Theatres of Licensing Music Halls for the Drama* - 16

Birmingham - - - - - - - - 7
Liverpool, 1 - - - - - - - - 33
Manchester - - - - - - - - 37
Sheffield - - - - - - - - - 55
Travelling Theatres - - - - - - 62

PAGE

Dancing Licenses - - - - - - - - 17
Caldwell's Dancing Rooms - - - - - 11
Magistrates' Licenses - - - - - - 36
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39
Public Houses - - - - - - - - 51

Drama, The:
1. *Views of Dramatic Authors upon the present Restrictions as to Theatrical Licenses* - 19
2. *System of Payment of Dramatic Authors* - 20
3. *State of the Drama at the present Time, and Character of the Supply of Plays* - 20
4. *Character of the Demand for Good Plays* - 21
5. *Objections to the Performance of the Drama in the presence of Eating, Drinking, and Smoking* - - - - - - - 21
6. *Improbability of any Successful Representation of the Drama in Music Halls* - 21

Actors - - - - - - - - - 1
Alhambra, 2 - - - - - - - - 4
Beaumont Institution - - - - - - 6
Burlesques - - - - - - - - 6
Censorship - - - - - - - - 11
Copyright - - - - - - - - 15
Country Theatres - - - - - - 15
Criticism - - - - - - - - - 17
Foreign Countries - - - - - - - 24
France - - - - - - - - - 24
Lord Chamberlain's Department - - - - 34
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39
Paris - - - - - - - - - 44
Patent Theatres - - - - - - - 45
Piracy of French Plays - - - - - 45
Profits of Theatres - - - - - - 50
Public Taste - - - - - - - 51
School of Dramatic Art - - - - - 54
United States - - - - - - - - 63

Examiner of Plays - - - - - - - - 23
Censorship - - - - - - - - 11

Excise Licenses - - - - - - - - 23

Fire - - - - - - - - - - 23

France - - - - - - - - - - 24
Paris - - - - - - - - - 44

Illegal Performances - - - - - - - 28
Legal Proceedings - - - - - - - 32

Immorality:
1. *Music Halls* - - - - - - - 29
2. *Theatres* - - - - - - - - 29

Alhambra, 4, 5 - - - - - - - - 5
Censorship - - - - - - - - 11
Saloons in Theatres - - - - - - 54
Women of the Town - - - - - - - 66

Legal Proceedings - - - - - - - - 32
Alhambra, 3 - - - - - - - - 4
Illegal Performances - - - - - - - 28

Liverpool:
1. *Theatres* - - - - - - - - 33
2. *Music Halls, &c.* - - - - - - 33
3. *Public Houses* - - - - - - - 33
4. *Literary Institutions* - - - - - 34

Lord Chamberlain's Department (Licensing System):
1. *Powers and Practice of the Lord Chamberlain in the Licensing of Theatres* - 34
2. *Question of Licensing a New Theatre contemplated by Mr. Boucicault* - - 34

Lord Chamberlain's Department, &c.—continued. PAGE
3. *Evidence in Approval generally of the Present System* - - - - - - 35
4. *Exception taken to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer* - - - - - 35
5. *Question of an Appeal to the Home Secretary* - - - - - - - 35
6. *Suggestions for largely extending the Jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, and for the Licensing by him of both Music Halls and Theatres* - - - - - - 35
7. *Increase of Staff to be required if the Jurisdiction be extended* - - - - - 36
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - - - - - - - 36

Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36 - - - - - - - 1
Alhambra, 1 - - - - - - - - 3
Ballets - - - - - - - - - 6
Beaumont Institution - - - - - - 6
Censorship - - - - - - - - 11
Conflict of Jurisdiction - - - - - - 15
Country Theatres - - - - - - - 15
Drama, The - - - - - - - - 19
Forms of License - - - - - - - 24
Holborn Theatre - - - - - - - 27
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39
Number of Theatres - - - - - - 43
Public Safety - - - - - - - - 51

Magistrates' Licenses - - - - - - - 36
Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36 - - - - - - - 1
Alhambra, 1 - - - - - - - - 3
Country Theatres - - - - - - - 15
Dancing Licenses - - - - - - - 17
Fees for Licenses - - - - - - - 23
Liverpool - - - - - - - - - 33
Lord Chamberlain's Department - - - 34
Music Halls - - - - - - - - 39
Sheffield - - - - - - - - - 55
Travelling Theatres - - - - - - - 62

Music Halls:
1. *Objections to Dramatic Representations in Music Halls* - - - - - - 39
2. *Proposition by Mr. Stanley for Permission to employ Five or Six Performers* - 39
3. *Suggestions as to the Class of Pieces to be permitted and likely to be produced* - 40
4. *Question of defining by Act the Performances to be allowed* - - - - - 41
5. *Disapproval of Permission to produce Light Pieces, or to employ Five or Six Performers* 41
6. *Generally as to the Licensing and Supervision of Music Halls* - - - - 41
7. *Conduct of the Music Halls; their effect upon the Theatres* - - - - 42
8. *Cost and Accommodation* - - - 42
9. *Conclusions of the Committee* - - - 42

Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36 - - - - - - - 1
Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68 - - - - - - - 1
Actors - - - - - - - - - 1
Alhambra - - - - - - - - - 3
Audiences - - - - - - - - 6
Ballets - - - - - - - - - 6
Birmingham - - - - - - - - 7
Burlesques - - - - - - - - 11
Cambridge Music Hall - - - - - - 11
Canterbury Hall - - - - - - - 11
Censorship, 4. 5 - - - - - - - - 13
Competition, 2. 3 - - - - - - - 14
Compromise - - - - - - - - 15
Conflict of Jurisdiction - - - - - 15
Dancing Licenses - - - - - - - 17
Drama, The - - - - - - - - 19

Music Halls—continued. PAGE

Drunkenness - 22
Duologue - 22
Ethiopian Entertainments - 22
Evans's - 23
Excise License - 23
Fees for Licenses - 23
Forms of License - 24
France - 24
Germany - 25
Illegal Performances - 28
Immorality, 1 - 29
Legal Proceedings - 32
Liverpool, 2 - 33
Lord Chamberlain's Department - 34
Magistrates' Licenses - 36
Metropolitan Music Hall - 38
Operas - 44
Oxford, The - 44
Paris - 44
Police Supervision - 46
Public Houses - 51
Public Taste - 51
Refreshments - 52
Renewal of Licenses - 53
St. James's Hall - 54
Scenic Representations - 54
Sheffield - 55
Smoking - 57
Strand Music Hall - 58

Number of Theatres - 43
Competition - 14

PAGE

Paris - 44
France - 24

Police Supervision - 46
Penny Gaffs - 45
Unlicensed Places - 63

Public Safety - 51
Dangerous Performances - 17
Egress from Theatres - 22
Fire - 23
Foot Lights - 24
Holborn Theatre - 27
Inspection of Buildings - 30
Interiors of Theatres - 30
Lord Chamberlain's Department, 1 - 34
Paris - 44

Refreshments (Theatres and Music Halls) - 52
Alhambra, 7 - 5
Drama, The, 5 - 21
Excise License - 23

Sheffield - 55

Travelling Theatres - 62

United States - 63
New York - 43

Unlicensed Places - 63
Beer Houses - 7
Penalties - 45

I N D E X.

[*N.B.*—In this Index the *Figures* following the Names of the Witnesses refer to the Questions in the Evidence; those following *App.* to the Pages in the Appendix; and the *Numerals* following *Rep.* to the Pages in the Report.]

A.

Accommodation (*London Theatres*). Insufficiency of the accommodation in the theatres, if several of them had attractive pieces at the same time, *Hollingshead* 5250–5253.

Statement of the number of persons who can be accommodated in each of the metropolitan theatres, *App.* 293. 295.

Act 10 *Geo.* 2 (1737). Origin of the Act 10 Geo. 2, on account of passages held to be objectionable in the "Beggar's Opera," and as a check upon the representation of plays of a political character, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 5–13——Regulation of theatres by the Act 10 Geo. 2 from the year 1737, till the passing of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. in 1843, *ib.* 14.

Act 25 *Geo.* 2, *c.* 36. Defects of the Act 25 Geo. 2, by which the justices are guided in granting licenses for music and dancing, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 139–141. 364–366——Authority exercised by the Lord Chamberlain, under this Act, in regard to licenses to concert rooms, *ib.* 154–169——Particular point in litigation under the Act 25 Geo. 2, between the theatres and music halls, *ib.* 373–375.

Injurious conflict of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain and of the magistrates under the Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, *Pownall* 418. 630–632——Expediency of this Act being entirely remodelled or repealed, *Pownall* 418; *Sir T. Henry* 882–884——Unsatisfactory state of the law under the Acts 25 Geo. 2 and 6 & 7 Vict.; anomalous position of the smaller theatres until the passing of the latter Act, *Bodkin* 1782–1791.

Copy of the Act of George the Second for the regulation of places of public entertainment, *App.* 283–286.

Act 28 *Geo.* 3, *c.* 30. Copy of Act of George the Third enabling justices of the peace to license theatrical representations occasionally, *App.* 287.

Act 6 *& 7 Vict. c.* 68. Constant complaints on the part of the minor theatres, and litigation with the patent theatres, which led to Sir Edward Bulwer's Committee in 1832, to a subsequent Bill in 1833, and to the passing eventually of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. in 1843, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 15–27——The power of framing rules is omitted from the Act, and the Act is otherwise of a very imperfect character, *ib.* 147——Fault of the Act of 6 & 7 Vict. that no one is appointed to carry out its provisions, or to prevent the operation of unlicensed places, *ib.* 250–255——Absurdity of the restrictions under the Act 6 & 7 Vict. in regard to the performances at music halls, *Strange* 1635——Unduly restrictive character of the Act, *Francis* 6012–6016.

Copy of Act of the year 1843 for the better regulation of theatres, *App.* 288–291.

Actors:

1. *Want of good Actors since the Abolition of the Privileges of the Patent Theatres.*
2. *Salaries of Actors; effect of the Music Halls thereon.*
3. *Effect of Music Halls upon the Art of Acting.*
4. *Adverse Feeling of Actors towards the Music Halls.*
5. *Generally as to the Present Supply of Acting Talent.*

1. *Want of Good Actors since the Abolition of the Privileges of the Patent Theatres:*

Result of witness's experience that the school of acting has been destroyed by the removal of the privileges of the patent theatres, and by the present free trade in the drama,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

ACTORS—continued.

Want of good Actors since the Abolition of the Privileges, &c.—continued.

drama, *Webster* 2923–2947. 2970–2976——Great difficulty in getting together a really efficient company at one theatre, since the system of free trade in the legitimate drama among the twenty-five theatres in London, *ib.* 3171–3180. 3250–3255——Absence practically of any school of acting in England since the theatres have been thrown open, *ib.* 3295–3300——Inadequate supply of good actors through there being no school for their education as in the time of the old patent theatres, *Buckstone* 3488-3498.

Great falling off in the supply of good actors, owing to all the theatres being thrown open to the drama, and to young men not making a study of the art as they used to do, *Smith* 3672–3703. 3831–3840. 3972–3974——Better school for the drama if there were only two or three patent theatres as formerly, *ib.* 3672–3674. 3677. 3972–3974——Want of good actors attributed mainly to the want of a school of dramatic art, since the abolition of the privileges of the patent theatres, *ib.* 4521–4533. 4539–4546.

Opinion that actors are not suffering in any way from the monopoly of certain theatres, *Taylor* 4785, 4786——Way in which the patents of the Royal Theatre used to operate in producing a superior class of actors, *ib.* 4798, 4799. 4878——Less desire of actors to perform in London since the patents were taken from the two great theatres, *Turner* 5114-5116.

Necessity of limiting the number of theatres in order to obtain a supply of trained and good actors, the present system tending directly to create a large supply of untrained and inefficient men, *Kean* 6608 *et seq.*——Illustration in the case of witness, of a successful career commenced at one of the patent theatres, *ib.* 6685-6687——Value of the patent theatres in training actors, *Read* 6838, 6839.

2. *Salaries of Actors; effect of the Music Halls thereon:*

Salaries of actors at theatres and music halls respectively; denial that on the score of remuneration it is any undue interference of the Legislature to confine actors to theatres, *Webster* 2910–2918. 3049-3058. 3120, 3121——High salaries commanded by good actors, if they were only forthcoming, *Smith* 3691–3696——Large remuneration of performances at music halls, so that they do not care to leave them for theatres, *Boucicault* 4243——Large increase in the salaries of actors, particularly in the country, *Wigan* 4583. 4625——Doubt as to the music halls having tended to cause any increase in the salaries at theatres, *ib.* 4731–4735.

Large increase in the salaries of actors in the provinces within the last few years; in London there has not been much alteration, *Turner* 5051. 5102–5104——Employment of many subordinate actors in music halls where they get better salaries; belief that this is an injury rather than a benefit to the profession generally, and to the theatres, *ib.* 5056–5072——Higher salaries in music halls than in theatres; the probable tendency of music halls being to increase theatrical salaries, *ib.* 5146–5150.

Effect of opening the music halls to the drama in increasing the salaries of actors, *Hollingshead* 5317, 5318——Statement as to actors themselves having in many instances an antipathy to music halls, whereas witness fully believes their salaries would be largely increased under a system of free trade in the drama, *Hollingshead* 5381–5386; *Tomlins* 6918-6925——Increase in the salaries of actors adverted to as not being owing to the music halls, *Coyne* 5852–5854.

Slight improvement in the salaries of actors in the provinces, *Knowles* 6152–6154. 6322——Doubt as to any increase in the salaries of actors if the music halls could employ them in light pieces, *Keen* 6656–6658——Probability of there being better employment for some actors if the music halls were thrown open, *Reade* 6828, 6829.

3. *Effect of Music Halls upon the Art of Acting:*

Destruction of the art of acting and great injury to the drama generally if the music halls were allowed to represent stage pieces, *Webster* 2902 *et seq.*; *Buckstone* 3364 *et seq.*; *Wigan* 4594-4599——Great difficulty now experienced in supplying the stage with good actors, owing very much to the vitiating operation of the music halls upon the state of acting, *Webster* 2908, 2909. 2928–2937. 3262——Stage acting at some of the music halls, whereas none of them have ever turned out a good actor, *ib.* 3107–3112——Deterioration of acting talent further adverted to as arising from free trade in the drama and from many good actors being spoilt at music halls, *ib.* 3250–3262——Effect of the music halls in spoiling actors for the stage, *Buckstone* 3499–3505.

Inferior class of actors at music halls as compared with theatres, even if the former had theatrical licenses, *Smith* 3862, 3863. 3871–3873——Probability of actors degenerating through the production of a lower class of pieces at music halls, *Taylor* 4782. 4841, 4842——Conviction that music halls spoil good actors, *Turner* 5080–5082.

Statement showing that both good actors and singers have been produced by the music halls, *Hollingshead* 5300–5311——Scarcity of actors for the theatres on account of the operation of the music halls, *Coyne* 5842——Belief that the music halls have had no effect upon the style of acting, *Reade* 6840. 6841.

4. *Adverse*

ACTORS—continued.

4. *Adverse Feeling of Actors towards the Music Halls:*

Opposition of actors to opening the music halls to the drama, *Webster* 2920–2922; *Coyne* 5849–5851——Adverse feeling of all actors of the higher class to music halls, *Webster* 2920–2923——Strong feeling among actors against the music halls, though there would be an additional demand for both actors and actresses if the music halls could perform light pieces, *Hollingshead* 5381–5386; *Tomlins* 6918–6925——Objection of the better class of actors to perform in music halls, *Kean* 6642–6945. 6656–6658.

5. *Generally as to the present Supply of Acting Talent:*

Insufficient supply of acting talent adverted to as the chief cause of the non-production of good plays, *Webster* 3233–3237. 3250–3262——Great difficulty in getting any very good actors, there not being indeed any first-class actors before the public, *Smith* 3865. 3892. 3908–3920——Dearth of good or rising actors, the drama generally having declined, *Boucicault* 4274–4277——Probability of some good actors being forthcoming if there were more theatres at the West End, and if better salaries were given, *ib.* 4373–4377.

Very inferior supply of good actors even for the present number of theatres, *Brooks* 4494–4500——Good prospect of an improved supply of actors, *Wigan* 4625——Opinion that actors have not fallen off within the last thirty years, but that the public are more critical than they used to be, *ib.* 4626. 4706–4716——Very inadequate supply of good actors at the present time, *Taylor* 4783, 4784——Insufficient supply of good plays and good actors for the theatres, irrespectively of the music halls, *ib.* 4841. 4878.

Great demand for good actors and actresses, the supply being very inadequate; increased difficulty if there were more theatres in London, *Turner* 5052–5055. 5092–5096. 5111–5128. 5210–5212——Difficulty for some years in providing an adequate supply of actors if the music halls were to give dramatic performances, even though the salaries might be increased, *ib.* 5092, 5093. 5105–5128. 5138. 5178–5183——Much better social position of actors than in former years, *ib.* 5094–5100——Impression that a greater number of men of education are now desirous of entering the profession than formerly, *ib.* 5094–5096.

Opinion as to there being an adequate supply of actors for all the theatres, *Hollingshead* 5379, 5380——Much worse supply of good actors than in former years, there being an abundant supply of bad actors, *Knowles* 6148–6151. 6320–6376——Limited supply of rising actors who come to London from country towns as compared with former years, *Kean* 6689–6705——Opinion that the style of acting on the whole is higher than it used to be in former years, *Reade* 6836, 6837——Very good actors at the present time, there being an inferiority in the pieces rather than in the performers, *Tomlins* 6912–6917.

See also *Drama, The. France. Leclercq, Miss Carlotta. Robson, the late Mr. School of Dramatic Art.*

Adelphi Theatre. Particular instances at the Adelphi of pieces being acted for long consecutive periods, it being however necessary to supplement these with new pieces from time to time, *Webster* 2905. 3009–3022. 3035–3048. 3243, 3244——Stringent regulations at the Adelphi with a view to the exclusion of immoral characters, *ib.* 2995–3008. 3124. 3127——A nightly receipt of 150 *l.* at the Adelphi would be a very fair business, *ib.* 3187——The nightly expenses may be taken at about 100 *l.*, *ib.* 3188–3190.

Admission behind the Scenes. Prohibition by managers upon visitors going behind the scenes at theatres, *Webster* 3165–3170. 3209–3215; *Buckstone* 3558–3560; *Smith* 3706–3721——Refusal of witness to interfere with gentlemen going behind the scenes, as being rather the duty of managers, *Viscount Sidney* 7608–7610.

ALHAMBRA:

1. *Licenses under which conducted; Refusal of a Lord Chamberlain's License.*
2. *Representations as to the expediency of a Theatrical License being granted.*
3. *Legal Proceedings against Mr. Strange.*
4. *Character of the Audiences: question as to Disorderly or Immoral behaviour.*
5. *Particulars in connection with the Canteen.*
6. *Precautions against Fire.*
7. *Details generally as to the Conduct of the Place and the Character of the Entertainments.*

1. *Licenses under which conducted; Refusal of a Lord Chamberlain's License:*

Explanation as to the Lord Chamberlain having refused a license to Mr. Strange for certain performances at the Alhambra, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 79–92——Statement as to a license having been refused some years ago to the Alhambra by the Lord Chamberlain, because

ALHAMBRA—continued.

1. *Licenses under which conducted, &c.*—continued.

because one of the galleries was considered unsafe, whereas the magistrates subsequently granted a license, without any examination, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 238.

Several licenses under which the place is now conducted; addition recently of morning performances under license from the Lord Chamberlain, *Strange* 1370-1383.

Refusal of a Lord Chamberlain's license to the Alhambra, as not sufficiently safe for theatrical representations, *Donne* 2185–2195——Doubt whether the Lord Chamberlain would have refused a license to the Alhambra, if witness had reported that the place was safe for theatrical performances, *ib.* 2326–2334. 2387, 2388——Explanation that the Lord Chamberlain has not given a theatrical license for morning performances, and has only subscribed to the magistrate's license, *ib.* 3582–3594.

2. *Representations as to the expediency of a Theatrical License being granted:*

More economical and efficient conduct of the Alhambra, if not restricted as to the nature of the performances whilst the effect would be, that the tone of the performances would decidedly be raised, *Strange* 1463 *et seq.*——Benefit to witness's employés as well as to the public, if operettas, vaudevilles, &c., could be produced, *ib.* 1621–1652——Desire of witness to be empowered to produce everything the theatres can produce, and to be subject to the same license and supervision, *ib.* 1721–1750.

The Alhambra is a theatre rather than a music hall, and should have a theatrical license, *Stanley* 2645. 2878–2880——Reference to the Alhambra as well adapted to theatrical performances, and as being entitled to a theatrical license, if smoking, eating and drinking were not allowed in the auditorium, *Smith* 3603. 3606. 3633–3650. 3885——Statement as to the Alhambra being much more a theatre than a music hall; costly ballets produced there, *Hollingshead* 5263–5268.

3. *Legal Proceedings against Mr. Strange:*

Grievance in witness being subject to prosecution by the theatres, though he has gained his cause three times, *Strange* 1616–1620.

Reference to the conviction of Mr. Strange, of the Alhambra, by the police magistrate under the Act 6 & 7 Vict., while such conviction was quashed on appeal to witness's court, *Bodkin* 1802–1807. 1951, 1952.

4. *Character of the Audiences; question as to Disorderly or Immoral Behaviour:*

Exceptionable class frequenting the Alhambra, though witness has not observed impropriety of behaviour there, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 101–106——Conclusion as to the Alhambra not being a very moral place late in the evening or after ten o'clock; numerous private rooms there, adverted to as a source of immorality, *Pownall* 494–511. 601–606.

Respectable character of the great majority of the visitors at the Alhambra, whilst there is nothing more objectionable in the ballet there than at the opera, *Sir T. Henry* 856–863——Dissent from the evidence of Mr. Spencer Ponsonby and Mr. Pownall as to the classes of people at the Alhambra, and their behaviour; witness saw no impropriety, *ib.* 903–914——Belief that there are no private rooms, *ib.* 911. 914.

Entire absence of complaint as to improper conduct at the Alhambra, *Strange* 1384——Positive denial that there are any private rooms, *ib.* 1385–1391——Propriety of conduct of the ladies employed in the ballet, so far as the Alhambra is concerned, *ib.* 1419–1421——Average of more than 3000 visitors every evening, *ib.* 1454——About three per cent. of the visitors are women of the town, there being an average of 100 or so every evening, *ib.* 1455, 1456.

Mixed character of the audience generally, about half consisting of persons with their wives and families, *Strange* 1457–1460, 1529, 1530——Good order kept, *ib.* 1461, 1462. 1531—— Improved class of people at the morning performances, the number being about one-third of that in the evening, *ib.* 1515–1522——There is no free admission of women of the town, *ib.* 1522–1525.

Occupation of the body of the hall by respectable people, there being no women of the town there, *Strange* 1599–1601——Dismissal of the ballet girls at the Alhambra if it were known that they were loose characters; instances of such dismissal, *ib.* 1689–1700——Witness has no reason to believe the females who attend at the bars are ill-conducted, *ib.* 1701–1705——Especially full attendance of the labouring classes on Saturday, *ib.* 1755–1757.

Large number of immoral characters at the Alhambra, their behaviour there being very objectionable, *Webster* 3122–3126. 3135–3138——There have been rows or fights till one o'clock in the morning, *ib.* 3139——Instances of disorderly conduct, *Buckstone* 3378–3383——Comment on the large number of women of the town, *ib.* 3420.

Opinion as to the orderly conduct of the Alhambra, and as to the audience being much the same as at theatres, *Smith* 3852–3861——Considerable number of women of the town

ALHAMBRA—continued.

4. *Character of the Audiences; question as to Disorderly, &c.*—continued.

town probably to be seen, *Smith* 3936–3939——Orderly conduct of the audience; doubt, however, as to their being sufficiently attentive for stage plays, *Reade* 6831–6833. 6842–6846.

5. *Particulars in connection with the Canteen:*

Information relative to the canteen frequented by the ladies of the ballet, if they please, and attended by such gentlemen of the audience as may have special permission from witness for the purpose, *Strange* 1501–1509. 1513, 1514. 1541–1553——Impossibility of anything immoral taking place in the canteen; large number of persons generally in it, *ib.* 1504——Witness established the canteen for the convenience of those employed in the event of their wanting refreshment, *ib.* 1505. 1654–1660——There is no admission to the canteen by payment, *ib.* 1507–1509. 1514.

Further details on the subject of the canteen, the admission of visitors to it without payment, the attendance of the ballet girls there, &c.; checks upon any immoral occurrences, *Strange* 1554–1594. 1654–1662. 1668–1688. 1711–1714——The ballet girls go to the canteen in their dancing costume, *ib.* 1563–1570——Further denial that payment is ever made for admission to the canteen, *ib.* 1661, 1662. 1711–1714——The closing of the canteen would not injure the place in the slightest degree, *ib.* 1719.

Comment on the practice as to the visitors and ballet girls being allowed to meet in the canteen, *Bodkin* 1856. 1908. 1974——Reference to the admission of gentlemen to the canteen at the Alhambra as not leading to any immorality; Mr. Strange, however, is perfectly willing to abolish this practice if against public opinion, *Stanley* 2776–2778. 2807–2811——Comment on the admission of gentlemen to the canteen, *Buckstone* 3421–3424——There was no canteen when witness was at the Alhambra, *Smith* 3722–3726——Conduct of the canteen adverted to; doubt as to its being open to any serious objection, *Hollingshead* 5288–5297. 5336–5341.

6. *Precautions against Fire:*

Consideration of the arrangements at the Alhambra for the prevention or stoppage of fires, *Shaw* 6477-6482——Understanding as to there being a large quantity of water always kept on the top of the building, *ib.* 6477.

7. *Details generally as to the Conduct of the Place and the Character of the Entertainments:*

The Alhambra is now owned by a Limited Liability Company, witness being the manager, *Strange* 1349–1351——Particulars as to the expenditure upon the Alhambra, and the several kinds of entertainments from time to time, *ib.* 1352–1368——Information relative to the present performances, consisting chiefly of ballets and operatic selections, *ib.* 1366–1378. 1422–1433. 1491–1494——Classes of refreshment used by the public and relative amount received from this source and from admission money, *ib.* 1392–1399. 1451–1453——Employment of three policemen every evening, in addition to six private policemen, there being also about 24 waiters, *ib.* 1400–1408. 1526, 1527.

About 300 persons are employed on the stage, *Strange* 1409–1411——Improved position of the young ladies employed in the ballet through their salaries at the Alhambra, in addition to their earnings during the day as dressmakers, tailoresses, &c., *ib.* 1412–1418——Tendency, under witness's management, to raise the general tone and character of the entertainment, *ib.* 1491–1500. 1532–1540——Number of police further adverted to; there is no great gratuity given to them, *ib.* 1595–1598. 1665–1667.

Practice not to allow re-admission, nor to give free admissions, *Strange* 1602–1612. 1663, 1664——Employment at present of about 360 persons at the Alhambra, the weekly pay being 490*l.*, *ib.* 1613–1615——Objection to a turntable as a check upon the admissions, *ib.* 1715–1718——Closing of the place every night before twelve o'clock, *ib.* 1751–1754.

Probable amount of the profit per head on the sale of refreshments, *Smith* 3935; *Wigan* 4749, 4750——Good musical entertainment given; improvement if comic operas could be rendered, *Hollingshead* 5281–5287.

See also *Music Halls.*

Amusements of the People. Inexpediency of open competition, without licensing, in the supply of popular amusements, *Pownall* 711–718——Advantage if, as in France, Government could supply some refined amusements for the people, *ib.* 719, 720——Constant improvement going on in the character of the amusements of the people, *Tomlins* 6873——Statement as to the amusements of the people still being of an inferior class, though the music halls have greatly improved the moral tone, *ib.* 6931-6941.——*See* also *Public Taste.*

Appeal (Lord Chamberlain). See *Censorship*, 6. *Lord Chamberlain's Department*, 5. 8.

Report, 1866—*continued*.

Astley's. Regulations at Astley's in regard to the supply of refreshments; receipts derived from this source, *Smith* 3807-3830. 3933. 3934——Statement as to witness not taking any steps for excluding women of the town from Astley's, *ib.* 3878-3883. 3940-3942——Prices of admission; discontinuance of half-price, *ib.* 3998, 3999.

Audiences (*Music Halls*). Absence, generally, of any impropriety of conduct on the part of the public who attend music halls, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 93-108——Large number of women of the town; objection on this score, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 178-182. 195-199. 309-314; *Buckstone* 3410-3421——Different class of entertainment and of audience at music halls, when first established, as compared with the present time, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 339-346——Very large attendance at the leading music and dancing halls, *Pownall* 768, 769——Low, but orderly character of the audiences at music halls in the east end of London, *Sir R. Mayne* 1123-1125.

Increased attendance at music halls adverted to in connection with the improved class of entertainments given, *Stanley* 2689-2700——Different class of audiences at music halls, and at theatres, on account of the temptation of smoking and drinking in the former case, *Webster* 2934-2937. 2948-2954——Witness does not believe in the respectability of the audiences at music halls, *ib.* 3322.

Importance attached to the objection that ladies would not go to music halls, *Taylor* 4882——Much less attentive audiences at music halls than at theatres, whilst the former would be much more objectionable if they combined the drama, with eating, drinking, and smoking, *Lee* 4968——Satisfactory attendance of artisans, with their wives and families, at the Alhambra, Canterbury Hall, &c., *Tomlins* 6881-6884.

See also *Alhambra*, 4. *Birmingham. Cambridge Music Hall. Immorality*, 1.

Australia. Particulars relative to the theatres in Australia; absence of any legislative or police restrictions, *Kean* 6593-6602——Impression that there is no restriction upon the building of theatres, *ib.* 6579-6581.

Austria. Belief that there is a State theatre in Austria as in France, *Wigan* 4909-4911.

B.

Ballets and Ballet Dancers. Very good ballet performances at the Alhambra, &c., *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 200——Refusal of witness to interfere with the performance of ballets in music halls, *Sir R. Mayne* 1031-1039——Belief as to ballet girls being generally considered to be very much worse as a class than they really are, *Strange* 1707-1710——More modest costume of the ballet girls at the Alhambra than at the theatres, *ib.* 1729, 1730——Great difficulty in comprehending the meaning or story of ballets, *Donne* 2131-2135——Belief that in theatres men are never permitted to enter the room where the ballet girls dress, *ib.* 2514-2516.

Production of ballets both at the Oxford and Canterbury Hall, there being one now at the latter, *Stanley* 2628-2638——Objection to ballets being performed at the music halls, *Webster* 3203, 3204——Decided objection to the music halls being allowed to perform ballets, *Buckstone* 3549——Supervision exercised by the Lord Chamberlain over ballets; instance at Her Majesty's Theatre, *Wigan* 4602-4605. 4700-4705——Witness would be glad to see the ballet excluded from theatres, and only objects to it at music halls as being a stepping stone to further infringements of the law, *ib.* 4675-4682. 4727, 4728.

Statement as to country magistrates having decided that ballets and certain dramatic representations were not stage plays within the meaning of the Act, *Simpson* 5488-5508——Objection to a ballet or character dancing in music halls, *Knowles* 6294-6303. 6382-6389——Interference of witness's department in the event of improprieties in the dresses of the ballet dancers at theatres, *Viscount Sydney* 7606, 7607.

See also *Alhambra. Dancing Licenses. Music Halls.*

Beaumont Institution. Approval of the liability to penalty in the event of any dramatic performances at places like the Beaumont Institution in the Mile End-road, *Bodkin* 1883-1896——Objection to a Lord Chamberlain's license being given to the Beaumont Institution, as not constructed for theatrical entertainments, *ib.* 2142-2154. 2177.

Particulars relative to the foundation and objects of the Beaumont Institution, and the cost of the building, *Francis* 5985——Large accommodation in the Institution, there being a good stage and galleries, *ib.* 5986-5991——Frequent use of the building for public meetings, concerts, &c., *ib.* 5992, 5993——Great advantage to the institution if stage performances were allowed, and if admission money might be charged, *ib.* 5994, 5995. 6006, 6007.

Information relative to the character of the performances attempted to be given by means of the elocution class of the Institution, but prohibited by the Lord Chamberlain's Department, or objected to by the theatres, *Francis* 5995. 5999-6006——Injurious effect

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Beaumont Institution—continued.

effect of the present legal restrictions as tending to break up the elocutionary class of the Institution, *Francis* 6006, 6007——Desire merely of the Institution to give entertainments occasionally, and not to be turned into a theatre or a music hall, *ib.* 6008-6017——Reasons recently given by Mr. Donne for objecting to a theatrical license to the Institution, *ib.* 6019-6024——Permission to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, and Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, to give dialogue entertainments, though not allowed at the Beaumont Institution, *ib.* 6027-6030.

Further details relative to the character of the entertainments disallowed at the Beaumont Institution; several instances of performances having taken place though contrary to the Act, *Francis* 6032 *et seq.*——Statement in further support of the Institution being allowed to give certain classes of entertainment, and to charge for admission, *ib.* 6056 *et seq.*——Number of concerts and lectures now given at the Institution, and amount of expenditure and receipts in respect thereof, *ib.* 6082-6096. 6120.

Documents relative to the prohibition of dramatic entertainments in the Beaumont Institution, *App.* 314.

See also *Literary Institutions. Toole, Mr.*

Beer-houses. Check by means of the spirit license upon music and dancing where there is no license for the purpose, there being no such check if the place is only a beer-house, *Sir R. Mayne* 1000-1008——Existence of private rooms in connection with beer-houses rather than with music halls, *ib.* 1019-1023, 1069. 1152-1155.

Belgium. Freedom in Belgium as to the character of the performances in music-halls, *Boucicault* 4216. 4417-4420.

Birmingham. Particulars in connection with Holder's music hall at Birmingham, and the character of the performances there; stoppage of a ballet on one occasion at the instance of the manager of the theatre, *Poole* 5704-5727——There used sometimes to be three or four performers on the stage, *ib.* 5717——Production of the ghost illusion, though proceedings were threatened, *ib.* 5775-5791.

Day's music hall at Birmingham, of which witness is manager, will hold 2,500 people, and is licensed under a local Act for music and dancing, there being also a spirit license, *Saunders* 7379-7396——There is a stage and scenery, and some 120 performers; particulars hereon as to the entertainments given, *ib.* 7397-7432. 7497-7521——Statement relative to some proceedings against the music hall for the representation of the ghost illusion; modification of this representation subsequently, *ib.* 7410-7427——Terms of admission to the hall, *ib.* 7433-7435. 7509——Respectable class of people composing the audience, *ib.* 7436. 7529-7533——Views of one of the Birmingham magistrates as to the excellence of the management, *ib.* 7436-7439.

Permission under the license to Day's music hall to perform ballets or stage dancing, *Saunders* 7446-7455. 7539, 7540——Check exercised by the magistrates and police as to the conduct of the music hall, *ib.* 7505-7508——Sundry details as to the management of the establishment, *ib.* 7510-7533——Circumstance of smoking, eating, and drinking going on during the performances; quiet however observed when operatic selections are being given, *ib.* 7525, 7526. 7541-7547——There are only two other music halls in Birmingham where also the performances go on in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking, *ib.* 7548-7554.

Copy of music and dancing license granted under Local Act at Birmingham, *App.* 305.

Bodkin, William Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Assistant Judge for Middlesex: has had considerable experience in regard to licenses to public houses and to music halls and dancing rooms, 1759-1776——Frequent refusal by the Middlesex magistrates of applications for licenses including dancing, though willing to grant separate licenses for music, 1777-1781. 1786——Unsatisfactory state of the law under the Acts 25 Geo. 2, and 6 & 7 Vict.; anomalous position of the smaller theatres until the passing of the latter Act, 1782-1791.

Origin of music halls through the practice of obtaining music and dancing licenses in connection with public houses, 1792——Grant in the first instance of a music license only to the Eagle Tavern, though under it dramatic pieces were performed, 1793-1801——Reference to the conviction of Mr. Strange of the Alhambra by the police magistrate under the Act 6 & 7 Vict., whilst such conviction was quashed on appeal to witness's court, 1802-1807. 1951, 1952——Unsettled state of the law as to the performances legal at music halls, 1807, 1808. 1952.

Opinion that music halls should be restricted to music, and that ballets or dramatic representations of any kind should not take place under a magistrate's license, 1809 *et seq.*——Apprehended impetus to immorality and juvenile crime if music halls were not restricted in the performance of ballets, dramatic pieces, &c., 1825-1837. 1856-1866. 1908. 1923-1928. 1974——Recommendation that all theatrical representations be under the license and control of the Lord Chamberlain, who might in his discretion license such places as the Alhambra and class them as theatres, 1845 *et seq.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Bodkin, William Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Contemplated appeal to the quarter sessions against either the grant or the refusal of a music license, 1846——Advantage of the local knowledge of the magistrates, and of the check exercised by them in regard to the buildings sought to be licensed, 1846–1855. 1973——Comment on the practice at the Alhambra where the visitors and ballet girls are allowed to meet in the canteen, 1856. 1908. 1974——Immoral character of the performances at the Cider Cellars, formerly, so that the police were obliged to interfere, 1856–1861. 1943–1946——Essential difference between the practice of refreshments at theatres and at music halls, 1870–1878. 1956–1959. 2009, 2010——Approval of the liability to penalty in the event of any dramatic performances at places like the Beaumont Institution, 1883–1896.

Departure from the original object of music halls, if licensed for theatrical performances, 1896–1901. 1953–1955——Witness further contends that the best plan is to leave the licensing of the music halls to the discretion of the magistrates, and to confine them entirely to music, 1902 *et seq.*——Difficulty of defining the line where music ends and dramatic representation begins, 1919. 1932–1937—— Approval of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain being extended to the whole metropolitan district, 1927–1931—— Good order now preserved at Cremorne Gardens, 1947–1950.

Examination to the effect that witness is desirous to see an improved class of entertainments for the people, though he objects to music halls being empowered to give dramatic and operatic representations, 1960 *et seq.*——Facility for the lower classes, as in the east of London, to attend cheap theatres and to see dramatic performances, without going to music halls, 2000–2003. 2015——Statement as to the absence of police complaints being no proof that there is nothing objectionable going on at the music halls, 2004, 2005—— Explanation that the magistrates pay considerable attention to the question of public safety, before licensing any music hall, 2006, 2007. 2011–2014.

Information as to the Strand music hall being no longer licensed for dancing, nor for the sale of spirits, 2016–2022——Importance of the Lord Chamberlain exercising through his staff a proper supervision over the performances at music halls if classed and licensed as theatres, 2023–2028——Doubt as to the law or practice in regard to the licensing of music and dancing rooms in the country, 2029–2036——Inefficient and inadequate control, through the police, over the songs, &c., at music halls, 2037, 2038.

Bolton Theatre. Particulars relative to the theatre at Bolton; its connection with a public house, *Knowles* 6353–6358.

Boucicault, Dion. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been manager of Drury Lane Theatre and of the Adelphi, in conjunction with Mr. Webster; has also a large experience as a dramatic author and as an actor, 4023–4040——Objection to the Lord Chamberlain as the licenser of plays, as having other duties to perform, and being a changeable officer, so that the grant of licenses is uncertain, and they are sometimes withdrawn years afterwards, 4041–4044. 4072–4075. 4147. 4151–4157——Approval of there being a licensing officer, provided there is an appeal from his decisions to the Home Secretary, 4045. 4069–4077.

High standard of the drama in the United States, where public opinion is the only check upon the plays, there being no licenser; several of witness's plays originally produced there, 4045–4058——Adequacy of the check by the public upon the character of plays; instances of this, 4059–4069. 4143–4146. 4213–4216——Special officer required for the licensing of theatres, 4079——Opinion that so long as the building is suitable, and the public safety is satisfactorily provided for, the license should follow as a matter of course, 4079–4085. 4149, 4150.

Abolition about two years ago of the privileges of certain theatres in France, since which time there has been free trade in theatres, and in dramatic performances, 4086–4137——System of Government subvention of certain theatres in Paris, whereby a school of acting is maintained, 4090–4112——Right of the Théâtre Français to compel other theatres to give up actors if the latter are willing to go to the former, 4106–4112 —— Circumstance of none of the music halls or cafés chantants in Paris having availed themselves of the privilege of giving dramatic performances; conclusion as to their having such privilege, 4124–4137——Strict censorship of plays in France, especially in political matters, 4139–4142.

Instances of capricious action of the Lord Chamberlain in refusing licenses to plays on religious and political grounds, 4147. 4151–4157—— Different views of different Lord Chamberlains as to the propriety of licensing more theatres, 4148——Circumstance of witness having been told he might experience some difficulty in obtaining a license for a new theatre, 4149, 4150——Opinion that spirit licenses for theatres should be obtained from the magistrates, and that the managers should be allowed to have refreshments in the auditorium or wherever they pleased, 4158–4163——Power of the theatres or music halls in the United States to combine eating, drinking, and smoking with the representation of the drama, whereas such combination never takes place, and the theatres and music halls are kept quite distinct, 4163–4170.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Boucicault, Dion. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Large pecuniary interest of witness in the drama, as he receives half the profits wherever his productions are acted, 4171-4178——Detriment to the interest of witness and of other dramatic authors by the present restriction upon the building of new theatres, on account of the uncertainty of getting them licensed, 4179-4191——Facility with which witness could produce an increased number of dramas if there were theatres enough; he could supply all the theatres at the west-end, but is loth to stand in the way of his fellow authors, 4180-4184. 4195-4197.

Great increase of the rents of theatres in recent years; instances of this, 4199-4211——Much lower prices of admission than formerly, 4212——Conclusion as to the impossibility of defining the prices to which music halls might be restricted; definition of a vaudeville adverted to hereon, 4217-4236——Beneficial effect of the music halls upon the theatres, to which they act as stepping stones by encouraging a taste for intellectual amusement, 4237, 4238. 4244-4248——Statement that Mr. Robson learnt his art at the Grecian, and was a great actor before he went to Dublin, 4239-4242——Large remuneration of performers at music halls, so that they do not care to leave them for the theatres, 4243——Absence of any improprieties in the conduct of the music halls, 4246, 4247.

[Second Examination.]—Witness lays before the Committee a copy of the edict or decree of the Emperor of the French, dated 7th January 1864, concerning the liberty of the theatres; several articles therein cited, 4249, 4250——Abolition by this decree of all preceding laws with regard to theatres and places of entertainment, 4250——Explanation that the sixth article of the decree leaves such public entertainments as are not theatres to the regulations of the district police authorities, 4249-4251——Statement that the *cafés chantants* are now permitted to give dramatic entertainments under police regulations, 4250-4259.

Performance generally of English plays on the American stage; doubt as to any pieces being acted there which would be rejected here on the score of immorality, 4260-4262. 4266-4270. 4283-4287. 4394, 4395——Very good actors produced in America, 4263-4265. 4378——Opinion as to the unduly limited number of theatres in the west end of London, 4271—— Structural advantages of the American theatres as compared with the London theatres, 4272, 4273——Dearth of good or rising actors, the drama in all its forms having declined or stooped to meet the taste and demand of the lower classes, 4274-4277. 4344.

Benefit to the theatres by the taste of the people being raised if the music halls could improve their entertainments; great gain already of the theatres from this source, 4278, 4279. 4342-4346——More room for good dramatic authors if the music halls could give improved performances, 4280——Contemplated performance of burlesques, ballets, and small operas in the music halls, 4280. 4291-4293——Impracticability of any satisfactory or successful performance of the legitimate drama in music halls, 4281, 4282. 4291-4294——Check by the public, and by the local police regulations, upon the character of the performances in American theatres, 4288-4290. 4380-4390.

Further statement as to capricious decisions having occurred in the licensing of plays so that an appeal to the Secretary of State is desirable, 4295-4297. 4391, 4392. 4471-4477——Great facility of witness in the production of plays adverted to as not being a very exceptional case, 4298-4303——Examination as to the grounds for witness's conclusion that the French law or edict of January 1864, had abolished all previous laws of the theatres, 4304-4331——Objection to abolishing the law protecting dramatic property in England; want rather of readier facilities of protection, 4332-4334.

With regard to smoking in the French theatres, witness was not aware there was a regulation prohibiting it, 4335-4341——Conclusion as to the entire illegality of the performances at the music halls generally in London, 4347-4356——Numerous instances of theatrical managers having realised fortunes in recent years, 4357-4365——Very flourishing state of the drama in the larger provincial towns, 4365-4369——Room in London for double the present number of theatres; question of their succeeding considered, 4370-4373. 4455-4464——Probability of more good actors being forthcoming if there were more theatres at the West End, and if better salaries were given, 4373-4377.

Opinion as to the public taste in America being purer than in this country, and more in favour of the legitimate drama, 4379-4390. 4393-4395——Statement as to the subsidised theatres in Paris not being able to compete pecuniarily with the others, 4396-4401——Explanation that witness was not deterred by any intimation from the Lord Chamberlain's office from proceeding with a new theatre in the Haymarket, 4402-4409——Further reference to the scope to be given to dramatic authors by increasing or doubling the present number of theatres, 4410-4416.

Practice both in Germany and Belgium to give dramatic performances in *cafés chantants*, 4417-4420——Option exercised by witness as to the number of theatres at which any one of his pieces may be acted at the same time, 4421-4432——Constant litigation by attempting to define any line between music halls and theatres, 4433, 4434——Witness

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Boucicault, Dion. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

repeats that, subject to police regulations as to safety and decency there should be free trade in theatres, 4435, 4436——Approval of smoking being prohibited in theatres, 4437–4440.

Further statement as to the liability to capricious decisions under the present licensing system, though witness has no fault to find either with Lord Sydney or Mr. Donne, 4441–4452——The jurisdiction should, in fact, be in a permanent officer, with an appeal to the Home Secretary for the time being, 4453, 4454. 4471–4477——Ill success of the drama at Astley's, and at the St. James's Theatre, adverted to in connection with the view that there is room for a great increase in the number of metropolitan theatres, 4455–4464——Expediency of the same system of free trade in theatres and theatrical representations in this country as in France and other countries, 4465–4470.

Bower Saloon. Restriction upon smoking and drinking in the auditorium of the Bower Saloon as being now under a theatrical license, *Smith* 3805–3807. 3887.

Bradford Theatre. Information relative to the new theatre at Bradford, of which witness is one of the lessees; its success, *Buckstone* 3450–3459. 3557——Satisfactory working of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain as regards licenses to plays at the Bradford Theatre, *ib.* 3551–3554.

Brooks, Shirley. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has not written any plays or dramas for several years, but is much interested in theatres as a dramatic critic and otherwise, 4478–4480——Instance, in witness's experience, of capricious censorship on the part of the Lord Chamberlain, in the licensing of plays, 4480–4482——Opinion that the present censorship should be abolished altogether, though there might be a public officer to be appealed to if the check of public opinion were found inadequate; belief that the audience would, however, be a sufficient check, 4483–4492.

Causes, other than the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, or the limited number of theatres, which account for the low state of the drama at the present time, 4493–4503——Very inferior supply of good actors, even for the present number of theatres, 4494–4500——Want of taste, on the part of the public, for a high order of drama; very little real criticism by the public, 4494–4498. 4504–4506. 4547–4551. 4553–4555——Effect of dramas which have very long runs in excluding dramatic authors generally, 4501–4503——Improbability of dramatic performances being attempted at music halls if empowered to provide them, 4504–4506. 4534–4536.

Large remuneration made by a few dramatic writers, whose success is established, and who make it a condition to share the profits with the managers, 4507–4514——Reference to the public feeling displayed on the production of the play of "Never too Late to Mend," as not having led to any great alteration in the play, 4511. 4537, 4538——Appreciation by the public of eminent actors, if there were any such, whereas the public taste for the legitimate drama is at an extremely low ebb, 4515–4523. 4531–4533. 4553–4555.

Want of good actors attributed mainly to the want of a school of dramatic art, since the abolition of the privileges of the patent theatres, 4521–4533. 4539–4546——Opinion that a subsidised theatre, as the Théâtre Français, is the only means of leading to a supply of good actors, 4545, 4546——Difficulty in regard to the exercise of proper professional criticism, 4552. 4556–4560——With regard to the law of copyright witness has no objection to it, but understands that many authors have reason to complain of it, 4561, 4562.

Buckstone, John Baldwin. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is lessee and manager of the Haymarket Theatre, 3361–3363——Is strongly opposed to the music halls being allowed to give theatrical performances, on the ground mainly that the drama would be vulgarised and degraded thereby, 3364 *et seq.*——Decided objection to the allowance of dramatic representations where eating, drinking, and smoking are going on, as in the music halls, 3367–3377. 3395–3407——Non-objection to legitimate competition with the theatres, whereas the competition of music halls would be unfair, they being in no way under the control of the Lord Chamberlain, 3367–3370.

Instances of disorderly conduct at the Alhambra, 3378–3383——Very little going on at the Haymarket in the way of drinking or refreshment, 3384–3399——Great injury caused by the music halls to the theatres, especially as regards the half-prices and the galleries, 3408, 3409. 3543–3547——Discontinuance, many years ago, of the practice of admitting women of the town to theatres, whereas the music halls are now extremely objectionable on this score, 3410–3421——Comment on the admission of gentlemen to the canteen at the Alhambra, 3421–3424.

Consideration of the circumstance of Mr. Robson having commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon; he did not, however, learn the art of acting there, 3428–3449——Information relative to the new theatre at Bradford, of which witness is one of the lessees; its success, 3450–3459. 3557——Statement to the effect that country theatres have decreased in the small towns, and have increased in the large ones; causes of such decrease

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Buckstone, John Baldwin. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

decrease, 3460–3489. 3513–3515——Attraction of the legitimate drama, when properly acted, whether in the larger provincial towns, or at the Haymarket, 3487. 3490–3492. 3506.

Inadequate supply of good actors, there being no school for their education, as in the time of the old patent theatres, 3488–3498——Efficient company at the Haymarket for the representation of the legitimate drama, 3490–3492. 3506, 3507——Effect of the music halls in spoiling actors for the stage, 3499–3505——Practice as to the hour of production of the principal piece at the Haymarket, 3508–3512——Impression as to the two Italian operas not being damaging to the national drama, 3517, 3518.

Attentive audiences in Irish theatres, 3521–3526——Also in Scotch theatres, 3527–3529——Great success of those plays, at the Haymarket, in which Mr. Sothern has appeared; attractiveness also of the old legitimate dramas, 3530–3542——Expediency of prohibiting small pieces, as well as all costume, scenery, and ballet, at the music halls, and of restricting them to musical entertainments, 3546–3550. 3575–3580.

Satisfactory working of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain as regards licenses to plays at the Bradford theatre, 3551–3554——Entire inaccuracy of statements as to gentlemen being admitted behind the scenes at theatres, 3558–3560——Very fair way in which the licensing powers of the Lord Chamberlain are exercised, 3561–3563. 3570–3572——Importance of the check of the Lord Chamberlain upon the introduction of immoral or political matter into plays, 3564–3574.

Burlesques. Injurious effect of burlesques upon the legitimate drama, more especially the inferior class of burlesque produced of late years, *Webster* 3290. 3350–3357——Approval of good burlesques, as being beneficial rather than injurious to the drama, *Smith* 3866–3870——Approval of burlesques in theatres, though they have deteriorated greatly of late years, *Wigan* 4729——Tendency of acting in burlesque to introduce a lower class of actors, and to injure the demand for superior plays, *Taylor* 4867–4871——Non-objection to burlesques at music halls, if large enough for the purpose, *Green* 5596–5603.

C.

Caldwell's Dancing Rooms. Explanation as to the suspension of license to Caldwell's dancing rooms, *Pownall* 448. 733–735.

Cambridge Music Hall. Large portion of artizans, with their wives, who attend the Cambridge music hall, this place being very well conducted, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 106–112.

Canterbury Hall. Reference to Canterbury Hall as an exceedingly well conducted place, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 96–98. 106——Belief that there are no private rooms at Canterbury Hall, *Sir T. Henry* 914.

Testimony to the interesting and unobjectionable character of the performances at Canterbury Hall, to the excellence of the management, and the good behaviour of the people who attend, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1219 *et seq.*——Witness does not recollect a single case of drunkenness or disorder being brought before him from Canterbury Hall, *ib.* 1233. 1284——Witness never heard of any private rooms, *ib.* 1237, 1238——Approval of the plan of paying separately for admission and for refreshment, *ib.* 1238–1243. 1247–1250.

Refusal of a theatrical license to Canterbury Hall on the same ground that it was refused to the Alhambra and similar places, *Donne* 2538–2541.

Sundry particulars relative to Canterbury Hall, in Paper submitted to the Committee by Mr. Stanley, *App.* 306–308——Total of 25,000*l.* as the cost of buildings and fittings, there being accommodation for 1,500 persons, *ib.* 313.

See also *Ballets.* *Legal Proceedings.*

CENSORSHIP:

1. *Particulars as to the Exercise of the Censorship of Plays.*
2. *Approval of the Censorship as a Check upon objectionable Matter.*
3. *Absence of Check upon Dramatic Authorship.*
4. *Suggestions for an Extension of the Censorship to the Performances in Music Halls.*
5. *Evidence opposed to a Censorship either as regards Music Halls or Theatres.*
6. *Question of an Appeal from the Decisions of the Censor.*
7. *Objection to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer.*
8. *Approval of the Censorship by the Committee, with Suggestions for its Extension.*

1. *Particulars as to the Exercise of the Censorship of Plays:*

Very few plays which are refused licenses; total of only nineteen in thirteen years, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 37. 171——Refusal of license to any play, irrespectively of the question of withdrawing the license from the theatre, *ib.* 184–188——Investigation of each

CENSORSHIP—continued.

1. *Particulars as to the Exercise of the Censorship of Plays*—continued.

each play by the examiner of plays, by whom anything objectionable is reported to witness who brings it before the Lord Chamberlain, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 186–189 ——Practice generally of the examiner to strike out objectionable passages from plays, his alterations being then adopted by the managers, *ib.* 306.

Duty of witness as examiner of plays to examine the manuscripts of all plays in Great Britain, with a view to the removal of matter immoral or profane, or objectionable politically, *Donne* 2068——Reference made to the Lord Chamberlain before any play is refused a license altogether, the reason for refusing the license being always given, *ib.* 2068, 2069. 2249–2251——Refusal of licenses to only seven plays since 1857, *ib.* 2117, 2118——Numerous plays and pantomimes read through by witness just before boxing night every year, *ib.* 2123. 2128–2130——Very few plays which require correction at witness's hands, *ib.* 2236, 2237. 2258–2261——Due notice taken of any non-compliance with witness's directions for the omission of objectionable passages, *ib.* 2262–2269—— Important difference in regard to the question of rejection whether a piece is read or sung, *ib.* 2284, 2285.

Several instances of witness having excluded political allusions, *Donne* 2408—— Practice also to cut out religious allusions, if objectionable; examination on this point, *ib.* 2409, 2410. 2438 *et seq.*——Extent to which witness would interfere with the manuscript of the "Hypocrite" if it had now to be licensed for the first time, *ib.* 2438–2455 ——Supervision by witness over the manuscripts in the country, *ib.* 2549–2551.

Instances of capricious action of the Lord Chamberlain in refusing licenses to plays on religious and political grounds, *Boucicault* 4147. 4151–4157. 4295–4297. 4471–4477 —— Further statement as to the liability to capricious decisions under the present licensing system; the witness has no fault to find either with Lord Sydney or Mr. Donne, *ib.* 4441–4452——Instance in witness's experience of capricious censorship on the part of the Lord Chamberlain in the licensing of plays, *Brooks* 4480–4482.

Very considerate and satisfactory manner in which the licensing of plays for witness's theatre has been carried out by the Lord Chamberlain, *Lee* 4949–4951. 5018——Considerate and judicious manner in which Mr. Donne has administered the censorship, *Coyne* 5815. 5832, 5833——Frequent interference of the Lord Chamberlain with plays after the Restoration, *Tomlins* 6908.

Very few plays rejected, *Viscount Sydney* 7615, 7616——Particulars as to the way in which the censorship is and has been exercised with reference more especially to certain plays which have been objected to, such as "Ruy Blas," "Jack Sheppard," "La Traviata," "Robert le Diable," &c., *ib.* 7618–7633, 7708–7713. 7788.

Total of 2,816 plays submitted for licenes from the beginning of 1852 to the end of 1865, of which only 19 were rejected, *App.* 282——List of the plays refused to be licensed in the years 1852-65, *ib.* 294——Total number of manuscripts licensed, and number refused licenses, in the years 1857-65; titles of the plays refused a license, *ib.* 297.

2. *Approval of the Censorship as a Check upon objectionable Matter.*

Salutary effect of the power of withholding a license; check thereby upon the production of objectionable plays, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 38–41. 170–174. 389–392—— Increased check contemplated on the part of the licensing officer in regard to the suppression of objectionable matter in plays, *Sir T. Henry*, 794–803——Belief that more immoral plays would be produced but for the censorship, and that the license is very salutary on this score, *Donne* 2404, 2405. 2412–2417——Inadequacy of public opinion as a check upon objectionable matter, *Donne* 2536. *Webster* 2898–2901.

Necessity of the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain in order to prevent immorality and objectionable political matter in dramatic literature, *Webster* 2894–2901. *Buckstone* 3564–3574——Belief that exceedingly objectionable plays would be produced but for the Lord Chamberlain's censorship, *Smith* 3651–3659——Witness considers that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain is extremely beneficial, *Wigan* 4566–4577——Illustration of the importance of the Lord Chamberlain's license as a check upon immorality, *ib.* 4627–4630.

Witness, as a dramatic author of some experience, considers that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain has not practically any appreciable effect either for good or evil as regards the west end theatres, *Taylor* 4751–4757. 4760. 4854–4866——Belief that a check is, however, very necessary upon the character of the plays in small theatres and in penny gaffs, *ib.* 4758–4761——Doubt as to the necessity for the censorship with regard to political allusions, *ib.* 4762–4767. 4826–4834. 4860–4866——Doubt as to any increased adoption of immoral pieces from the French if the Lord Chamberlain's censorship were withdrawn, *ib.* 4854–4859——Approval, on the whole, of the retention of the censorship, *ib.* 4873–4877.

Conclusion as to the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain being positively necessary,

Lee

CENSORSHIP—continued.

2. *Approval of the Censorship as a Check upon objectionable Matter*—continued.

Lee 4953-4958. 5019——Approval of a censorship of dramatic pieces, if exercised by an officer wholly independent of the Crown, and if limited to points of morality and religion, *Coyne* 5815-5821. 5834-5836——Approval of the censorship of plays, public opinion not being a sufficient check, *Viscount Sydney* 7613, 7614.

3. *Absence of Check upon Dramatic Authorship:*

Opinion that the censorship is not any practical check upon dramatic authorship, *Donne* 2398-2403. 2438 *et seq.* *Smith* 3655. *Wigan* 4566-4577 —— Belief that the Lord Chamberlain's supervision does not at all interfere with the freedom of authorship, *Buckstone* 3571.

4. *Suggestions for an Extension of the Censorship to the Performances in Music Halls.*

Approval of the same rule for checking the character of each light piece at a music hall, and each play at a theatre, *Sir T. Henry* 947-949——Expediency of a similar supervision and control over the performances in music halls as in theatres, *Sir R. Mayne* 1175. 1179-1184——Belief as to the ability of witness to undertake the reading of all plays to be performed at music halls as well as at theatres, *Donne* 2122, 2123. 2137, 2138——Willingness of witness to undertake the reading of the pieces to be produced at music halls, *ib.* 2359-2361. 2372-2376. 2396, 2397 —— Opportunity for witness's supervision over the pieces in provincial music halls, if placed under the Lord Chamberlain, *ib.* 2553.

Advantage if there were a censorship over the songs at the music halls, *Webster* 3132; *Smith* 3624——Expediency of the performances in music halls being subjected to censorship, *Wigan* 4600, 4601——Suggested extension of the power of the censor to the provincial theatres; he should in fact be responsible for the character of all dramatic performances, *Coyne* 5818, 5819, 5954-5957——Suggested censorship of music halls as well as of theatres; objectionable character of the songs in the former adverted to, *Knowles* 6227-6231, 6259-6262, 6271-6275.

5. *Evidence opposed to a Censorship either as regards Music Halls or Theatres:*

Witness does not see any necessity for licensing the pieces at music halls, as anything immoral or indecent would be disallowed by the audience: immense difficulty moreover in submitting all the songs, &c. for approval, *Stanley* 2567, 2568. 2595-2605——Nor does witness see any necessity for the licensing of theatrical pieces, *ib.* 2567, 2568.

Adequacy of the check of the public upon the character of plays; instances of this, *Boucicault* 4059-4069, 4143-4146, 4213-4216—— Opinion that the present censorship should be abolished altogether, though there might be a public officer to be appealed to if the check of public opinion were found inadequate; belief that the audience would however be a sufficient check, *Brooks* 4483-4492——Argument that the censorship of the press and the opinion of the public are a sufficient check upon immoral plays, and that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain is ineffectual and unnecessary, *Hollingshead* 5244-5247, 5254, 5330-5332. 5342-5350.

6. *Question of an Appeal from the Decisions of the Censor:*

Conclusion that an appeal to the Secretary of State is desirable, on account of capricious decisions having occurred in the licensing of plays, *Boucicault* 4041-4044. 4072-4075-4151-4157. 4295-4297, 4391, 4392, 4453, 4454, 4471-4477——Suggested appeal from the licensing officer to the Home Secretary, *Coyne* 5961-5968——Approval of plays being subject to a limited censorship; there should however be an appeal against the decision of the licenser, *Reade* 6742-6765, 6861-6863.

Conclusion that it is not necessary to have any appeal (except to public opinion) from the decision of the Lord Chamberlain in the rejection of plays, *Viscount Sydney* 7620-7622. 7634, 7635, 7714-7718.

7. *Objection to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer:*

Objection to the Lord Chamberlain as the licenser of plays, as having other duties to perform, and as being a changeable officer, so that the grants of licenses is uncertain, and they are sometimes withdrawn years afterwards, *Boucicault* 4041-4044, 4072-4075. 4147, 4151-4157, 4295-4297. 4441-4452——The jurisdiction should in fact be in a permanent officer, with an appeal to the Home Secretary for the time being, *ib.* 4453, 4454, 4471-4477.

8. *Approval of the Censorship by the Committee, with Suggestions for its Extension:*

Resolution of the Committee that the censorship of plays has worked satisfactorily,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

CENSORSHIP—continued.

8. *Approval of the Censorship, &c.*—continued.

that it is not desirable that it should be discontinued, and that it should be extended as far as practicable to the performances in music halls and other places of public entertainment in the metropolis, *Rep.* iv.

Resolution by the Committee that the 12th section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, relative to the censorship of plays intended to be produced or acted for hire in any theatre in Great Britain continue in force, and that such censorship be extended, as far as practicable, to music halls, and other places of public entertainment throughout Great Britain, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Act* 10 *Geo.* 2. *Examiner of Plays.* *France.* "*La Traviata*" "*Lola Montes.*" "*Never Too Late to Mend.*" *Pantomimes.* *Withdrawal of Plays.*

Cider Cellars. Immoral character of the performances at the Cider Cellars, formerly, so that the police were obliged to interfere, *Bodkin* 1856–1861. 1943–1946——Places like the Cider Cellars would not pay now, as indecent songs would not be attractive, *Hollingshead* 5254.

City of London Theatre. Character of the pieces brought out by witness at the City of London Theatre; difficulty recently in obtaining attractive pieces, *Lee* 4944–4948——Injury to the theatre through the competition of neighbouring music halls, *ib.* 4959–4964, 5024–5026——Very little drinking in the theatre as compared with music halls, *ib.* 4965–4968.

Closing of Theatres. Probability of the Lord Chamberlain assuming, if necessary, the power of shutting up a theatre, and revoking the license, though this step has never been requisite, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 146–153——Power and practice of the Lord Chamberlain in regard to closing the theatres on Good Friday, and on days of humiliation, &c., *ib.* 352–357.

Provisions in the Act 6 & 7 Vict. in regard to the closing of theatres by the Lord Chamberlain, *App.* 289.

COMPETITION:

1. *Between Theatres.*
2. *Between Music Halls.*
3. *Between Music Halls and Theatres.*

1. *Between Theatres:*

Requirements of the Lord Chamberlain adverted to, as not in any way implying that there should be a monopoly of theatres, *Donne* 2147–2158, 2175–2220——Witness contends that, subject to police regulations as to safety and decency there should be free trade in theatres, *Boucicault* 4079–4085. 4149, 4150, 4435, 4436——Conclusion that there is practically free trade in theatres at the present time, as the license would be sure to be given to a new theatre unless the building were unsatisfactory, *Wigan* 4584–4587, 4649–4651, 4721, 4723.

Opinion favourable to free trade in theatres, there being room for several more good theatres in London, *Coyne* 5837–5841——Approval of the principle of free trade in theatres; that is, if the buildings are erected and conducted as theatres, *Knowles* 6319, 6333, 6334——Expediency of every one being free to build a theatre, and being secure of obtaining a license, *Reade* 6741.

Approval of the principle of free trade in the theatres, subject to proper regulations for the safety of the public; this is, in fact, the guiding principle of witness, *Viscount Sydney* 7574–7579. 7665–7671.

Resolution of the Committee that under certain conditions as to site, &c., the license should be granted without reference to any question of competition with other establishments, *Rep.* iv.

2. *Between Music Halls:*

Constant opposition made to the licensing of new music halls by places already licensed, *Pownall* 460–462.

Objection to open competition between music halls, as tending to degenerate the performances; expediency of regard being had to the wants of the neighbourhood and to other considerations before the grant of new licenses, *Stanley* 2569–2594. 2803–2806, 2833 *et seq.*——Belief that under open competition the music halls would not pay, and would be closed or turned into theatres, *ib.* 2644. 2650–2652. 2674–2684. 2852–2875——Expected deterioration of the performances, as a consequence of open competition, *ib.* 2852–2875.

3. *Between*

COMPETITION—continued.

3. *Between Music Halls and Theatres:*

Disapproval of open competition between the music halls and theatres, it being left rather to the licensing officer, under the guidance of the Act of Parliament, to define the performances to be allowed in each music hall, *Sir T. Henry* 915–939——Witness can conceive that many theatres under a new system may find it convenient, if not necessary, to become music halls; he is not so sure of the converse, *Donne* 2380——Doubt as to the proposed extension of the powers of the music halls having the effect of drawing many people away from the theatres, *Stanley* 2887–2890.

Pecuniary injury to witness, who has the freehold of his theatre, if the music halls could compete with him, *Webster* 3128, 3129——Non-objection to legitimate competition with the theatres, whereas the competition of music halls would be unfair, they being in no way under the control of the Lord Chamberlain, *Buckstone* 3367–3370.

Witness has heard several music hall proprietors say they do not wish to meddle with the theatres, *Lee* 4977–4991——Undue advantage over the theatres if music halls could produce dramas in addition to their profits on drink, *ib.* 4993–5000. 5040.

Approval of an increased number of theatres, though if all the music halls were theatres the competition would be ruinous, *Turner* 5111, 5112. 5141–5145——Mistake in dealing with the present question as one merely between music halls and theatres, *Hollingshead* 5221.

See also *Drama, The. Foreign Countries. France. Music Halls. New York. Number of Theatres. Paris. Refreshments. United States.*

Compromise. Suggested arrangement between the managers and lessees of theatres and music halls as to the compromise to be carried out, *Donne* 2386. 2500–2503.

See also *Music Halls*, 2–5.

Concert Rooms. Particulars relative to the grant of licenses by the Lord Chamberlain for morning or afternoon performances in certain concert rooms, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 156–169.

Conflict of Jurisdiction. Objectionable conflict of jurisdiction through the theatres and music halls being licensed by different authorities, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 234–238; *Donne* 2350, 2351.

Resolution of the Committee that the present system of double jurisdiction under which theatres are licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and music halls and other places of public entertainments by the magistrates, is inconvenient and unsatisfactory, *Rep.* iii.

See also *Lord Chamberlain's Department. Magistrates' Licenses. Music Halls*, 6.

Construction of Theatres. Suggestions by Capt. Shaw with reference to the construction of theatres and other places of public entertainment, *App.* 325, 326. 330, 331.

See also *Egress from Theatres. Fire. Public Safety.*

Copyright. Objection to abolishing the law protecting dramatic property in England; want rather of readier facilities of protection, *Boucicault* 4332–4334——With regard to the law of copyright, witness has no objection to it, but understands that many authors have reason to complain of it, *Brooks* 4561, 4562.——*See* also *Piracy of French Plays.*

Country Music Halls. See *Birmingham. Liverpool*, 2. *Local Acts. Music Halls. Sheffield.*

COUNTRY THEATRES:

1. *As to the Number and Condition of the Theatres in Country Towns.*
2. *As to the Licensing and Supervision of the Country Theatres.*
3. *As to the Effect upon Country Theatres of licensing Music Halls for the Drama.*

1. *As to the Number and Condition of the Theatres in Country Towns:*

Doubt as to any decrease of theatres in country towns, *Webster* 3308–3317. 3335–3348——Statement to the effect that country theatres have decreased in small towns, and have increased in the large ones; causes of such decrease, *Buckstone* 3460–3489. 3513–3515——Very flourishing state of the drama in the larger provincial towns, *Boucicault* 4365–4369.

Prosperous condition of the theatres in large towns, whilst in small towns they are decaying, *Coyne* 5899——Particulars relative to the theatres at Rochdale, Bolton, Wigan, Preston, and Oldham, *Knowles* 6344–6373——In most country towns pantomime is the chief attraction, *ib.* 6372.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

COUNTRY THEATRES—continued.

2. *As to the Licensing and Supervision of the Country Theatres:*

Statement as to the system of licensing country theatres by the magistrates being in an unsatisfactory state; instances at Glasgow and Ramsgate, *Wigan* 4912-4919——Opinion that it would be an improvement if the theatres in the country were licensed by the central office, *Turner* 5189-5198.

Great uncertainty of obtaining licenses from the magistrates for theatres in the country; impediment thereby to the erection or increase of country theatres, *Simpson* 5388 *et seq.* ——Anticipated large increase in the number of country theatres, if the difficulty as to the license were removed; instances at Kingston, Croydon, &c., *ib.* 5413-5416. 5449-5454. 5469-5478. 5511, 5512——Expediency of the license being granted by some authority more free from prejudice than many of the country magistrates are, *ib.* 5454. 5457-5465 ——Suggestion that theatres in the country as well as in London should be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain with an appeal to the judges in equity, *Reade* 6857-6860.

Doubt whether, in addition to the theatres and music halls in London, the country theatres could properly be superintended by witness's department, *Viscount Sydney* 7675-7686. 7777-7782——Opinion that in the country the municipal authorities rather than the magistrates should have the supervision of the theatres, *ib.* 7754-7757, 7778, 7779.

Recommendation by the Committee that the licensing of a new theatre in the country should be by the Lord Chamberlain instead of as heretofore by the magistrates; but that the powers now exercised by the magistrates, both as regards the renewal of licenses and as regards regulations, should continue in force, *Rep.* iv.

3. *As to the Effect upon Country Theatres of Licensing Music Halls for the Drama:*

Misgiving in witness's mind lest the interests of provincial managers should be prejudicially affected if music halls were allowed to perform what they pleased, *Reade* 6760-6774. 6854-6856. 6864, 6865.

See also *Birmingham. Liverpool*, 1. *Manchester. Sheffield. Travelling Theatres.*

Coyne, J. Stirling. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a dramatic author, and secretary to the Dramatic Authors' Society, 5813——Approval of a censorship of dramatic pieces, if exercised by an officer wholly independent of the Crown, and if limited to points of morality and religion, 5815-5821. 5834-5836——Considerate and judicious manner in which Mr. Donne has administered the censorship, 5815. 5832, 5833——Suggested extension of the power of the censor to the provincial theatres; he should in fact be responsible for the character of all dramatic performances, 5818, 5819. 5954-5957—— Statement relative to the suspension by the Lord Chamberlain of a piece called "Lola Montes," written by witness in 1848, and passed in the first instance by the censor, 5822-5831. 5941-5948.

Opinion favourable to free trade in theatres, there being room for several more good theatres in London, 5837-5841——Scarcity of actors for the theatres on account of the operation of the music halls, 5842——Evidence strongly opposed to throwing open the music halls for theatrical performances; belief that it would greatly lower the drama, and would be injurious to authors and actors, 5843-5870. 5916 *et seq.*——Opposition of actors to opening the music halls, 5849-5851——Increase in the salaries of actors adverted to as not being owing to the music halls, 5852-5854.

Objection even to light theatrical pieces at music halls, 5855, 5856. 5862-5870. 5949-5951——Incompatibility of the drama with eating, drinking, and smoking, 5857-7862. 5916-5940. 5970-5983——Disapproval, on the score of morality, of men and women eating and drinking together whilst the drama is being represented; morals of Parisian society adverted to hereon, 5857-5859. 5868-5870. 5975-5978.

Much larger profits of dramatic authors than some years ago, 5871. 5872——Details relative to the system of payment of dramatic authors for the performances of their pieces in London and the provinces respectively; way in which the Dramatic Author's Society operates in the matter, 5872-5898——Prosperous condition of theatres in the large towns, whilst in the small towns they are decaying, 5899——Fees paid to dramatic authors when their plays are rendered in literary institutes, 5900-5903——Approval of a permission to institutes to perform stage pieces, it being now illegal in them to have anything more than reading or recitation by one individual, 5903-5912.

Further opinion that in addition to a general censorship of the performances in theatres, &c., there should still be a prohibition upon dramatic performances where smoking, eating, and drinking are allowed in the auditorium, 5913-5940. 5949-5957. 5970-5983——Expediency of its being clearly laid down what the music halls may do, 5949-5953——Contemplated creation of an independent officer for licensing and controlling both theatres and music halls, 5954-5969——Suggested appeal from the licensing officer to the Home Secretary, 5961-5968——Dialogue should be prohibited in music halls, 5970.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Cremorne Gardens. Good order now preserved at Cremorne Gardens, *Bodkin* 1947–1950——Information as to the class of entertainment usually given by witness at the theatre at Cremorne; approval of similar representations at the Alhambra, if smoking, eating, and drinking are disallowed, *Smith* 3626-3650——Details relative to the entertainments and performances generally at Cremorne, the regulations as to refreshments and smoking, and as to the use of small private rooms or boxes from which to witness the dancing, &c., *ib.* 3727–3789. 3947–3957. 3975–3978.

Criticism. Difficulty in regard to the exercise of proper professional criticism of the drama, *Brooks* 4552. 4556–4560——The critics of the present day are quite equal to those of former days, if not superior, *ib.* 4552.

D.

Dancing Licenses. Point in dispute under the Act 25 Geo. 2, in regard to the grant of "dancing" licences, with reference to the performance of ballets, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 373–375——Especial care taken by the Middlesex magistrates before licensing any rooms as suitable for public dancing, *Pownall* 398–400——Licenses are granted for music only, but not for dancing, except conjointly with music, *ib.* 402, 403——In the proposal by witness for the retention of dancing licenses by the magistrates, dancing by the public is alone contemplated, *ib.* 422–424. 450.

Suggestion that places licensed for dancing must be rated at a certain rent, *Pownall* 450. 607. 745——Defence of the practice of the magistrates in giving licenses for music rather than for dancing, and in interpreting the dancing as confined to the visitors, *ib.* 531–552——Evidence in favour of preventing at the same place the supply of spirits, and the giving of scenic representations, or professional dancing, *ib.* 594–609. 638–644. 693–709——Check contemplated in order to secure that where dancing licenses are granted, the accommodation is safe and ample, *ib.* 607, 608——Discretion exercised by the magistrates as to the renewal of licenses, where the dancing has not been confined to the visitors, *ib.* 765–767.

Frequent refusal by the Middlesex magistrates of applications for licenses including dancing, though willing to grant separate licenses for music, *Bodkin* 1777–1781. 1786——Objection to dancing in public houses in which the audience take part, *Jackson* 7221, 7222. 7236.

See also *Caldwell's Dancing Rooms.* *Magistrates' Licenses.* *Music Halls.* *Public Houses.*

Dangerous Performances. Reference to the prohibition by the Lord Chamberlain of dangerous performances, such as those of Blondin, or the exhibition of wild beasts in theatres, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 349–351——Discontinuance, through the action of the police, of dangerous performances at the Alhambra and Cremorne, *Sir R. Mayne* 1054.

Disorderly Assemblages. Powers and practice of the police under the Act 2 & 3 Vict., c. 47, in regard to assemblages of disorderly characters, or of women of the town; penalties in such cases, *Sir R. Mayne* 1056–1068. 1194, 1195.

Divine Service in Theatres. Illegality of Divine Services and preachings in theatres on Sundays, if money were taken at the doors, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 358-360.

Donne, William Bodham. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been examiner of plays since 1857; had for some years previously done the work for Mr. Kemble, the former examiner, 2040–2044. 2065–2067——Belief as to witness's appointment being for life, 2042, 2043——Creation of the office of examiner of plays by Act in 1737; 2045–2047. 2063, 2064——Origin of the Act of 1737, on account of the political allusions in the "Beggar's Opera," and in a certain play called the "Golden Rump," 2047–2062.

Duty of witness to examine the manuscripts of all plays in Great Britain, with a view to the removal of matter, immoral or profane, or objectionable politically, 2068——Reference made to the Lord Chamberlain before any play is refused a license altogether, the reason for refusing the license being always given, 2068, 2069. 2249–2251——Duty also of witness, as inspector of theatres, to see that the exits and entrances, and the building arrangements generally, are sufficient for the public safety before theatres are licensed, 2071–2076——Instances of wider passages and other improvements being carried out in existing theatres; difficulty in enforcing these alterations after the theatres have been built, 2076–2080. 2103–2106.

Means of egress at the Haymarket, Drury Lane, and Covent Garden, respectively, 2081–2084. 2103——Particulars as to the requirements in regard to modes of egress, fire-proof passages, &c., at the new theatre proposed to be built in Holborn, 2085–2102——Submission of the plans of all new theatres to the Lord Chamberlain, when the width of the passages and other points are regulated according to the circumstances of

Donne, William Bodham. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

each case; advantage of this practice over a system of fixed rules as to the size of the passages, &c., 2105–2116.

Refusal of licenses to only seven plays since 1857; 2117, 2118——Very few plays brought out, except in London, 2119–2121——Belief as to the ability of witness to undertake the reading of all plays to be performed at music halls as well as at theatres, 2122, 2123. 2137, 2138——Numerous plays and pantomimes read through by witness just before Boxing Night every year, 2123. 2128–2130——Check upon the matter in pantomimes since witness has required the comic business to be written down; impossibility of preventing "gag" by the clown or pantaloon, 2124–2127. 2270–2279——Great difficulty in comprehending the meaning or story of ballets, 2131–2135.

Refusal of a theatrical license to St. James's Hall, on the ground that the building was not fit for the purposes of a theatre, 2140–2148——Objection also to a Lord Chamberlain's license being given to the Beaumont Institution, as not constructed for theatrical entertainments, 2142–2154. 2177——Opinion that music halls should be restricted to that class of entertainments for which they were built, just in the same way that theatres are the proper places for dramatic performances, 2142 *et seq.*——Requirement of the Lord Chamberlain merely that the building is adapted to theatrical purposes, without at all desiring that there should be any monopoly of licensed theatres, 2147–2158. 2175–2220.

Practice as to the supply of refreshments in theatres under excise license; restrictions hereon, through the check of the Lord Chamberlain, 2159–2174——Explanation as to a theatrical license having been granted to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, 2175–2184——Refusal of a Lord Chamberlain's license to the Alhambra, as not sufficiently safe for theatrical representations, 2185–2195——Circumstances connected with an application by Mr. Boucicault for a license to a theatre which he contemplated building in the Haymarket; the plans not being before the Lord Chamberlain, the license could not absolutely be granted, 2196–2211——Practice of considering the feeling in the neighbourhood before licensing a new theatre in any locality, 2199–2208.

Further particulars relative to witness's appointment, the extent and character of his duties, and the remuneration, 2221–2248——Very few plays which require correction at witness's hands, 2236, 2237. 2258–2261——Receipt by witness of fees in addition to his salary, such fees being paid by the managers, who submit the plays; regular payment of these, 2239–2248. 2252, 2253——Perceptible improvement in the tone and style of the plays within the last six or seven years, 2254–2257——Due notice taken of any non-compliance with witness's directions for the omission of objectionable passages, 2262–2269.

With regard to the refusal of a license for "La Dame aux Camelias," this does not proceed from the same examiner who sanctioned "La Traviata," 2280, 2281——Important difference in regard to the question of rejection whether a piece is said or sung, 2284, 2285——The only plays stopped after having been licensed, were "Jack Sheppard" and "Oliver Twist," 2286, 2287.

[Second Examination.] Similar principle adopted by witness in the licensing of operas and of plays, 2289–2306. 2392–2395. 2489–2496——Inspection by witness of the site before approving of the plans of a new theatre, 2307, 2308——Business of those applying for a license for a new theatre to show that the neighbourhood is not averse, 2309–2311——Strict enforcement of the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain affecting the public safety, 2312——Exceptional practice of allowing a bar or drinking place at the back of the pit, 2313–2320.

Reference to Mr. Woodin's entertainment as not coming within the interpretation of a dramatic performance, though he considered it advisable to apply for a license, 2321, 2322. 2418–2435——Conclusion as to "duologue" being within the meaning of the interpretation clause, 2323–2325——Doubt whether the Lord Chamberlain would have refused a license to the Alhambra, if witness had reported that the place was safe for theatrical performances, 2326–2334. 2387, 2388——Approval generally of the system of licensing, as a salutary check upon places of amusement, 2335–2339——Opinion as to the satisfactory character of the appeal from witness to the Lord Chamberlain, 2340–2349.

Occasional conflict of jurisdiction through the theatres and music halls being licensed by different authorities, 2350, 2351——Necessary increase of staff and of expense if the music halls were under the Lord Chamberlain, and if the buildings had to be inspected, 2352–2358. 2529–2533——Willingness of witness to undertake the reading of the pieces to be produced at music halls, 2359–2361. 2372–2376. 2396, 2397——Contemplated difference in the license to music halls and theatres, if the former be placed under the Lord Chamberlain; apprehended depreciation of the drama and of art if the music halls had the same license as theatres, 2362–2386——Suggested arrangement between the managers and lessees of theatres and music halls, as to the compromise to be carried out, 2386. 2500–2503.

Security

Donne, William Bodham. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Security given by the managers of theatres against transgression of the Lord Chamberlain's regulations, 2389-2391——Opinion that the censorship is not any practical check upon dramatic authorship, 2398-2403. 2438 *et seq.*——Belief that more immoral plays would be produced but for the censorship, and that the license is very salutary on this score, 2404, 2405, 2412-2417——Severity of the censorship in France in political matters, 2406, 2407——Several instances of witness having excluded political allusions, 2408——Practice also to cut out religious allusions if objectionable; examination on this point, 2409, 2410. 2438 *et seq.*

Statement on the question of monologue not requiring a license from the Lord Chamberlain, 2418-2437——Explanation as to Mr. David Fisher having had a license for a monologue, 2436, 2437. 2547, 2548——Extent to which witness would interfere with the manuscript of the "Hypocrite," if it had now to be licensed for the first time, 2438-2455——Explanation of witness's principle of action in objecting to matter as immoral, 2439-2449. 2495, 2496. 2522-2526. 2534, 2535——Severe censorship of the Master of the Revels in the time of Shakspeare, 2451——Dissent from the view that dramatic authorship is greatly inferior to what it was a century ago, 2456-2460——Difficulty of defining what a vaudeville is, 2474-2479——Considerable number of pieces which are adaptations from the French, 2480-2488.

Absence of detriment to public morals if the music halls were converted into theatres, and thus came under the same inspection as the theatres, 2497-2499——Necessity of plans being sent in to the Lord Chamberlain before the buildings of a new theatre are commenced, 2504-2506——Requirement that the stage lights are guarded, 2507——Obstacle to any permanent arrangement for keeping the streets clear close to the theatres, so as to facilitate the egress into the streets, in case of accident, 2508-2514——Belief that in theatres men are never permitted to enter the room where the ballet girls dress, 2514-2516.

Propriety of some consultation of the neighbourhood before the erection of a new theatre is sanctioned, 2519-2521——Denial that there would be any partiality in the Lord Chamberlain's Department in favour of theatres, if the music halls were placed under the Department, 2527, 2528——Inadequacy of public opinion for the entire prevention of immoral matter in plays, 2536——Removal of distinction between music halls and theatres, if five or six persons were allowed to perform small pieces in the former, 2537.

Refusal of a theatrical license to Canterbury Hall, on the same ground that it was refused to the Alhambra, and similar places, 2538-2541——Instances of the Lord Chamberlain having exercised the power of withdrawing plays already licensed, 2542-2546——Supervision by witness over the manuscripts in the country, 2549-2551——Control over the buildings in the country by the local magistrates, 2552——Opportunity for witness's supervision over the pieces in provincial music halls, if placed under the Lord Chamberlain, 2553.

Distinguished position of many of the dramatic authors who have signed a certain petition against the existing legislation concerning theatres, 2554-2556.

[Third Examination.] Further statement as regards duologue, to the effect that it does come within the meaning of the Act of Parliament, 3581——Explanation that the Lord Chamberlain has not given a theatrical license to the Alhambra for morning performances, and has only subscribed to the magistrates' license, 3582-3594.

DRAMA, THE:

1. *Views of Dramatic Authors upon the present Restrictions as to Theatrical Licenses.*
2. *System of Payment of Dramatic Authors.*
3. *State of the Drama at the present time, and Character of the Supply of Plays.*
4. *Character of the Demand for Good Plays.*
5. *Objections to the Performance of the Drama in the presence of Eating, Drinking and Smoking.*
6. *Improbability of any Successful Representation of the Drama in Music Halls.*

1. *Views of Dramatic Authors upon the present Restrictions as to Theatrical Licenses:*

Distinguished position of many of the dramatic authors who have signed a certain petition against the existing legislation concerning theatres, *Donne* 2554-2556.

Detriment to the interest of witness and other dramatic authors by the present restriction upon the building of new theatres, on account of the uncertainty of getting them licensed, *Boucicault* 4179-4191——Facility with which witness could produce an increased number of dramas if there were theatres enough; he could supply all the

Report, 1866—*continued.*

DRAMA, The—continued.

1. *Views of Dramatic Authors, &c.*—continued.

theatres at the West End, but is loth to stand in the way of his fellow authors, *Boucicault* 4180–4184. 4195–4197——More room for good dramatic authors if the music halls could give improved performances, *ib.* 4280——Great facility of witness in the production of plays adverted to, as not being a very exceptional case, *ib.* 4298–4303.

Causes other than the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain, or the limited number of theatres, which account for the low state of the drama at the present time, *Brooks* 4493–4503——The drama is now so low, that opening the music halls to the drama is not likely to do the least injury, *ib.* 4536——Belief that the performance of stage plays in music halls would not tend to the decline of the drama, *Tomlins* 6872.

Apprehension lest a low and objectionable class of drama should be the result of empowering the music halls to give theatrical representations, *Taylor* 4780–4793. 4835–4853. 4879–4186——Dissent from the views submitted to the Committee in a certain petition from members of the Dramatic Authors' Society, *ib.* 4890–4896——Opinion that the present regulations concerning theatres does not operate as any prejudice to dramatic writers capable of producing good pieces, *ib.* 4896.

Conclusion as to the restrictive and injurious effect produced upon the industry of dramatic authors by the existing legislation concerning theatres, *Hollingshead* 5215–5220——Increased demand for dramatic writers if the music halls were thrown open, *ib.* 5312–5317. 5320–5322——Dissent from the views of Mr. Tom Taylor and other witnesses as to the drama requiring protection, *ib.* 5334, 5335.

Evidence strongly opposed to throwing open the music halls for theatrical performances; belief that it would greatly lower the drama, and would be injurious to authors and actors, *Coyne* 5843–5870. 5849–5851——Improbability of dramatic authors benefiting much by the music halls being thrown open, *Reade* 6834, 6835.

2. *System of Payment of Dramatic Authors:*

Large pecuniary interest of witness in the drama, as he receives half the profits wherever his productions are acted, *Boucicault* 4171–4178. 4410–4316 —— Option exercised by witness as to the number of theatres at which any one of his pieces may be acted at the same time, *ib.* 4421–4432——Large remuneration made by a few dramatic writers, whose success is established, and who make it a condition to share the profits with the managers, *Brooks* 4507–4514——Statement as to Mr. Boucicault having asked very exorbitant terms from witness for a play; very large sums made by Mr. Boucicault upon the principle of sharing the profits with the managers who produce his pieces, *Wigan* 4613–4618——Details relative to the system of payment of dramatic authors for the performances of their pieces in London and the provinces respectively; way in which the Dramatic Authors' Society operates in this matter, *Coyne* 5872–5898.

3. *State of the Drama at the present time, and Character of the Supply of Plays:*

Perceptible improvement in the tone and style of the plays submitted to witness within the last six or seven years, *Donne* 2254–2257——Dissent from the view that dramatic authorship is greatly inferior to what it was a century ago, *ib.* 2456–2460——Considerable number of pieces which are adaptations from the French, *ib.* 2480–2488——Attractiveness of old plays and legitimate dramas at the present time, *Webster* 3181–3186. 3225–3233. 3259, 3260——Character of the plays of the present time as compared with those produced in former years, *ib.* 3238–3244——Definition of the legitimate drama, *ib.* 3289——Fair supply of pieces at the disposal of managers, though frequently wanting in plot, *ib.* 3303–3307.

Production of equally good plays as in former years, though of a different class, *Smith* 3704–3706——Evidence in support of the conclusion as to the decline of the drama and of actors, *ib.* 3831–3851. 3864, 3865. 3891–3925——Consideration whether the change of public taste and habits, and the increased variety of amusement, may not account, to some extent, for the decline of the drama, irrespectively of the want of first-class actors, *ib.* 3904–3920——Causes of the long run of some pieces at the present time, *ib.* 3968–3997.

Dearth of good or rising actors, the drama in all its forms having declined, or stooped to meet the taste and demand of the lower classes, *Boucicault* 4274–4277. 4344—— Want of taste on the part of the public for a high order of drama; very little real criticism by the public, *Brooks* 4494–4498. 4504–4506. 4547–4551. 4553–4555——Effect of dramas which have very long runs in excluding dramatic authors generally, *ib.* 4501–4503——Belief that the legitimate drama is not popular at all, *ib.* 4505.

Dissent from certain opinions as to the declining state of the drama, *Wigan* 4608, 4609. 4625, 4626——Very few dramatic authors in England; large proportion of the pieces which are of foreign origin, *ib.* 4620——Great difficulty in writing successful plays, *ib.* 4620–4624——Belief that the drama has suffered from free trade in theatres, *Taylor* 4794–4799——Much larger profits of dramatic authors than some years ago,

Coyne

DRAMA, The—continued.

3. *State of the Drama at the present time, &c.*—continued.

Coyne 5871, 5872——Absence of benefit to dramatic authors by the music-halls being thrown owen, *Knowles* 6249, 6250.

Argument that the present low state of the drama, and the paucity of good actors, are due mainly to the abolition of the privileges of the patent theatres, and the want of a school for acting, *Kean* 6607, *et seq.*; 6685-6689——Great difficulty in obtaining good plays, *ib.* 6636-6640——Belief that no good author would write a play for a music-hall, *ib.* 6641.

Dissent from the view of some witnesses before the Committee as to the drama having desperately declined, *Reade* 6823. 6836, 6837——Change of public taste, so that the high tragic drama is probably gone out for ever, *Tomlins* 6895-6906.

4. *Character of the Demand for Good Plays:*

Adequate competition at present for legitimate dramas; exceptional instances of pieces having such a long run as to prejudice the demand for a fresh supply, *Webster* 2903-2906. 3009-3048. 3115-3118——Ample demand among the twenty-five theatres in London for good pieces, *ib.* 3115-3119——Further statement that authors have every facility for getting good plays acted, though the supply of legitimate dramas is very limited, *ib.* 3225-3244——Large sums paid by witness for good plays, *ib.* 3191-3196——Appreciation of the legitimate drama by the public, if the supply were forthcoming, *ib.* 3228-3233. 3256-3260.

Attraction of the legitimate drama, when properly acted, whether in the larger provincial towns or at the Haymarket, *Buckstone* 3487. 3490-3492. 3506——Adequate demand for good plays at the present time, *Smith* 3660-3672——Grounds for the statement that the demand for good dramas is much greater than the supply, *Wigan* 4606-4620——Difficulty in getting good plays; failure recently of a new piece by Mr. Boucicault, *Knowles* 6251-6254——Rare instances of large sums being given for theatrical pieces, *Reade* 6731-6737.

5. *Objections to the Performance of the Drama in the presence of Eating, Drinking, and Smoking:*

Apprehended degradation of the drama, as an art, if mixed up with drinking and refreshments, Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby* 183——Concurrence of opinion in strong disapproval of the representation of the drama in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking, *Webster* 2902 *et seq.*; 3270-3280. 3318-3326; *Buckstone* 3367-3377. 3399-3407; *Smith* 3602 *et seq.*; 3790-3805; *Francis* 6076-6086; *Kean* 6603-6605. 6641-6658.

Main ground of witness's objection that the drama would be degraded, where drinking and smoking are such prominent attractions, *Webster* 2967-2969. 2977-2979. 3059-3067. 3217——Non-objection to music-halls having theatrical licenses, and giving dramatic performances, if they comply with the same conditions as theatres, and exclude drinking, eating, and smoking, *ib.* 2977. 3095-3104. 3133, 3134. 3216-3219. 3263-3278——Lowering of the drama if enacted in music-halls as at present conducted, *Smith* 3612-3622——Exclusion of the more respectable classes from the drama, if eating, drinking, and smoking, were allowed in the auditorium, *Wigan* 4658-4660.

Probability of no injury arising to the interests of literature by opening music-halls to theatrical representations; conclusion, nevertheless, that the combination of the drama with eating, drinking, and smoking, would have generally a lowering tendency, and is undesirable, *Taylor* 4780-4793. 4835-4853. 4879-4889——Indirect rather than direct injury apprehended from licensing music-halls for dramatic representations, *ib.* 4879-4885——Degradation of the drama if acted in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking *Lee* 4980-4983. 5002.

Incompatibility of the performance of the drama with the practice of eating, drinking, and smoking, as in music-halls, *Turner* 5083-5092. 5129-5137——Injurious effect upon the theatres and the drama, if dramatic entertainments were given in places where eating, drinking, and smoking were going on at the same time, *ib.* 5101. 5105 *et seq.*——In addition to a general censorship of the performances in theatres, &c., there should still be a prohibition upon dramatic performances where smoking, eating, and drinking are allowed in the auditorium, *Coyne* 5857-5862. 5913-5940. 5949-5957. 5970-5983——Objection to dramatic performances in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking, as tending to degrade the drama still lower than it is at present, *Knowles* 6177-6179. 6217-6226. 6256-6262. 6294-6303.

6. *Improbability of any Successful Representation of the Drama in Music Halls:*

Belief that the acting of the drama in music-halls, would not eventually be profitable, *Webster* 2955-2966——Impracticability of any satisfactory or successful performance of the legitimate drama in music-halls, *Boucicault* 4281, 4282. 4291-4294——Improbability of dramatic performances being attempted at music-halls, if empowered to

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Drama, The—continued.

6. *Improbability of any Successful Representation, &c.*—continued.

provide them, *Brooks* 4504–4506. 4534–4536——Injury to the music-halls themselves as well as to the theatres, if the former were to give dramatic performances, *Lee* 4975–4983. 4987–5001. 5021–5026.

See also *Actors. Alhambra*, 2. *Beaumont Institution. Burlesques. Censorship. Copyright. Country Theatres. Criticism. Foreign Countries. France. Lord Chamberlain's Department. Music Halls. Paris. Patent Theatres. Piracy of French Plays. Profits of Theatres. Public Taste. School of Dramatic Art. United States.*

Dramatic Authors. See *Copyright. Drama, The. Piracy of French Plays.*

Drunkenness (*Music Halls*). Very few cases of drunkenness from the music halls, Sir *T. Henry* 777, 780. 915. 956–959——Advantage in the men going with their wives to music-halls and having some drink and refreshment, rather than in frequenting public houses alone and drinking to excess, *ib.* 855, 856. 955–959——Effect of the music-halls in lessening drunkenness, as men constantly attend them with their wives and children, Hon. *G. C. Norton* 1296–1298——Opinion as to the tendency of music-halls to encourage drunkenness, *Smith* 3621, 3622. 3876, 3877.

Drury Lane Theatre. Opinion that the drama is not answering at Drury Lane, *Smith* 3865——Reduction made by witness in the prices of admission at Drury Lane, when lessee there, *ib.* 4000–4002——Considerable increase in the letting value of the theatre, *Hollingshead* 5217.

Dudley Theatre. Complaint as to a license having been withheld from a theatre at Dudley, *Simpson* 5404–5408.

Duologue (*Music Halls*). Conclusion as to "duologue" being within the meaning of the Interpretation Clause, and being illegal in music-halls, *Donne* 2323–2325——The music-halls should, at all events, be able to represent duologues, *Stanley* 2648——Further statement as regards duologue, to the effect that it does come within the meaning of the Act of Parliament, *Donne* 3581——The music-halls at the east end of London give duologues, *Lee* 4972–4974. 5029——Opinion that music-halls should only be further empowered to have dancing and duologue, these being illegal under the present system, *Green* 5637——Duologue, where there is scenery or properties, should be prohibited in music-halls, *Coyne* 5970.

E.

Eagle Tavern. Unobjectionable character of the performances which used to take place at the Eagle Tavern, City Road, Sir *R. Mayne* 1085–1091——Grant, in the first instance, of a music license only to the Eagle Tavern, though under it dramatic pieces were performed, *Bodkin* 1793–1801.

East End of London. Very low class of people frequenting the music halls in the east end, their behaviour, however, being exceedingly good, Sir *R. Mayne* 1123–1125——Facility for the lower classes, as in the east of London, to attend cheap theatres, and to see dramatic performances without going to music-halls, *Bodkin* 2000–2003. 2015.

See also *Penny Gaffs.*

Eating, Drinking, and Smoking. See *Drama, The*, 5. *Excise License. Music Halls. Refreshments. Smoking.*

Egress from Theatres. Modes of egress at the Haymarket, Drury Lane, and Covent Garden, respectively, *Donne* 2081–2084. 2103——Obstacle to any permanent arrangement for keeping the streets clear close to the theatres, so as to facilitate the egress into the streets in case of accident, *ib.* 2508–2514.

Great importance of adequate provision for the egress of the public from theatres and music-halls in the event of fire; suggestions as to the improved arrangements required, *Shaw* 6426–6429. 6449–6464. 6528–6533——Expediency of requiring ample means of egress before the plans of any new theatres are sanctioned, *ib.* 6450——Importance of all the modes of egress at Covent Garden, Drury Lane, &c., being in constant use, *ib.* 6458, 6459.

Considerations as to the provisions made in regard to egress in the existing theatres generally, and as to the requirements desirable in this respect in all new theatres; arrangements in the Paris theatres adverted to hereon, Viscount *Sydney* 7719–7738.

See also *Public Safety.*

Ethiopian Entertainments. Statement as to the music-halls requiring permission to provide "all Ethiopian entertainments," *Stanley* 2659–2667. 2737.

Evans's. Sundry details in connection with the management of Evans's, and the character of the entertainment in former years and at the present time, *Green* 5536 *et seq.*——Great improvement in the class and tone of the music and singing, whilst the place is now conducted with the greatest propriety, *ib.* 5547–5557. 5565–5591. 5613–5617. 5642–5645——Exclusion of women from the singing room, *ib.* 5576, 5577. 5592——Absence of any desire on witness's part to give theatrical representations at Evans's, which is essentially a supper-house, *ib.* 5580–5582. 5606, 5607——Part taken by witness in excluding indecent and coarse songs from the music-halls, *ib.* 5642–5645——Objectionable character of the song of "Sam Hall," adverted to; the song was however much misunderstood, *ib.* 5642. 5674–5683.

Reference to Evans's as being exceedingly well conducted, *Jackson* 7303, 7304.

Examiner of Plays. Witness has been Examiner of Plays since 1857; had for some years previously done the work for Mr. Kemble, the former Examiner, *Donne* 2040–2044. 2065–2067——Belief as to witness's appointment being for life, *ib.* 2042, 2043——Creation of the office of Examiner of Plays by Act in 1737; duties of the office, *ib.* 2045–2047. 2063, 2064. 2068.——Origin of the Act of 1737 on account of the political allusions in the "Beggar's Opera," and in a certain play called the "Golden Rump," *ib.* 2047–2062.

Further particulars relative to witness's appointment, and the extent and character of his duties, and the remuneration, *Donne* 2221–2248——The public salary is 305 *l.*, *ib.* 2238——Receipt by witness of fees in addition to his salary, such fees being paid by the managers who submit the plays; regular payment of these, *ib.* 2239–2248. 2252, 2253.

Regulations in regard to the fees to be paid to the Examiner, *App.* 290——Copy of appointment of Mr. Donne as Examiner of Plays, *ib.* 296.

See also *Censorship.*

Excise License. Suggestion that theatres should apply to the magistrates for their spirit licenses, and that the Act of Will. 4 should be repealed, Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby* 127, 128. 131–158. 281, 282——Statement as to the music-halls being under the double check of a music and dancing license, and a spirit license, both granted by the magistrates, *ib.* 1391 45——Want of authority for the sale of spirits in theatres previously to the Excise license, *ib.* 288–290.

Salutary check in the spirit licenses, and the licenses for music and dancing being granted by the magistrates at different times of the year, *Pownall* 443–449——Suggestion that all licenses for spirits be granted by the magistrates exclusively, *ib.* 448–450——Contemplated prohibition of the supply of spirituous liquors in semi-theatrical places, *ib.* 594–599. 638–644. 693–709——Approval of the provision of ample amusements for the people, the only restriction proposed by witness being, that theatrical entertainments should be entirely under the Lord Chamberlain, and confined to suitable places, not having spirit licenses, *ib.* 636–665. 740.

Proposal that a license for certain performances at any music-hall should be sufficient authority for obtaining a spirit license from the Excise, Sir *T. Henry* 864–877——The license for the sale of spirits is no object to witness, and he has no objection to give it up altogether, *Webster* 2950, 2951. 3285, 3286.

Opinion that spirit licenses for theatres should be obtained from the magistrates, and that the managers should be allowed to have refreshments in the auditorium, or wherever they pleased, *Boucicault* 4158–4163.

Willingness of witness to see the sale of spirits, &c., prohibited in theatres, *Wigan* 4638, 4639——Circumstance of witness not choosing to have a wine and spirit license for his theatre (at Manchester), *Knowles* 6236–6244.

Resolution of the Committee that it is desirable to repeal the 7th section of the Act of 5 & 6 Will. 4, c. 39, which empowers the Excise to grant beer and spirit licenses to all buildings licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or the justices, *Rep.* iv.

F.

Fees for Licenses. Proposal that there be a small fee upon each license granted by the magistrates, *Pownall* 450. 741–744——Advantage of making the music-halls, &c., pay for their licenses, Hon. *G. C. Norton* 1290.

Provisions in the Act 6 & 7 Vict., in regard to the fees for Lord Chamberlain's license and for justices' license, *App.* 288, 289.

Fire. Absence of any special arrangements, or of any system, with regard to danger from fire in theatres, *Shaw* 6410*–6413——Great improvements feasible for the prevention of fire, more especially in the case of new theatres, *ib.* 6414, 6415——Want of proper arrangements in music-halls, as well as in theatres, against the occurrence of fire, *ib.* 6416–6420.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Fire—continued.

Suggestion that there be a high-pressure water service at all the theatres, by means of fire-proof towers and cisterns above the top of the buildings; considerable expense of such towers, *Shaw* 6419, 6420. 6465–6478. 6494–6503——There have not been many cases of fire at music-halls, *ib.* 6424——Difficulty in regard to the Lord Chamberlain compelling the adoption of all that is required, *ib.* 6434–6439——Approval of the precautions proposed by the Bill of Mr. Locke, though still further precautions are desirable, *ib.* 6440–6446. 6533——Functions of witness to extinguish fires, but not to take any precautions against them, *ib.* 6524–6527.

Great risk at present in the case of the numerous music-halls, dancing rooms, &c., so that systematic precautions should be enforced in all places holding upwards of 500 people, *Shaw* 6528–6533——Total of fifty fires at theatres in London within the last thirty-three years, only seven theatres having been seriously injured, *ib.* 6533——Very little loss of life through fires, *ib.* 6534–6542——Increasing number of firemen under witness; next year he will have 300 or 350, *ib.* 6552–6554.

Character of the precautions in regard to the prevention of fires in the Liverpool theatres, *Gray* 7017–7028——Precautions required in regard to prevention of fire before a theatrical license so granted at Sheffield or Oldham, *Jackson* 7371–7374.

Further suggestions by Captain Shaw upon the subject of the prevention of fires, *App.* 325, 326. 330, 331——List of fires which have taken place in the London theatres during the thirty-three years ending 1st January 1866, *ib.* 327–329.

Foot-Lights. Requirement of the Lord Chamberlain that the stage lights are properly regarded, *Donne* 2507——Effectual interference of witness for the adoption of precautions in the matter of the foot-lights in theatres, Viscount *Sydney* 7602, 7603. 7739–7742.

Foreign Countries. Expediency of the same system of free trade in theatres and theatrical representations in this country as in France and other countries, *Boucicault* 4465–4470.

Forms of License. Suggested granting of a different class of license according to the different class of entertainment, Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby* 260–262——Approval of different licenses for different entertainments, according to the nature of the building, &c., Sir *R. Mayne* 1191–1201——Contemplated difference in the license to music-halls and theatres, if the former be placed under the Lord Chamberlain; apprehended depreciation of the drama and of art if the music-halls had the same license as theatres, *Donne* 2362–2386——Suggestion that there be separate licenses for the theatres and music-halls, as in Paris, Viscount *Sydney* 7556, 7557. 7582.

Form of Lord Chamberlain's license for theatres, *App.* 291.

Recommendation by the Committee that there be different forms of licenses; one where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may be consumed in the auditorium of the building; the second where intoxicating drinks, refreshments, and tobacco may not be so consumed, *Rep.* iii.

France. Strict censorship of plays in France, especially in political matters, *Donne* 2406, 2407; *Boucicault* 4139–4142——Decline of acting in France, though there are more first class actors than in England; probable cause of such decline, *Webster* 3082–3094. 3105, 3106——Probability of the decline of acting talent in France being owing to the freer style of drama there than in England, *ib.* 3292–3294.

Abolition about two years ago of the privileges of certain theatres in France, since which time there has been free trade in theatres, and in dramatic performances, *Boucicault* 4086–4137——Witness lays before the Committee a copy of the edict or decree of the Emperor of the French, dated 6th January 1864, concerning the liberty of the theatres; several articles therein cited, *ib.* 4249. 4258; *App.* 315, 316——Explanation that the sixth Article of the decree leaves such public entertainments as are not theatres to the regulations of the district police authorities, *Boucicault* 4249–4251——Abolition by this decree of all preceding laws with regard to theatres and places of amusement, *ib.* 4250.

Examination as to the grounds for witness's conclusion that the French law or edict of January 1864 had abolished all previous laws of the theatres, *Boucicault* 4304–4331——With regard to smoking in the French theatres, witness was not aware there was a regulation prohibiting it, *ib.* 4335–4341.

Opinion that the French actors are incomparably superior to the English, *Wigan* 4905.

Regulations in regard to the supervision of the theatres, *App.* 316, 317. 322–324——Ordonnance of 1st July 1864 concerning the provisions for public safety in the theatres and other places of entertainment, *ib.* 317–321.

See also *Paris.*

Francis, David. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Is manager of the concerts and entertainments at, and is secretary of, the Beaumont Institution in the Mile End-road, 5984——Particulars relative to the foundation, objects, and cost of the institution, 5685——Large accommodation

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Francis, David. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

accommodation in the institution, there being a good stage and galleries, 5986–5991——Frequent use of the building for public meetings, concerts, &c., 5992, 5993——Great advantage to the institution if stage performances were allowed, and if admission money might be charged, 5994, 5995. 6006, 6007——Information relative to the character of the performances attempted to be given by means of the elocution class of the institution, but prohibited by the Lord Chamberlain's Department, or objected to by the theatres, 5995. 5999–6006——Circumstance of Mr. Toole, the actor, having first appeared at the Beaumont and other institutions, 5995–5998.

Injurious effect of the present legal restrictions as tending to break up the elocutionary class of the institution, 6006, 6007——Desire merely of the institution to give entertainments occasionally, and not to be turned into a theatre or a music hall, 6008–6017——Very restrictive character of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., 6012–6016——Doubt as to the necessity of any increase in the number of theatres, 6018, 6019——Reason recently given by Mr. Donne for objecting to a theatrical license to the Beaumont Institution, 6019–6024——Circumstance of the Greenwich Literary Institution having a theatrical license from the magistrates, 6024–6027——Permission to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul and Mr. and Mrs. German Reed to give dialogue entertainments, though not allowed at the Beaumont Institution, 6027–6030.

[Second Examination.]—Further details relative to the character of the entertainments disallowed at the Beaumont Institution; several instances of performances having taken place, though contrary to the Act, 6032 *et seq.*——Statement in further support of the institution being allowed to give certain classes of entertainment, and to charge for admission, 6056 *et seq.*——Objection to combining eating, drinking, and smoking with entertainments for the public, 6076–6086——Number of concerts and lectures now given at the Beaumont Institution, and amount of expenditure and receipt in respect thereof, 6082–6096. 6120——Approval of restrictions upon the conversion of literary institutes into theatres, 6097–6100.

Free Trade in Theatres. See *Actors. Competition. Drama, The. Number of Theatres.*

G.

Galer, Elliot. Particulars relative to the prosecution of Mr. Elliot Galer for certain performances in Leicester Temperance Hall, *Hollingshead* 5225–5227.

Germany. Practice both in Germany and Belgium to give dramatic performances in cafés chantants, *Boucicault* 4216. 4417–4420.

Ghost Illusion. Information in connection with the production of the ghost illusion at the music halls in Birmingham, *Poole* 5775–5791. *Saunders* 7410–7427.

Green, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been proprietor of Evans's for twenty-two years, and has been identified with places of musical entertainment for over forty years, 5531–5541——Sundry details in connection with the management of Evans's, and the character of the entertainments in former years and at the present time, 5536 *et seq.*——Great improvement in the class and tone of the music and singing, whilst the place is now conducted with the greatest propriety, 5547–5557. 5565–5591. 5613–5617. 5642–5645——Exclusion of women from the singing room, 5576, 5577. 5592.

Objectionable operation of many of the music halls in London, where the sexes meet together in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking, 5579. 5604. 5611. 5618–5628——Absence of any desire on witness's part to give theatrical representations at Evans's, which is essentially a supper house, 5580–5582. 5606, 5607——Immense power for good or evil of the music halls and other places of public entertainment in London, 5593——Approval of the music halls being allowed to give dramatic representations, but only upon condition that there is a strict supervision of the performances in the interests of public education and morality; great importance attached to such condition, 5593 *et seq.*

Non-objection to burlesques at music halls if large enough for the purpose, 5596–5603——Opinion that music halls should only be further empowered to have dancing and dialogue, these being illegal under the present system, 5637——Expediency of a strict check upon the songs in music halls, so as to prevent coarseness or immorality, 5639–5669——Part taken by witness in excluding indecent and coarse songs from the music halls, 5642–5645——Objectionable character of the song of "Sam Hall," adverted to; the song was, however, much misunderstood, 5642. 5674–5683.

Greenwich Literary Institution. Circumstance of the Greenwich Literary Institution having a theatrical license from the magistrates, *Francis* 6024–6027.

Greig, Major John James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been head constable of the Liverpool Police Force for the last 14 years, 6943——Licensing of the theatres in Liverpool by the magistrates, with the exception of the Theatre Royal, which is licensed by

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Greig, Major John James. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

the Lord Chamberlain, 6944——There are five theatres, *ib.*——License also by the magistrates of St. James's Hall, which is used by the Christy Minstrels, 6944, 6945. 6947, 6948.

Inquiries made by the magistrates when the annual licenses are applied for; check by this means upon the conduct of the theatres, and the arrangements for the public safety, 6946-6949. 6960-6971——Good attendance at the theatres; amount of accommodation in each, 6961, 6962. 7144-7152——Character of the check exercised by the police over the arrangements of the theatres; probable power also of the mayor to interfere, if necessary, 6963-6973.

Particulars relative to the music or concert halls in Liverpool, five in number, the character of the entertainments, amount of accommodation, &c., in each; absence of any smoking, drinking, or eating among the audiences, 6974-6981. 6992, 6993. 7085, 7086. 7098-7100. 7159-7167——Total of 33 public-houses which have singing and dancing, 6982, 6983——Opinion as to the mischievous effects arising from the combination of music and dancing, with spirit licenses, as in the Liverpool public-houses: examination hereon as to the comparatively few informations against these places, 6984-7017. 7029-7038. 7112-7143. 7174-7183.

Check by the theatres on the representation of stage plays in the public-houses, 6987-6991——Unobjectionable manner in which the Rotunda is conducted; character of the entertainments given, 6988-6991. 7104-7111. 7169-7173——Opinion that it would be better if public-houses, giving music and singing, had to obtain licenses for the latter from the magistrates, 6995-7010. 7029-7038——Character of the precautions in regard to the prevention of fire in the theatres, 7017-7028.

Information relative to the course pursued by the Liverpool magistrates in dealing with applications from public-houses for licenses; different views of the bench, in different years, as to the expediency of granting licenses freely, 7031-7033. 7088-7097——Non-interference of the magistrates with any of the theatres under the powers given them by the 9th section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., c. 68, 7042-7045——Circumstance of there being no separate rules laid down by the magistrates for witness's guidance, in connection with the licence to the theatres, 7046-7052.

Examination upon the question of the Philharmonic Concert Hall having only an occasional license from the magistrates for the sale of wine and spirits, 7053-7087——Very good conduct of the St. James's Hall, 7098-7100. 7159-7161——Limitation of the performances at the public-houses to music and dancing, including character dancing, 7101, 7102. 7112-7116——Objectionable conduct of many of these public-houses further adverted to, 7117-7143. 7177-7181.

Absence of any restriction upon the multiplication of theatres in Liverpool, 7153——Instance of the check exercised, through the police, upon objectionable performances in the theatres, 7154-7158——Nature of the check as to the means of egress provided in the public-houses where there is music and dancing, 7184, 7185——There are no theatrical performances ever given in the literary or scientific institutions, 7186-7192——Large accommodation in the Coloseum, the place being well conducted, 7193-7198.

H.

Half-price Theatres. Effect of the music-halls in destroying the half-price at some of the theatres, *Webster* 3129——Great injury caused by the music-halls to the theatres, especially as regards the half-price and the galleries, *Buckstone* 3408, 3409. 3543-3447.

Hanover Square Rooms. Explanation as to the circumstances and the authority under which the Lord Chamberlain has lately granted liceness to the Hanover Square Rooms, &c., for performances before 5 o'clock, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 154-169——Information as to the part taken by the Middlesex magistrates with reference to the license to the Hanover Square Rooms and Egyptian Hall; petition on the subject adverted to, *Pownall* 748-760.

Haymarket Theatre. Very little going on at the Haymarket in the way of drinking or refreshment, *Buckstone* 3384-3399——Efficient company at the Haymarket for the representation of the legitimate drama, *ib.* 3490-3492. 3506, 3507——Practice as to the hour of production of the principal piece, *ib.* 3508-3512——Great success of those pieces in which Mr. Sothern has appeared; attractiveness, also, of the old legitimate dramas, *ib.* 3530-3542.

Henry, Sir Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.) Has been magistrate at Bow street for many years; was also at Whitechapel and Lambeth Police Courts, 771-773——Result of witness's experience that very few cases are brought before him from the music and dancing halls, and that these places are well conducted, and are, on the whole, doing good, 774-780. 894-897. 915, 916. 929-931. 940-944——Power of the magistrates

to

Henry, Sir Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

to refuse a renewal of license, adverted to as the chief restraint upon the proprietors of the music-halls, 781, 782. 930.——Very slight supervision of these places by the police, 781.

Suggestion that there should be one officer for the licensing of music-halls and theatres in the metropolis, who should be aided by a proper staff, so as to secure a more complete supervision, 783 *et seq*——Advantage in the theatres and music-halls being under the same officer, 787–789. 798——Contemplated power in this officer at once to rescind any license, as well as to refuse renewals, 787. 790–803——Contemplated control of the Secretary of State over the proposed officer, 787. 797. 826. 891–893——Advantage of the uniformity to be obtained by the action of a single officer, 787——Increased check contemplated on the part of this officer in regard to the suppression of objectionable matter in plays, 794–803——Necessity of the proposed officer being a person of considerable ability and position, on account of the enlarged and magisterial powers to be vested in him, 797–803. 825–828. 889–893.

Means of laying down by Act of Parliament certain police regulations as a check upon the conduct of places of amusement, irrespectively of license from the magistrates, 804–807——Want of staff for an inspection of the places to be used as music and dancing halls, before a licensed is granted, 808–813——Considerable improvement in the conduct of theatres, since the removal of the saloons, 814–819——Discretion to be exercised by the licensing officer as to the number and class of places to be licensed, some restriction being desirable, 820–828——Advantage under the former practice in Paris of licensing particular theatres for particular descriptions of performances, 829–835.

Approval of the music-halls being empowered to produce light pieces, such as vaudevilles and burlettas, in addition to the ballet, 836–854. 902——Infringement of the privileges of the theatres if the music-halls were licensed for operas and for ordinary dramatic representations, 844–849—Difficulty in drawing a clear line of distinction between the performances to be allowed at music-halls and at theatres, 849. 900, 901——Increasing taste of the public for amusements where refreshments can also be had; propriety of this taste being yielded to and guided, 850. 916, 917. 952–959.

Advantage in men going with their wives to music-halls and having some drink and refreshment, rather than in frequenting public-houses alone and drinking to excess, 855, 856. 955–959——Respectable character of the great majority of the visitors at the Alhambra, whilst there is nothing more objectionable in the ballet there than at the Opera, 856–863——Proposal that a license for certain performances at any music-hall should be sufficient authority for obtaining a spirit license from the Excise, 864–877——Supervision suggested in regard to the conduct of the refreshment department, 876, 877.

Limited supervision now exercised by the police, who are for the time the servants of the proprietors, being paid by them; objection to this arrangement, 878–881. 885–888. 940–946——Expediency of the Act 25 Geo. 2 being repealed, and of a new Act being passed, 882–884——Want of an efficient supervision of the performances at music-halls, more especially as these places are increasing in number, 898, 899.

Dissent from the evidence of Mr. Spencer Ponsonby and Mr. Pownall as to the classes of people at the Alhambra, and their behaviour; witness saw no impropriety, 903–914——Belief that there are no private rooms at the Alhambra, 911. 914——Nor at Canterbury Hall, 914—— Disapproval of open competition between the music-halls and theatres, it being left rather to the licensing officer, under the guidance of the Act of Parliament, to define the performances to be allowed in each music-hall, 915–939.

Approval of the same rule for checking the character of each light piece at a music-hall, and each play at a theatre, 947–949——Importance of an altered form of construction of music-halls if licensed for the performance of light pieces, 950, 951——Non-objection to an enlargement of the Lord Chamberlain's Office as the means of securing an efficient licensing system, 960–962——Necessity of still employing police for the preservation of order, whilst the duties of the staff under the licensing officer should be confined to a supervision of the performances, 963–965.

Highbury Barn. Personal inspection by witness before licensing Highbury Barn as a theatre, *Viscount Sydney* 7578.

Holborn Casino. Excellent conduct of the Holborn Casino, *Sir T. Henry* 881.

Holborn Theatre. Particulars as to the requirements in regard to modes of egress, fire-proof passages, &c., at the new theatre proposed to be built in Holborn, *Donne* 2085–2102——Probability of the new theatre in Holborn being properly constructed, *Hollingshead,* 5240–5243.

Hollingshead, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is an author and journalist, and member of the Dramatic Authors' Society, 5214——Conclusion as to the restrictive and injurious effect produced upon the industry of dramatic authors by the existing legislation con-
373—I.

cerning

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Hollingshead, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

cerning theatres, 5215–5220——Great rise in the rents of the London theatres during the last 25 years, 5217——Mistake in dealing with the present question as one merely between music-halls and theatres, 5221——Statement that there are in this country 5000 places in which dramatic representations are given without license, irrespectively of music-halls, 5221. 5351–5356.

Approval of dramatic performances being permitted in music-halls, literary institutes, &c., if the buildings are suitable, 5222, 5223. 5238—— Performance of stage plays in literary institutes without prosecutions often taking place, 5223, 5224——Particulars relative to the prosecution of Mr. Elliot Galer for certain performances in Leicester Temperance Hall, 5225–5237—— Resolution adopted by the St. James's Hall Company in support of Mr. Locke's Bill, 5231——Faulty and unfit character of many of the London theatres for dramatic representations, 5238, 5239——Probability of the new theatre in Holborn being properly constructed, 5240–5243.

Argument that the censorship of the press and the opinion of the public are a sufficient check upon immoral plays, and that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain is ineffectual and unnecessary, 5244–5247. 5254. 5330–5332. 5342–5350——Increased taste of the public for intellectual amusement, 5248, 5249——Insufficiency of the accommodation in theatres, if several of them had attractive pieces at the same time, 5250–5253——Witness has never noticed anything more indecent in music-halls than in theatres, 5254—— Absence of impropriety in the songs at Evans's, or at the music-halls generally, 5254–5262.

Statement as to the Alhambra being much more a theatre than a music-hall; costly ballets produced there, 5263–5268——Proceedings taken against Mr. Strange adverted to, as not having been followed up since the decision of the judges in October last, 5269–5272—— Probability of music-halls performing light pieces, such as farces, vaudevilles, comic operas, &c., if licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, whilst the theatres would provide the more legitimate drama and the more intellectual forms of entertainment, 5273–5287. 5312–5317. 5362–5368.

Good musical entertainment at the Alhambra; improvement if comic operas could be rendered, 5281–5287——Conduct of the canteen at the Alhambra adverted to; doubt as to its being open to any serious objection, 5288–5297. 5336–5341——Illegal performance of stage plays at present throughout the country, so that it is the more expedient to legalise them, 5298, 5299——Statement showing that good actors and singers have been produced by the music-halls, 5300–5311——Efficiency of Mr. Robson as an actor when at the Grecian Saloon or music-hall, 5300–5307.

Increased demand for dramatic writers if the music-halls were thrown open, 5312–5317. 5320–5322——Effect of opening the music-halls to the drama in increasing the salaries of actors, 5317, 5318——Impracticability of a fixed limit as to the number of performers to be allowed in music-halls, 5319–5322——Expediency of a careful survey of theatres and music-halls with a view to the public safety, 5323–5329——Different practice in Liverpool and Birmingham as to dramatic performances in music-halls, 5333——Dissent from the views of Mr. Tom Taylor and other witnesses as to the drama requiring protection, 5334, 5335.

Practice as to dramatic representations in literary institutes in London contrary to law; number of such places, 5357–5361——Anticipated improvement in the entertainments at music-halls, and in the taste of the public, if the present restrictions were withdrawn, 5362–5368—— Grounds for concluding that theatres in London are now very prosperous if well managed, 5369–5378——Adequate supply of actors for all the theatres, 5379, 5380——Statement as to actors themselves having, in many instances, an antipathy to music-halls, whereas witness fully believes their salaries would be greatly increased under a system of free trade in the drama, 5381–5386.

Home Secretary (Right of Appeal). See *Censorship. Lord Chamberlain's Department.*

Hours of Opening of Music-halls, &c. Suggestion that the restriction as to the opening of licensed music-halls be limited to the period between midnight and six o'clock in the morning, *Pownall* 450. 631. 634, 635——Explanation as to places of entertainment being sometimes allowed to be kept open after one o'clock in the morning, *Sir R. Mayne* 1041–1044. 1186.

I.

Illegal Performances. Claim now made by the music-halls to the privilege of performing operas, &c, whilst the theatres oppose such claim under the Act of 1843, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 28——Present state of the law, that no place which is not really a theatre can give a theatrical representation, *ib.* 367–369——Unsettled state of the law as to the performances legal at music-halls, *Bodkin* 1807, 1808. 1952.

Conclusion

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Illegal Performances—continued.

Conclusion as to the entire illegality of the performances at music-halls generally in London, *Boucicault* 4278. 4347-4350——Illegal performance of stage plays at present throughout the country, so that it is the more expedient to legalise them, *Hollingshead* 5298, 5299. 5351-5361.

Statement as to its not being considered the business of witness's department to interfere with the performances in music-halls; even though illegal performances may be given, Viscount *Sydney* 7585-7596, 7644, 7645——Importance of removing the present uncertainty of the law as to the performances legal at music-halls; difficulty of a clear definition on the subject, *ib.* 7639. 7701-7706. 7770, 7771. 7789-7794——Interference of witness's department if a regular theatre were to give performances without a license, *ib.* 7644-7647.

See also *Legal Proceedings.*

Immorality:

1. *Music-halls.*
2. *Theatres.*

1. *Music-halls:*

Statement as to the more objectionable character of music-halls than of theatres, in regard to the presence of women of the town, Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby* 178-182. 195-199. 309-314; *Buckstone* 3410-3421——Belief as to the prevalence of much immorality in connection with music-halls and other licensed places; objection especially to the private rooms, *Pownall* 418, 419. 494-519——Instances of immoral results from attendance at music-halls, *ib.* 517-519. 602-606——Great difficulty in preventing mischievous consequences if the public could witness theatrical representations in music-halls and public houses, whilst they were at the same time probably indulging in drink, *ib.* 564-583.

Occurrence of immoral practices at music-halls chiefly late in the evening, it being impossible, or extremely difficult, to prevent mischief through the police, *Pownall* 578-583——Improvement in the state of the streets at night by the attractions at music-halls, &c., *ib.* 721-723——Opinion further expressed as to the music and dancing rooms engendering vice, *ib.* 727-731——Belief that the magistrates are not now made cognisant of any gross improprieties at the places in respect of which licenses are applied for, *ib.* 770.

Apprehended impetus to immorality and juvenile crime if music-halls were not restricted in the performance of ballets, dramatic pieces, &c., *Bodkin* 1825-1837. 1856-1866. 1908. 1923-1928. 1974——Statement as to the absence of police, complaints being no proof that there is nothing objectionable going on at the music-halls, *ib.* 2004, 2005——Absence of detriment to public morals if the music-halls were converted into theatres, and thus came under the same inspection as the theatres, *Donne* 2497-2499——Prohibition upon the public at music-halls going behind the stage, or into any places at all private, *Stanley* 2776.

Immoral atmosphere of music-halls as compared with theatres; grounds for this statement, *Webster* 2991-3008. 3122-3127. 3135-3140. 3165-3170. 3249——Expediency of a strict check upon the songs in music-halls, so as to prevent coarseness or immorality, *Webster* 3132; *Smith* 3624; *Green* 5639-5669; *Coyne* 5818, 5819; *Knowles* 6227-6231. 6259-6262. 6271-6275——Very indecent and objectionable songs, &c., at some of the music-halls, there being a great want of supervision over many of these places, *Smith* 3606-3610. 3623, 3624. 3874, 3875; *Lee* 5011, 5012. 5023. 5035-5037.

Belief as to the absence of any improprieties in the conduct of the music-halls, *Boucicault* 4246, 4247——Absence of impropriety in the songs at Evans's, or at the music-halls generally, *Hollingshead* 5254-5262——Witness has never noticed anything more indecent in music-halls than in theatres, *ib.* 5254.

Objectionable operation of many of the music-halls in London, where the sexes meet together, in the presence of eating, drinking and smoking, *Green* 5579. 5604-5611. 5618-5628——Immense power for good or evil of the music-halls and other places of public entertainment in London, *ib.* 5593——Disapproval, on the score of morality, of men and women eating and drinking together while the drama is being represented; morals of Parisian society adverted to hereon, *Coyne* 5857-5859. 5868-5870. 5975-5978.

2. *Theatres:*

Impossibility of any immorality in the private boxes in theatres, *Webster* 3002-3008. 3249; *Wigan* 4724-4726——Witness has never seen any curtains drawn across the front of the boxes in respectable theatres, *Webster* 3004-3008; *Smith* 4018-4021——Explanation that witness does not adopt the former practice of allowing gentlemen to go behind the scenes; nor is it the custom of other managers to do so, *Webster* 3165-3170. 3209-3215; *Buckstone* 3558-3560; *Smith* 3706-3721.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Immorality—continued.

2. *Theatres*—continued.

Inability of witness to deny that at some theatres ladies may have been allowed to act without salary, or may have paid for permission to appear on the stage, *Wigan* 4736-4739——Explanation that witness has no positive knowledge that managers have received sums of money to allow ladies to appear on the stage, *ib.* 4898.

See also *Alhambra*, 4, 5. *Censorship. Saloons in Theatres. Women of the Town.*

Inspection of Buildings. Particulars as to the inspection of the plans and buildings before theatres are licensed, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 291–301; *Donne* 2071–2076. 2105–2116——Want of staff for an inspection of the places to be used as music and dancing halls before a license is granted, *Sir T. Henry* 808–813——Expediency of a strong staff of inspectors if the music-halls, &c., were placed under the Lord Chamberlain, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1290, 1291——Necessity of a central licensing officer being aided by a proper inspecting staff, *Wigan* 4925–4927.

Regulations in regard to the inspection of theatres by the examiner of plays, *App.* 296.

See also *Public Safety.*

Interiors of Theatres. Considerable improvement effected in the interior of many of the theatres, at the instance of witness's department, Viscount *Sydney* 7579, 7580. 7597–7603——Great willingness of the managers to fall in with the views and directions of the department as to improvements in the interiors, *ib.* 7579. 7598. 7607, 7608. 7769.

See also *Public Safety.*

Italian Operas. Impression as to the two Italian Operas not being damaging to the national drama, *Buckstone* 3517, 3518.

J.

Jackson, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is head constable of Sheffield, 7200, 7201——There is but one licensed theatre in Sheffield, the Theatre Royal, 7202–7204——Rules drawn up by the magistrates in licensing the theatre, by which they may close the theatre if the rules are infringed, 7205–7211——The theatre is very well conducted, 7212, 7213——Large music-hall at Sheffield, called the Alexandra Music-hall, not licensed as a theatre, and having only a beer license; this place also is exceedingly well conducted, and all improper characters are excluded, 7215–7218. 7271–7274. 7281. 7292–7295. 7305, 7306——There is a second music-hall in which concerts and other entertainments are given, 7218–7220. 7281.

Information relative to certain public houses at Sheffield, in which character dancing and singing are the chief entertainments, and which are largely attended by artizans and their wives; these places are unobjectionable and well conducted, 7221–7228. 7235, 7236. 7245–7257. 7309 *et seq.*—— Necessity of Local Acts in order to give music and dancing licenses in provincial towns, 7229–7234——Oldham has recently obtained an Act by which these licenses may be granted by the magistrates, 7233. 7241–7244——Suppression of two places where the audience joined in the dancing, 7236. 7268–7270.

Suggestion that young persons up to the age of fourteen should be excluded from the public houses when character dancing, and singing, and smoking take place, 7258–7267——Advantage if the magistrates could make rules for places having music and dancing, as well as for the theatre; it should, in fact, be necessary to obtain a license for music and dancing in the same way as a spirit license, 7275. 7347–7353——Important difference between casinos or music-halls in London and music-halls, such as the Alexandra, in Sheffield, 7276–7281. 7292–7302. 7307, 7308.

There is no place at Sheffield where theatrical performances are given whilst the audience are eating, drinking, and smoking, 7283, 7284——Interference of witness if anything like theatrical performances were given in the public houses or concert rooms, or in any place not licensed as a theatre, 7285–7291. 7354–7369——Reference to Evans's in London as being exceedingly well conducted, 7303, 7304——Character of the performances in public houses at Sheffield, whilst drinking and smoking are going on; particulars hereon as to the supervision exercised over these places by the police, 7309–7346.

Difficulty as to witness's interference on account of the uncertainty as to what constitutes a theatrical performance; instance of this, 7354–7369——Dismissal of an information laid by the theatre at Sheffield against a sort of pantomime in a circus, the magistrates not considering it a theatrical performance, 7370——Precautions required in regard to prevention of fire before a theatrical license is granted at Sheffield or Oldham, 7371–7374.

K.

Kean, Charles. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has had considerable experience of theatres in the United States, 6558–6561——Great difference between the habits of the Americans and the English, the former dining early and being thus more at liberty to frequent the theatres, 6562, 6563. 6571——Relative proportion of theatres to population in New York and London respectively; free trade in theatres in the former place, 6564–6567——Crowded state of the New York theatres since the civil war adverted to as only temporary, 6568–6570. 6578——Performance in America chiefly of the sensational drama, the legitimate drama not being acted as a general rule, 6572–6577.

Impression that in Australia there is no restriction upon the building of theatres, 6579–9581——Absence of music-halls in the United States, 6582, 6583——Prohibition of smoking in the theatres in America and Australia, 6584–6586——Practice not to supply drink or refreshment in the auditorium of American theatres, 6587–6592——Particulars relative to the theatres in Australia; absence of any legislative or police restrictions, 6593–6602.

Strong objection to the performance of stage plays in music-halls, or in the presence of smoking, eating and drinking; great deterioration of the drama thereby, 6603–6605. 6641–6658——Argument that the present low state of the drama, and the paucity of good actors, are due mainly to the abolition of the privileges of the patent theatres and the want of a school for acting 6607 *et seq.* 6685–6689——Necessity of limiting the number of theatres in order to obtain a supply of trained and good actors, the present system tending directly to create a large supply of untrained and inefficient men, 6608 *et seq.*

Great difficulty in obtaining good plays, 6636–6640——Belief that no good author would write a play for a music-hall, 6641——Objection of the better class of actors to perform in music-halls, 6642–6645. 6656–6658——Disapproval of the music-halls being permitted to perform light pieces, though they might be allowed to perform ballet and pantomine, 6646–6659. 6717, 6718——Doubt as to any increase in the salaries of actors if the music-halls could employ them in light pieces, 6656–6658.

Examination as to the theatres not having always confined themselves to the representation of the legitimate drama in former years, 6659–6683——Illustration, in the case of witness, of a successful career commenced at one of the patent theatres, 6685–6687——Limited supply of rising actors who come to London from country towns as compared with former years, 6689–6705——Prejudicial effect of the very general abolition of the office of stage manager, since the theatres have been thrown open, 6705–6711——Increase in the number of theatres in Liverpool adverted to, 6712–6716.

Knowles, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is proprietor of the Theatre Royal at Manchester; purchased the patent from the proprietor of the former theatre, 6122–6127——Nominal value of witness's patent, except as dispensing with a license from the magistrates; the fees on renewal of the license are, however, much more expensive than an annual license, 6128–6133. 6285–6293. 6398–6407——Total of four theatres now in Manchester; these are more than are necessary, 6134–6147. 6195–6204——Much worse supply of good actors than in former years, there being an abundant supply of bad actors, 6148–6151. 6320–6326——Slight improvement in the salaries of actors in the provinces, 6152–6154. 6322——System of annual licenses granted by the magistrates to the Manchester theatres, without any difficulties being experienced, 6155–6170.

Details relative to the music-halls in Manchester, and the performances given in them, 6171–6194. 6205–6216. 6276–6284. 6373–6381——Objection to dramatic performances in the presence of eating, drinking and smoking, as tending to degrade the drama still lower than it is at present, 6177–6179. 6217–6226. 6256–6262. 6294–6303——Statement as to the Manchester music-halls possessing only an excise license; check upon them thereby, 6180–6194. 6281, 6282——Impression as to these places being conducted with propriety, 6183–6185. 6233. 6327, 6328.

Suggested censorship of music-halls as well as of theatres; objectionable character of the songs in the former adverted to hereon, 6227–6231. 6259–6262. 6271–6275——Circumstance of witness not choosing to have a wine and spirit license for his theatre, 6236–6244——Absence of benefit to dramatic authors by the music-halls being thrown open, 6249, 6250——Difficulty in getting good plays; failure recently of a new piece of Mr. Boucicault, 6251–6254——Objection to a ballet or character dancing in music-halls, 6294–6303. 6382–6389——Injurious effect of the music-halls upon the theatres, 6304–6307——Less value of witness's patent than formerly when there was a monopoly, 6308–6318.

Approval of the principle of free trade in theatres, that is, if the buildings are erected and conducted as theatres, 6319. 6333, 6334——Witness is on the whole satisfied with the present system, and does not ask for legislative interference, 6327–6332——Particu-

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Knowles, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

lars relative to the theatres at Rochdale, Bolton, Wigan, Preston and Oldham, 6344–6373——In most country towns pantomime is the chief attraction, 6372——Character of the entertainments at the Belle Vue Gardens in Manchester, which are like Cremorne, 6390-6395——Impression that there are no penny gaffs at Manchester, and that the police would not permit them, 6396, 6397——Expediency of proper supervision over all places of public entertainment, 6408.

L.

"*La Traviata.*" Circumstances of an English version of "La Traviata" having been refused a license at Drury Lane; opinion that the original opera in Italian should not have been sanctioned at the Italian Opera, Hon. *S. C. B. Ponsonby* 193, 194. 227–233. 347, 348——With regard to the refusal of a license for "La Dame aux Camelias," this does not proceed from the same examiner who sanctioned "La Traviata," *Donne* 2280, 2281.

Leclercq, Miss Carlotta. Belief that Miss Carlotta Leclercq did not spring from a music-hall, *Turner* 5076, 5077——Miss Carlotta Leclercq came out at the Grecian, *Hollingshead* 5300. 5308.

Lee, Nelson. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager of the City of London Theatre; has been manager or lessee of several other theatres in the metropolis, and had formerly a travelling theatre, 4930–4932——Facility with which witness used to obtain permission from the local magistrates to perform in country towns when he travelled about with a company, 4934-4942——Character of the pieces brought out at the City of London Theatre; difficulty recently in obtaining attractive pieces, 4944–4948.

Very considerate and satisfactory manner in which the licensing of plays for witness's theatre has been carried out by the Lord Chamberlain, 4949–4951. 5018——Conclusion as to the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain being positively necessary, 4953–4958. 5019——Injury to witness's theatre through the competition of neighbouring music-halls, 4959–4964. 5024–5026——Very little drinking in the theatre as compared with the music-halls, 4965–4968——Much less attentive audiences at music-halls than at theatres, whilst the former would be much more objectionable if they combined the drama with eating, drinking and smoking, 4968 *et seq.*

Injury to the music-halls themselves, as well as to the theatres, if the former were to give dramatic performances, 4975–4983. 4987–5001. 5021–5026——Degradation of the drama if acted in the presence of eating, drinking and smoking, 4980–4983. 5002——Undue advantage over the theatres, if music-halls could produce dramas in addition to their profits on drink, 4993-5000. 5040——Non-objection to the music-halls having ballets and pantomime sketches, 5004–5009. 5022. 5027–5029. 5032. 5038——Objection to farces or burlesques at music-halls, or to a permission to employ as many as four actors, 5010–5017. 5028–5031.

Belief as to indecent songs being sung at some music-halls, 5011, 3012. 5023. 5035–5037——Dissent from the opinion of Mr. Boucicault as to the music-halls having led to increased audiences at the theatres, 5033, 5034——Opinion as to its being feasible to define the time up to which music-halls might go in the way of performances, 5038. 5041, 5042——Decided objection to the music-halls giving operas in full, 5039.

Legal Proceedings. General attack on the part of the theatres against the music-halls in 1860; further combination against them after the lapse of a few years, *Stanley* 2738–2752——Reference to the proceedings against Canterbury Hall in respect of "Hodge Podge"; subsequent suggestion by Mr. Norton to apply to the Lord Chamberlain to license this piece, *ib.* 2752–2762——Performance at present of a ballet at Canterbury Hall, for which, in witness's opinion, a penalty might be inflicted; the managers of the theatres have not, however, taken any legal proceedings lately, *ib.* 2763–2771——Exclusion of complaint by the theatres, if the music-halls were legally empowered to employ six actors, and kept within this limitation, *ib.* 2836–2842.

Suggestion that the Lord Chamberlain should have funds at his disposal for the prosecution of those who infringe the laws, *Webster* 3223, 3224——Constant litigation by attempting to define any line between music-halls and theatres, *Boucicault* 4433, 4434——Explanations as to the prosecutions against the music-halls having been undertaken in witness's name, *Wigan* 4631, 4632——Proceedings taken against Mr. Strange adverted to, as not having been followed up since the decision of the judges in October last, *Hollingshead* 5269–5272.

See also *Alhambra*, 3. *Illegal Performances.*

Legislation. Special legislation required for the protection of the drama and of acting, as special art, *Webster* 2938–2947.

See also *Drama, The.*

Leicester Temperance Hall. See *Galer Elliot.*

Licenses (Theatres and Music Halls.) See *Act* 25 *Geo.* 2, *c.* 36. *Act* 6 & 7 *Vict. c.* 68. *Competition. Lord Chamberlain's Department. Magistrates' Licenses. Music Halls.* Also the Headings generally throughout the Index.

Literary Institutions. Performance of stage plays in literary institutes, without prosecutions, often taking place, *Hollingshead* 5223, 5224——Practice as to dramatic representations in literary institutes in London contrary to law; number of such places, *ib.* 5357–5361——Fees paid to dramatic authors when their plays are rendered in literary institutes, *Coyne* 5900–5903——Approval of a permission to institutes to perform stage pieces, it being now illegal in them to have anything more than reading or recitation by one individual, *ib.* 5903–5912——Approval of restrictions upon the conversion of literary institutes into theatres, though witness contends that the Beaumont Institution has been unduly restricted through not being allowed a license, *Francis* 6097–6100.

Explanation in justification of the refusal of occasional theatrical licences to literary institutions and other places; that is, on the ground of public safety, *Viscount Sydney,* 7648–7665.

See also *Beaumont Institution.*

Litigation. See *Illegal Performances. Legal Proceedings.*

Liverpool:

1. *Theatres.*
2. *Music Halls, &c.*
3. *Public Houses.*
4. *Literary Institutions.*

1. *Theatres:*

Increase in the number of theatres in Liverpool adverted to, *Kean* 6712–6716——Licensing of the theatres in Liverpool by the magistrates, with the exception of the Theatre Royal, which is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, *Greig* 6944——There are altogether five theatres in Liverpool, *ib.*

Inquiries made by the magistrates when the annual licenses are applied for; check by this means upon the conduct of the theatres, and the arrangements for the public safety, *Greig* 6946. 6949–6960. 6971——Good attendance at the theatres; amount of accommodation in each, *ib.* 6961, 6962. 7144–7152——Character of the check exercised by the police over the arrangements of the theatres; probable power also of the mayor to interfere if necessary, *ib.* 6963–6973.

Non-interference of the magistrates with any of the theatres under the powers given them by the 9th section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 68, *Gray* 7042–7045——Circumstance of there being no separate rules laid down by the magistrates for witness's guidance in connection with the license to the theatres, *ib.* 7046–7052——Absence of any restriction upon the multiplication of theatres, *ib.* 7153——Instance of the check exercised through the police upon objectionable performances in the theatres, *ib.* 7154–7158.

Rules for the regulation of theatres in Liverpool, *App.* 333.

2. *Music Halls:*

Different practice in Liverpool and Birmingham as to dramatic performances in music-halls, *Hollingshead* 5333.

Particulars relative to the music or concert halls in Liverpool, five in number, the character of the entertainments, amount of accommodation, &c. in each; absence of any eating, drinking, or smoking amongst the audiences, *Greig* 6944, 6945. 6974–6981. 6992, 6993. 7085, 7086. 7098–7100. 7159–7167——The Liverpool magistrates license St. James's Hall which is used by the Christy Minstrels, *ib.* 6944, 6945. 6947, 6948——Unobjectionable manner in which the Rotunda is conducted; character of the entertainments given, *ib.* 6988–6991. 7104–7111. 7169–7173.

Examination upon the question of the Philharmonic Court Hall having only an occasional license from the magistrates for the sale of wine and spirits, *Greig* 7053–7087——Very good conduct of the St. James's Hall, *ib.* 7098–7100. 7159–7161——Large accommodation in the Coliseum, the place being well conducted, *ib.* 7193–7198.

3. *Public Houses:*

Total of 33 public houses which have singing and dancing, *Greig* 6982, 6983——Opinion as to the mischievous effects arising from the combination of music and dancing with spirit licenses in the Liverpool public-houses; examination herein as to the comparatively few informations against these places, *ib.* 6984–7017. 7029–7038. 7112–7143. 7174–7183——Check by the theatres on the representation of stage plays in the public-houses, *ib.* 6987–6991——Opinion that it would be better if public-houses giving music and singing had to obtain licenses for the latter from the magistrates, *ib.* 6995–7010. 7029–7038.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Liverpool—continued.

3. *Public Houses*—continued.

Information relative to the course pursued by the Liverpool magistrates in dealing with applications from public houses for licenses; different views of the bench in different years as to the expediency of granting licenses freely, *Greig* 7031–7033. 7088–7097—— Limitation of the performance at the public-houses to music and dancing, including character dancing, *ib.* 7101, 7102. 7112–7116——Objectionable conduct of many of these public-houses further adverted to, *ib.* 7117–7143. 7177–7181——Nature of the check as to the means of egress provided in the public-houses where there is music and dancing, *ib.* 7184, 7185.

4. *Literary Institutions:*

There are no theatrical performances ever given in the literary or scientific institutions, *Greig* 7186–7192.

Local Acts. Necessity of local acts, in order to give music and dancing licenses in provincial towns, *Jackson* 7229–7234.

"*Lola Montes.*" Statement relative to the suspension by the Lord Chamberlain of a piece called "Lola Montes," written by witness in 1848, and passed in the first instance by the censor, *Coyne* 5822–5831. 5941–5948.

Lord Chamberlain's Department (*Licensing System*):

1. *Powers and Practice of the Lord Chamberlain in the Licensing of Theatres.*
2. *Question of Licensing a New Theatre contemplated by Mr. Boucicault.*
3. *Evidence in Approval, generally, of the present System.*
4. *Exception taken to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer.*
5. *Question of an Appeal to the Home Secretary.*
6. *Suggestions for largely extending the Jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, and for the Licensing by him of both Music Halls and Theatres.*
7. *Increase of Staff to be required if the Jurisdiction be extended.*
8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Powers and Practice of the Lord Chamberlain in the Licensing of Theatres:*

Sole power of the Lord Chamberlain in regard to the licensing of theatres within the metropolitan boroughs, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 29–33——Refusal almost invariably of applications, there being, in fact, no applications from new places as *bonâ fide* theatres, *ib.* 256, 257.

Requirement of the Lord Chamberlain, merely, that the building is adapted to theatrical purposes, without at all desiring that there should be any monopoly of licensed theatres, *Donne* 2147–2158. 2175–2220——Practice of considering the feeling in the neighbourhood before licensing a new theatre in any locality, *ib.* 2199–2208——Business of those applying for a license for a new theatre to show that the neighbourhood is not averse, *ib.* 2309–2311——Propriety of some consultation of the neighbourhood before the erection of a new theatre is sanctioned, *ib.* 2519–2521.

Willingness always evinced by witness to license new theatres if the locality and site were satisfactory, and if the plans showed that the public safety was properly provided for, *Viscount Sydney* 7574–7579. 7665–7671——Expediency of some consideration being given to any local objections to the erection of new theatres, *ib.* 7759, 7760.

Explanatory statement as to the course pursued, generally, by the Lord Chamberlain's department in the licensing of theatres, *App.* 279–283.

List of the various entertainments licensed by the Lord Chamberlain from 1628 to 1866, *App.* 286, 287.

Provisions of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., in regard to the grant of licenses by the Lord Chamberlain, and the justices respectively, *App.* 288–291.

2. *Question of Licensing a New Theatre contemplated by Mr. Boucicault:*

Circumstances connected with an application, by Mr. Boucicault, for a license to a theatre which he contemplated building in the Haymarket; the plans not being before the Lord Chamberlain, the license could not absolutely be granted, *Donne* 2196–2211.

Statement as to witness having been told he might experience some difficulty in obtaining a license for a new theatre, *Boucicault* 4149, 4150——Explanation that witness was not deterred by any intimation from the Lord Chamberlain's Office from proceeding with a new theatre in the Haymarket, *ib.* 4402–4409——Objection raised on the part of the Office of Woods and Forests, as ground-landlords of the site whereon the new theatre was to be built, *ib.* 4406–4408.

Inaccuracy of any statement that it was through any difficulties raised in witness's department, that Mr. Boucicault was prevented from building a new theatre, *Viscount Sydney* 7578. 7758. 7783–7787.

3. *Evidence*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S DEPARTMENT (LICENSING SYSTEM)—continued.

3. *Evidence in Approval, generally, of the present System:*

Approval, generally, of the system of licensing, as a salutary check upon places of amusement, *Donne* 2335-2339——Very salutary operation of the present system of licensing theatres, *Webster* 2893——Entire satisfaction expressed with the present system of theatrical licensing, *ib.* 3130-3132. 3301, 3302——Very fair way in which the licensing powers of the Lord Chamberlain are exercised, *Buckstone* 3561-3563. 3570-3572——Approval, generally, of the present system of theatrical licenses, *Smith* 3601——Witness is, on the whole, satisfied with the present system, and does not ask for legislative interference, *Knowles* 6327-6332.

4. *Exception taken to the Lord Chamberlain as the Licensing Officer:*

Special officer required for the licensing of theatres, in lieu of a changeable official, *Boucicault* 4079——Different views of different Lord Chamberlains, as to the propriety of licensing more theatres, *ib.* 4148.

5. *Question of an Appeal to the Home Secretary:*

Contemplated control of the Secretary of State over the proposed licensing officer, *Sir T. Henry* 787. 797. 826. 891-893——Suggested appeal from the Lord Chamberlain to the Home Secretary, in the matter of licenses to theatres, &c., *Hon. G. C. Norton,* 1292-1295——Opinion as to the satisfactory character of the appeal from witness to the Lord Chamberlain, *Donne* 2340-2349.

6. *Suggestions for largely extending the Jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, and for the Licensing by him of both Music Halls and Theatres:*

Very objectionable result of the conflicting jurisdiction between the Lord Chamberlain and the magistrates, as to the licensing of theatres and music halls, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 234-238——Advantage if there were one responsible officer to license for the whole metropolis, *ib.* 238. 259. 263. 334. 380——Approval of all semi-theatrical and scenic entertainments being under license from the Lord Chamberlain, *Pownall* 418-421. 424-442. 464-468. 490-493. 724-726——Contemplated licensing by the Lord Chamberlain, exclusively, of all theatrical entertainments in their widest sense, *ib.* 450.

Suggestion that there should be one officer for the licensing of music-halls and theatres in the metropolis, who should be aided by a proper staff so as to secure a more complete supervision, *Sir T. Henry* 787. 789. 798——Advantage of the uniformity to be obtained by the action of a single licensing officer for theatres and music-halls, *Sir T. Henry* 787; *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1348——Necessity of the proposed officer being a person of considerable ability and position on account of the enlarged and magisterial powers to be vested in him, *Sir T. Henry* 797-803. 825-828. 889-893——Discretion to be exercised by the licensing officer as to the number and class of places to be licensed, some restriction being desirable, *ib.* 820-828.

Concurrence in the opinion that there should be only one authority for licensing music-halls and theatres, *Sir R. Mayne* 1158-1165. 1171-1175——Advantage if the music-halls as well as the theatres were under license from the Lord Chamberlain, aided by a proper inspecting staff, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1251 *et seq.* 1345-1348——Extensive district over which it is proposed to give jurisdiction to the Lord Chamberlain, that is, if aided by a suitable staff, *ib.* 1276-1282. 1290, 1291. 1345-1347.

Recommendation that all theatrical representations be under the license and control of the Lord Chamberlain, who might in his discretion license such places as the Alhambra, and class them as theatres, *Bodkin* 1845 *et seq.*——Approval of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain being extended to the whole metropolitan district, *ib.* 1927-1931.

Denial that there would be any partiality in the Lord Chamberlain's Department in favour of theatres if the music-halls were placed under the department, *Donne* 2527, 2528——Improvement if the licenses in town and country were all under one officer, and were given as a matter of course if the buildings were proved to be safe, *Wigan* 4920-4929.

Advantage of placing country theatres under the license of the Lord Chamberlain, *Turner* 5189-5198; *Simpson* 5388 *et seq.*; *Reade* 6857-6860——Contemplated creation of an independent officer for licensing and controlling both theatres and music-halls, *Coyne* 5954-5969——Reason for preferring the Lord Chamberlain to the magistrates as the licensing authority, *Reade* 6857, 6858.

Witness has for some time been strongly of opinion that the theatres and music-halls should all be under one jurisdiction, *Viscount Sydney* 7556. 7568——The Lord Chamberlain's department could undertake the licensing of music-halls in the metropolis, and would probably be a more fit department for the purpose than the Home Office, *ib.* 7556. 7568-7571.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Lord Chamberlain's Department (*Licensing System*)—continued.

7. *Increase of Staff to be required if the Jurisdiction be extended:*

Additional staff required in the Lord Chamberlain's office if he were to carry out an extended system of licensing, including the music-halls, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 263–268——Non-objection to an enlargement of the Lord Chamberlain's office as the means of securing an efficient licensing system, *Sir T. Henry* 960–962——Necessary increase of staff and of expense if the music-halls were under the Lord Chamberlain, and if the buildings had to be inspected, *Donne* 2352–2358. 2529–2533.

An additional staff would be necessary, the expense of which might be met by the fees for the licenses, *Viscount Sydney* 7556. 7561–7568. 7746–7553——Difficulty at present in stating the staff to be required in witness's office if entrusted with the licensing and supervision of music-halls, *ib.* 7636–7638. 7746–7753. 7761——Necessity of obtaining the Queen's consent to any increase of witness's department, as the staff is paid for out of the Civil List, *ib.* 7673, 7674. 7746–7753.

8. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Opinion of the Committee as to the present system of double jurisdiction, that is, of the Lord Chamberlain and of the magistrates, being inconvenient and unsatisfactory, *Rep.* iii——Recommendation that the power of licensing hitherto vested in the magistrates by Act 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, s. 2 & 3, be transferred to the same authority, which may be empowered to grant licenses to theatres, so that the entire regulation of theatres, music-halls, and other places of public entertainment, be placed under one authority, *ib.*

Further resolution of the Committee that the power of licensing music-halls, theatres, &c., could not be efficiently exercised by a subordinate authority, and that it is therefore desirable that it should be placed in the hands of an officer of high position and dignity, *Rep.* iii——Also that it is desirable that the department of the Lord Chamberlain be so organised as to be able to deal with all such places of public entertainment within the metropolis, *ib.*——Also that the control which the Lord Chamberlain now exercises over the performances in theatres should be extended to other places of entertainment for which licenses may be required, *ib.*

Recommendation that subject to certain conditions as to site and public safety licenses be granted to new theatres irrespectively of competition, *Rep.* iii——Also that the decisions of the Lord Chamberlain should be subject to an appeal to the Home Secretary, as far as the original granting of licenses is concerned, *ib.* iv——Also that the grant of licenses to new theatres in the country should, in the first instance, rest with the Lord Chamberlain, *ib.*

See *also Act* 25 *Geo.* 2, *c.* 36. *Alhambra*, 1. *Ballets. Beaumont Institution. Censorship. Conflict of Jurisdiction. Country Theatres. Drama, The. Forms of License. Holborn Theatre. Music Halls. Number of Theatres. Public Safety.*

Lyceum Theatre. Great increase in the rent of the theatre since 1844, *Hollingshead* 5217.

M.

Magistrates' Licenses:

Separation of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain from that of the magistrates by the refusal of the former to grant licenses to the music halls, whilst the latter can only license them for music and dancing, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 240–249——Grant of music and dancing licenses by the magistrates under authority of the Act 25 Geo. 2, *ib.* 364–366.

Explanation as to the Middlesex magistrates having, since 1851, when granting licenses specified in all cases the particular entertainment which may be given, *Pownall* 395–414——Great increase in the number of magistrates' licenses, there being in 1865 a total of 291 music licenses and of 60 licenses for dancing and music, *ib.* 397——Practice since 1851 to omit from the license the words "or any entertainment of the like kind," and to specify merely whether the license is for music or for music and dancing, *ib.* 397. 401–414. 689–692.

Considerations as to the mode of distinction desirable in order clearly to separate the matters to be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain and by the magistrates respectively, *Pownall* 418 *et seq.*; 476–481. 592–594. 619–621. 663–665. 724–726——Advantage of keeping the magistrates' license distinct, and of requiring separate buildings in the event of a license from the Lord Chamberlain for dramatic performances, *ib.* 434–442——Sundry conditions suggested in connection with the grant of music or dancing licenses by the magistrates, *ib.* 450.

MAGISTRATES' LICENSES—continued.

Circumstances by which the magistrates are guided in granting or withholding music and dancing licenses in any locality; demand for these more in the east end than the west end, *Pownall* 452-455. 609, 610——Steps taken by witness individually to see that the licenses are not abused, *ib.* 470, 471. 475——Large increase of music licenses granted since 1845, *ib.* 522-530——Several instances of the magistrates' license being used as a means of obtaining a theatrical license from the Lord Chamberlain, *ib.* 584-586.

Instances of private influence being brought to bear on the magistrates in the granting of licenses, *Pownall* 587-590——Refusal of the Lord Lieutenant of the county to appoint brewers as magistrates, *ib.* 611, 612——Reasons for not licensing the same house for music and dancing and for theatrical representations, *ib.* 613-618——Justification of the course pursued by the magistrates in refusing to license more than one music hall or dancing room in the same street or neighbourhood, *ib.* 732. 736-738——Amendments suggested in the forms required in the granting of licenses, much unnecessary time being now occupied, *ib.* 746, 747.

Advantage of the local knowledge of the magistrates, and of the checks exercised by them in regard to the buildings sought to be licensed, *Bodkin* 1846-1855. 1973——Contemplated appeal to the quarter sessions against either the grant or the refusal of a music license, *ib.* 1846.

Objection to the magistrates as the licensing tribunal for music halls, inasmuch as they are a constantly changing body, and sometimes exercise private influence in the consideration of applications: grounds for this statement, *Stanley* 2787-2802. 2812-2820——Several objections to the magistrates as the licensing body in the country, *Wigan* 4920-4924——Very unsatisfactory system at present in regard to the licensing of music halls in the metropolis by the magistrates, *Viscount Sydney* 7558-7560. 7572, 7573. 7640-7643. 7778.

Power given to justices of the peace, under the Act 28 Geo. 3, to license theatrical representations occasionally, under certain restrictions, *App.* 287——Provisions in the Act 6 & 7 Vict. as to licensing by the magistrates, *ib.* 288, 289.

Paper containing particulars on the subject of music and dancing licenses, and the action of the Middlesex magistrates in the matter, *App.* 300-304.

See also *Act* 25 *Geo.* 2, *c.* 36. *Alhambra* 1. *Country Theatres. Dancing Licenses. Fees for Licenses. Liverpool. Lord Chamberlain's Department. Music Halls. Sheffield. Travelling Theatres.*

Maidstone Theatre. Great difficulty experienced by witness in getting a theatre at Maidstone licensed by the magistrates, *Simpson* 5395-5398.

Managers of Theatres. Willingness of the managers of the theatres to accede to the rules made conditional upon the license, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 335-338——Readiness of managers to consent to alterations in the plays, when suggested by the Lord Chamberlain's department, *ib.* 383-388——Great willingness shown by the managers to follow the Lord Chamberlain's directions and advice in all matters connected with the inspection of theatres, *Viscount Sydney* 7579, 7580. 7607, 7608; *App.* 282.

Manchester. Nominal value of witness's patent of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, except as dispensing with a license from the magistrates; the fees on removal of the license are, however, much more expensive than an annual license, *Knowles* 6128-6133. 6285-6293. 6398-6407——Total of four theatres now in Manchester; these are more than are necessary, *ib.* 6134-6147. 6195-6204——System of annual licenses granted by the magistrates to the theatres, without any difficulty being experienced, *ib.* 6155-6170.

Details relative to the music halls in Manchester, and the performances given in them, *Knowles* 6171-6194. 6205-6216. 6276-6284. 6373-6381——Statement as to the music halls possessing only an excise license; check upon them thereby, *ib.* 6180-6194. 6281, 6282——Impression as to those places being conducted with propriety, *ib.* 6183. 6185. 6233. 6327, 6328——Injurious effect of the music halls upon the theatres, *ib.* 6304-6307——Less value of witness's patent than formerly, when there was a monopoly, *ib.* 6308-6318——Character of the entertainments at the Belle Vue Gardens, which are like Cremorne, *ib.* 6390-6395.

Master of the Revels. Impression as to the Lord Chamberlain, as Master of the Revels, having exercised considerable control over the copyrights of plays previously to the Act 10 Geo. 2, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 2-7——Severe censorship of the Master of the Revels in the time of Shakspeare, *Donne* 2451——Practice as to the censorship of the stage under the old office of the Master of the Revels; considerable powers of interference possessed by this office, *Reade* 6746-6759——Absolute power vested formerly in the Master of the Revels, *Tomlins* 6942.

Paper relative to the authority of the Master of the Revels over play-makers, plays, and players, in the year 1581, *App.* 298, 299.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Mayne, Sir Richard. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—As Chief Commissioner of Police sees no objection to the present system of licensing music halls, 966–968——Considers that music halls and dancing rooms are, generally, well conducted, 969——Employment of police at the music halls, upon application from the managers, for the preservation of order, 969——Report by the police in the event of dramatic performances in unlicensed places, witness frequently taking steps for the infliction of penalties on the managers, and on the people attending, 970. 979–996——Practice of the police at music halls, &c., not to interfere with or report upon the performances, unless grossly improper or immoral; approval of this course, 971–978. 1009–1012.

Large discretion exercised by witness as to the class of performance to be interfered with, 988–990. 1024 *et seq.*——Indirect and limited power of the police in the case of unlicensed places where only music and dancing go on, 991–1008——Check by means of the spirit license upon music and dancing where there is no license for the purpose, there being no such check if the place is only a beer house, 1000–1008——Absence generally of cause for police interference at penny gaffs and low dancing rooms, either as regards the performances or the behaviour of the people, 1009–1018. 1039, 1040. 1072, 1073——Existence of private rooms in connection with beer houses rather than with music halls, 1019–1023. 1069. 1152–1155.

Frequent difficulty of witness in deciding whether performances in music halls are of a theatrical character and call for his interference, 1024–1031——Refusal of witness to interfere with the performance of ballets in music halls, 1031–1039——Approval generally of the operation of music halls and dancing rooms, so long as the people conduct themselves properly, as is usually the case, 1039–1044. 1072–1091——Explanation as to places of entertainment being sometimes allowed to be kept open after one o'clock in the morning, 1041–1044. 1186——Considerable difficulty under the law as to police interference in the event of any indecent stage exhibitions, 1045–1054.

Discontinuance, through the action of the police, of dangerous performances at the Alhambra and Cremorne, 1054——Powers and practice of the police under the Act 2 & 3 Vict. c. 47, in regard to assemblages of disorderly characters or of women of the town; penalties in such cases, 1056–1068. 1194, 1195——Larger proportion of women of the town at music halls than at theatres, 1070–1072——Decorous behaviour of women of the town at music halls and dancing rooms, so that witness, as a police functionary, sees no cause for interference with such places, but, on the contrary, approves of them, 1072–1080. 1127.

Opinion in favour of licenses for dramatic performances being granted to music halls, 1079–1084. 1161–1175——Unobjectionable character of performances which used to take place at the Eagle Tavern, City-road, 1085–1091——Employment of policemen in theatres as well as in music halls, their power to interfere in preserving order being, however, very restricted, 1092–1100——Probable report by the police to witness if any music hall were conducted in a specially objectionable manner, 1101–1108. 1115–1121. 1187–1193——Belief that women of the town are not admitted free to the music halls, 1122.

Explanation that it is no part of the duties of the police to inquire into the construction of music halls, &c., and the provision made for the public safety, 1109–1114——Very low class of people frequenting the music halls in the east end, their behaviour, however, being exceedingly good, 1123–1125——Further statement as to the restricted power of the police in regard to the prevention of indecencies; report to witness and to the magistrates in the event of any gross violation of decency, 1126. 1179–1193. 1201–1212.

Beneficial result of the greater power of the police in Paris than in London, 1128——Very few complaints which come before witness as to the conduct of the music halls, 1129, 1130. 1176–1178——Explanation that the police at music halls are not paid directly by, and are not under the influence of, the managers, 1131–1134——Expediency of all places for public entertainment being licensed, and being under the police, 1135–1138. 1196–1200——Further disapproval of police control being exercised over the performances, save in special cases of abuse, 1139, 1140. 1148–1151. 1201–1203.

Considerations as to the entertainment at music halls involving drinking and refreshments; circumstance of the theatres also being licensed to sell drink, 1141–1147. 1156, 1157. 1166–1170——Belief that in very exceptional instances only are private rooms attached to music halls, 1152–1155. 1213–1217——Opinion that there should be only one authority for licensing music halls and theatres, 1158–1165. 1171–1175——Expediency of a similar supervision and control over the performances in music halls, as in theatres, 1175. 1179–1184——Approval of different licenses for different entertainments, according to the nature of the building, &c., 1199–1201.

Metropolitan Music Hall. Class of entertainment now given at the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road; advantage if it were permitted to produce operettas, burlesques, &c., *Poole* 5728–5774. 5795–5798——Dissent of Mr. Meacock, the proprietor of the hall, from the proposition submitted to the Committee by Mr. Stanley, *ib.* 5740–5748——Large

Metropolitan Music Hall—continued.

——Large capital represented by this music hall, *Poole* 5759, 5760——Prices of admission and average expenditure by each visitor upon refreshments, 5761–5769. 5792–5794——Great improvement in the class of music now given at the hall, *ib.* 5799–5807.

Metropolitan Police Act. Restrictions under the Metropolitan Police Act as to theatrical licenses within twenty miles round London, *Simpson* 5455, 5456. 5515, 5516. 5525–5529. 5332.

Middlesex Magistrates. See *Magistrates' Licenses.*

Minor Theatres. Complaints on the part of the minor theatres which led to the passing of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 15–27——Refusal of licenses to plays in the case chiefly of the minor theatres, *ib.* 193——Anomalous position of the smaller theatres until the passing of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., *Bodkin* 1782–1791.

Monologue. Statement on the question of monologue not requiring a license from the Lord Chamberlain; explanation as to Mr. David Fisher having had a license for a monologue, *Donne* 2418–2437.

Music Halls:

1. *Objections to Dramatic Representations in Music Halls.*
2. *Proposition by Mr. Stanley for permission to employ Five or Six Performers.*
3. *Suggestions as to the Class of Pieces to be Permitted, and likely to be Produced.*
4. *Question of defining by Act the Performances to be allowed.*
5. *Disapproval of Permission to produce Light Pieces, or to employ Five or Six Performers.*
6. *Generally as to the Licensing and Supervision of Music Halls.*
7. *Conduct of the Music Halls: their Effect upon the Theatres.*
8. *Cost and Accommodation.*
9. *Conclusions of the Committee.*

1. *Objections to Dramatic Representations in Music Halls:*

Broad distinction between music halls and theatres; opinion that the sale of drinks and refreshments is the chief object of the former, whilst the exhibition of the drama is the chief object of the latter, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 52–78. 99, 100——Approval of music halls if kept under proper restrictions, though, as regards the question of their being licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, witness is in favour of maintaining the distinction drawn between places for drinking and places for the drama, *ib.* 113–126.

Concurrence of objections on the score of the incompatibility of the drama with eating, drinking, and smoking, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 183; *Webster* 2902 *et seq.*; *Buckstone* 3364 *et seq.*; *Smith* 3602 *et seq.*; *Wigan* 4594–4599. 4658–4660; *Taylor* 4780–4793. 4835–4853. 4879–4889; *Lee* 4980–4983. 5002; *Turner* 5083–5092. 5129–5137; *Coyne* 5913 *et seq.*; *Francis* 6076–6086; *Knowles* 6177 *et seq.*; *Kean* 6641–6658.

Approval of the restriction upon music halls as to the non-performance of Shakspeare, &c., there being already more fitting places for such performances, *Pownall* 553–581——Infringement of the privileges of the theatres if the music halls were licensed for operas and for ordinary dramatic representations, *Sir T. Henry* 844–849——Departure from the original object of music halls, if licensed for theatrical performances, *Bodkin* 1896–1901. 1953–1955——Examination to the effect that witness is desirous to see an improved class of entertainments for the people, though he objects to music halls being empowered to give dramatic and operatic representations, *ib.* 1960 *et seq.*

Opinion that music halls should be restricted to that class of entertainments for which they were built, just in the same way that theatres are the proper places for dramatic performances, *Donne* 2142 *et seq.*——Witness is strongly opposed to the music halls being allowed to give theatrical performances, on the ground mainly that the drama would be vulgarised and degraded thereby, *Webster* 2902 *et seq.*; *Buckstone* 3364 *et seq.*; *Wigan* 4594–4599——Non-objection to music halls so long as they keep to their legitimate business, and leave theatrical representations to the theatres, *Webster* 3197–3202.

Approval of music halls having theatrical representations if they conform to the same regulations as theatres, but not otherwise, *Wigan* 4652 *et seq.*——Non-objection to music halls giving theatrical performances if they come under the same restrictions as theatres; disapproval otherwise, *Turner* 5092. 5139–5145. 5172–5177——Belief that music halls in the provinces are not permitted to give dramatic entertainments any more than the London music halls, *ib.* 5199–5209.

2. *Proposition by Mr. Stanley for permission to employ Five or Six Performers:*

Witness considers that music halls should still be subject to license, but that they should be enabled to produce light pieces, employing five or six actors on the stage, *Stanley* 2563–2566. 2613–2616. 2639 *et seq.*—— Enumeration of the music halls represented by witness in making the foregoing proposition, *ib.* 2625–2627.

MUSIC HALLS—continued.

2. *Proposition by Mr. Stanley for permission, &c.*—continued.

Desire of the music hall proprietors merely to employ six, or even four performers, without wishing for a license to produce heavy pieces suitable only to the regular theatres: grounds for advocating this limited permission rather than a system of free trade in acting, *Stanley* 2639 *et seq.*——Circumstances under which the music hall managers came to the resolution in favour of being allowed to produce any entertainment where not more than five or six persons are engaged, *ib.* 2655–2659. 2668–2673——Adoption of the foregoing resolution as comprising all the music halls really wanted, and not as a compromise with the theatrical managers, *ib.* 2668–2673. 2701–2720.

Recent interview of witness with the music hall proprietors, when he was authorised to submit to the Committee the proposed limit of five or six persons, and other points, *Stanley* 2709–2720——Limitation of the number of performers adverted to as the only definition which the music hall proprietors could arrive at in regard to the prices proper for music halls, *ib.* 2772–2775. 2833–2851.

Further statement as to the music hall proprietors preferring to be without open competition, and wanting merely to have six actors on the stage at once, *Stanley* 2833 *et seq.*

Paper submitted to the Committee by Mr. Stanley, on behalf of music hall proprietors, containing sundry suggestions for an amendment of the present law as to licenses, &c., *App.* 306–312——Suggestions for a partial removal of the present restriction on the performance of stage plays, *ib.* 310. 312.

3. *Suggestions as to the Class of Pieces to be Permitted, and likely to be Produced:*

Approval of the music halls being empowered to produce light pieces, such as vaudevilles and burlettas, in addition to the ballet, *Sir T. Henry* 836–854. 902——Opinion in favour of licenses for dramatic performances being granted to music halls, *Sir R. Mayne* 1079–1084. 1161–1175——Distinction still desirable to be maintained between the performances at music halls and the legitimate drama, as at theatres; approval, however, of the former being allowed to enact vaudevilles, &c., *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1253–1275. 1287–1290. 1306–1314.

Advantage if the music halls had power to perform what is termed dress opera, and anything in the way of farce or pantomime, *Strange* 1434–1450——Unfitness of Shakspeare for the music halls, *ib.* 1434. 1481–1484——Short performances required in music halls, a play of Shakspeare being quite unsuitable, *ib.* 1648–1652. 1732–1741.

Contemplated performance of burlesques, ballets, and small operas in the music halls, *Boucicault* 4280. 4291–4293——Non-objections to music halls having ballets and pantomimic sketches, *Lee* 5004–5009. 5022. 5027–5029. 5032. 5038——Objection to farces or burlesques at music halls, or to a permission to employ as many as four actors, *ib.* 5010–5017. 5028–5031.

Approval of dramatic performances being permitted in music halls, literary institutes, &c., if the buildings are suitable, *Hollingshead* 5222, 5223. 5238——Probability of music halls performing light pieces, such as farces, vaudevilles, comic operas, &c., if licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, whilst the theatres would provide the more legitimate drama and the more intellectual form of entertainment, *ib.* 5273–5287. 5312–5317. 5362–5368.

Heavy pieces or tragedy would not answer at the music halls, *Poole* 5772–5774——Expediency of introducing operattas and improved musical entertainments at the music halls, rather than farces or theatrical representations, even though empowered by law to give the latter also, *ib.* 5799–5812——Approval of singing and dancing in music halls, just as in France, *Knowles* 6382.

Approval in any case of the Dramatic Licensing Act being altered, and of the London music halls being empowered to produce ballets and pantomimes, *Reade* 6760–6766. 6766. 6774——Admission that on the principle of free trade, it may be only right to permit music halls to perform what they please, *ib.* 6767–6774. 6853–6856. 6864, 6865——Opinion that the music halls would still confine themselves chiefly to music, and would not cause any degradation of the drama if empowered to enact plays, *ib.* 6866.

Expediency of the music halls being empowered to produce theatrical pieces and light operas; grounds for concluding that they would be sure to go on in an intellectual direction, *Tomlins* 6873–6885. 6926–6941——Great improbability of the music halls attempting anything but music and dancing, and light pieces, *ib.* 6925–6930——Necessity of a variety of pieces, including ballets, good operatic selections and pantomimic sketches, in order to please the audiences at music halls; any long or heavy pieces are not suitable, *Saunders* 7440–7446. 7456–7458. 7463——Insufficiency of a permission to employ four or even six performers on the stage at the same time, *ib.* 7472–7494.

Question considered as to the expediency of licensing the music halls for theatrical performances; approval of a permission to perform light pieces, if a clear definition can legally be drawn up on the subject, *Viscount Sydney* 7583, 7584. 7695–7707. 7789–7794.

Difficulty

MUSIC HALLS—continued.

4. *Question of defining by Act the Performances to be allowed:*

Difficulty in drawing a clear line of distinction between the performances to be allowed at music halls and at theatres, *Sir T. Henry* 849. 900, 901——Obstacle to defining by Act the performances proper for music halls and theatres respectively, so that it should be left to the Lord Chamberlain, who should be guided chiefly by the building, and what it was adapted for, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1253. 1256-1295. 1314-1320——Difficulty of drawing the line where music ends and dramatic representation begins, *Bodkin* 1919. 1932-1937——Conclusion as to the impossibility of defining the pieces to which music halls might be restricted; definition of a vaudeville adverted to hereon, *Boucicault* 4217-4236.

Opinion as to its being feasible to define the line up to which music halls might go in the way of performances, *Lee* 5038. 5041, 5042——Impracticability of a fixed limit as to the number of performers to be allowed in music halls, *Hollingshead*, 5319-5322——Expediency of its being clearly laid down what the music halls may do, *Coyne* 5949-5953——Further privileges required by the music halls as to the class of entertainments provided; difficulty of any legal definition or line of demarcation so that the better plan would be to let them perform what they please, *Saunders* 7440 *et seq.* 7534-7537.

5. *Disapproval of Permission to produce Light Pieces, or to employ Five or Six Performers:*

Opinion that music halls should be restricted to music, and that ballets or dramatic representations of any kind should not take place under a magistrate's license, *Bodkin* 1809 *et seq.*, 1902 *et seq.*——Removal of distinction between music halls and theatre, if five or six persons were allowed to perform small pieces in the former, *Donne* 2537——Objection to the music halls being allowed to enact select portions of dramas, or small pieces requiring only a few performers, *Webster* 3271-3275. 3278-3280. 3318-3322——Expediency of prohibiting small pieces as well as all costume, scenery, and ballet, at the music halls, and of restricting them to musical entertainments, *Buckstone* 3546-3550. 3575-3580.

Objection to any attempted definition of light pieces to be allowed at music halls, or to a permission to employ a limited number of performers, *Smith* 3884-3886. 3943-3946. 3958-3961——Objection to any scenery or costume at music halls, but not to songs in character, *ib.* 3962-3967——Disapproval of any dramatic performance in a a music hall, even though the number of performers were limited to three or four, *Turner* 5151-5162——Objection to light theatrical pieces at music halls, *Coyne* 5855, 5856. 5862-5870. 5949-5951——Disapproval of the music halls being permitted to perform light pieces, though they might be allowed to perform ballet and pantomime, *Kean* 6646-6659. 6717, 6718.

6. *Generally as to the Licensing and Supervision of Music Halls:*

Absence of connection between the Lord Chamberlain's Office and the music halls, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 42-45——Guidance of the Lord Chamberlain by the recommendations of the Select Committees of 1832, and of 1853 and 1854, as regards the distinction drawn between theatres and music halls, *ib.* 89-92——Expediency of some restriction in the magistrates or Lord Chamberlain as to the performances at music halls, if placed on the same footing as theatres, *ib.* 175——Great difficulty anticipated in the exercise of a proper supervision over the performances in, and the conduct of, all the music halls in the metropolis if licensed like the theatres, *ib.* 225, 226.

Details in connection with the present system of magistrates' licenses for music halls, the precautions taken, and the amendments required, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 234-249. 364-366; *Pownall* 395 *et seq.*; *Stanley* 2787-2802. 2812-2820; *Viscount Sydney* 7558-7560. 7640-7643; *App.* 300-304.

Concurrence of opinion in favour of the music halls in the metropolis being licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, or the same authority intrusted with the licensing of theatres, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 238. 259. 263. 334. 380; *Sir T. Henry* 787-789. 797-803; *Sir R. Mayne* 1158-1165. 1171-1175; *Hon G. C. Norton* 1251 *et seq.*; *Bodkin* 1845 *et seq.*; *Donne* 2527, 2528; *Reade* 6857, 6858; *Viscount Sydney* 7556. 7568-7571.

Several considerations by which the Lord Chamberlain would probably be guided upon the question of a license to a new music hall, if the matter rested with him, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 269-280——Absence of power in the justices to license a music hall for stage plays, *ib.* 361-363——Constant objection by the inhabitants to the licensing of music halls, *Pownall* 739.

Want of an efficient supervision of the performances at music halls, more especially as these places are increasing in number, *Sir T. Henry* 898, 899——Importance of an altered form of construction of music halls if licensed for the performance of light pieces, *ib.* 950, 951——Expediency of a licensing system, as a means of securing an efficient control over the pieces or plays at music halls, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1333-1344.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

MUSIC HALLS—continued.

6. *Generally as to the Licensing and Supervision of Music Halls*—continued.

Origin of music halls through the practice of obtaining music and dancing licenses in connection with public-houses, *Bodkin* 1792——Witness contends that the best plan is to leave the licensing of the music halls to the discretion of the magistrates, and to confine them entirely to music, *ib.* 1809 *et seq.*, 1902 *et seq.*——Importance of the Lord Chamberlain exercising through his staff a proper supervision over the performances at music halls if classed and licensed as theatres, *ib.* 2023–2028.

Witness delivers in a paper explanatory of his views on the question of theatrical licenses, and the amendments required in the existing law with reference to music halls, *Stanley* 2561, 2562; *App.* 306–312——Explanatory statement with reference to a Bill prepared by witness in 1861 (*App.* 312), the principle of which was approved by Sir Cornewall Lewis, for amending the acts relating to places of amusement, *Stanley* 2721–2736——Opinion that there should be distinct authorities for licensing theatres and music halls, *ib.* 2606–2612.

Approval of the music halls being licensed for dramatic representations, but only upon condition that there is a strict supervision of the performances in the interests of public education and morality; great importance attached to such condition, *Green* 5593 *et seq.*

7. *Conduct of the Music Halls; their Effect upon the Theatres:*

Very good class of music at the Oxford and at Canterbury Hall; doubt as to its being equally select at the Alhambra, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 206—219——Result of witness's experience that very few cases are brought before him from the music and dancing halls, and that these places are well conducted, and are, on the whole, doing good, *Sir T. Henry* 774–780. 894–897. 915, 916. 929–931. 940–944——The music halls and dancing rooms are, generally, well conducted, *Sir R. Mayne* 969——Approval generally of the operation of music halls and dancing rooms, so long as people conduct themselves properly, as is usually the case, *ib.* 1039–1044. 1072–1091——Very few complaints which come before witness as to the conduct of the music halls, *ib.* 1129, 1130. 1176–1178.

Good results anticipated from the music halls if obliged to close at eleven o'clock and placed under other desirable regulations, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1231. 1245——Practice at all the music halls to charge for admission, irrespectively of refreshments, *Stanley* 2779–2781.——Necessity of the admission money in addition to the profit from refreshments in order to make the places pay, *ib.* 2782–2786.

Injurious effect of the music-halls upon the half price at the theatres, *Webster* 3129, *Buckstone* 3408. 3409. 3543–3547——Beneficial effect of the music halls upon the theatres, to which they act as stepping-stones by encouraging a taste for intellectual amusement, *Boucicault* 4237, 4238. 4244–4248——Benefit to the theatres by the taste of the people being raised if the music halls could improve their entertainments; great gain already of the theatres from this source, *ib.* 4278, 4279. 4342–4346——Conclusion as to the music not being the chief attraction to the public who frequent music halls, *Wigan* 4666–4674. 4740–4748.

Dissent from the opinion of Mr. Boucicault as to the music halls having led to increased audiences at the theatres, *Lee* 5033. 5034——Very objectionable character of the singing rooms or music halls in country places, as in Staffordshire and Shropshire, *Simpson* 5388–5391. 5520–5530——Conclusion as to the very beneficial effect of the music-halls, and as to the constant improvement in the class and tone of the performances at them, *Tomlins* 6873. 6887–6891. 6936–6941.

8. *Cost and Accommodation:*

Statement of the cost of buildings and fittings of each music hall and concert hall in the metropolis. *App.* 313——Number of persons accommodated in each of the music halls, *ib.*

9. *Conclusions of the Committee:*

Resolutions of the Committee in favour of the music-halls in London being placed under license from the Lord Chamberlain instead of from the magistrates, there being thus but one licensing body for the metropolis, *Rep.* iii. iv.

Recommendation that apart from the question whether an identical form of license should or should not be given to theatres and music halls, it is not desirable to continue the existing restrictions which prevent music halls from giving theatrical entertainments, *Rep.* iii.

Different forms of licenses suggested accordingly as refreshments are or are not consumed in the auditorium of any place of public entertainment, *Rep.* iii.

Recommendation that the proprietors of music-halls, and other similar places of entertainment in the country, should be required to apply to the magistrates for a license under

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Music Halls—continued.

9. *Conclusions of the Committee*—continued.

under the same or similar provisions to those which may be enacted relative to similar places of entertainment in the metropolis, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Act* 25 *Geo.* 2, *c.* 36. *Act* 6 & 7 *Vict.*, *c.* 68. *Actors. Alhambra. Audiences. Ballets. Birmingham. Burlesques. Cambridge Music Hall. Canterbury Hall. Censorship*, 4, 5. *Competition*, 2, 3. *Compromise. Conflict of Jurisdiction. Dancing Licenses. Drama, The. Drunkenness. Duologue. Ethiopian Entertainments. Evans's. Excise License. Fees for Licenses. Forms of License. France. Germany. Illegal Performances. Immorality*, 1. *Legal Proceedings. Liverpool*, 2. *Lord Chamberlain's Department. Magistrate's Licenses. Metropolitan Music Hall. Operas. Oxford, The. Paris. Police Supervision. Public Houses. Public Taste. Refreshments. Renewal of Licenses. St. James's Hall. Scenic Representations. Sheffield. Smoking. Strand Music Hall.*

N.

"*Never too Late to Mend.*" Illustration in the case of the play of "Never too Late to Mend" of the check exercised by the public upon matter deemed objectionable, *Boucicault* 4061-4068——Reference to the public feeling displayed in the production of the play "Never too Late to Mend" as not having led to any great alterations in the play, *Brooks* 4511. 4537, 4538——Explanation as regards the play of "Never too Late to Mend" that the crank scene was not altered through any display of public opinion on the subject, *Reade* 6824-6827.

New Theatres. See *Competition. Holborn Theatre. Lord Chamberlain's Department. Number of Theatres.*

New York. Relative proportion of theatres to population in New York and London respectively; free trade in theatres in the former place, *Kean* 6564-6567——Crowded state of the New York theatres since the civil war adverted to as only temporary, *ib.* 6568-6570. 6578.

See also *United States.*

Norton, The Hon. George Chapple. (Analysis of his Evidence.)——Magistrate at Lambeth police court, 1218——Testifies to the interesting and unobjectionable character of the performances at Canterbury Hall, to the excellence of the management, and the good behaviour of the people who attend, 1219 *et seq.*——Good results anticipated from the music halls if obliged to close at eleven o'clock and placed under other desirable regulations, 1231. 1245——Suggestion that admission and refreshment be charged for separately, 1238-1243——Advantage if the music halls as well as the theatres were under license from the Lord Chamberlain, aided by a proper inspecting staff, 1251 *et seq.* 1345-1348.

Distinction still desirable to be maintained between the performances at music-halls and the legitimate drama as at theatres: approval, however, of the former being allowed to enact *vaudevilles*, &c., 1253-1275. 1287-1290. 1306-1314——Difficulty of defining by Act the performances proper for music halls and theatres respectively, so that it should be left to the Lord Chamberlain, who should be guided chiefly by the building and what it was adapted for, 1253. 1256-1265. 1314-1320——Suggestions as to the distinction desirable in regard to the refreshments allowed in theatres and in music halls, 1253-1255. 1300-1332.

Contemplated power in the Lord Chamberlain to stop any play or performance, 1267-1272——Anticipated elevation of the taste of the people by means of the music halls, under proper regulations, 1273-1275. 1287. 1290. 1299, 1299*. 1333-1344——Extensive district over which it is proposed to give jurisdiction to the Lord Chamberlain; that is, if aided by a suitable staff, 1276-1282. 1290, 1291. 1345-1347——Advantage of making the places pay for their licenses, 1290——Suggested appeal from the Lord Chamberlain to the Home Secretary, 1292-1295——Effect of the music halls in lessening drunkenness, as men constantly attend them with their wives and children, 1296-1298——Expediency of a licensing system as a means of securing an efficient control over the pieces or plays at music halls, 1333-1344.

Norwich Theatre. Decision by the magistrates at Norwich, that certain dramatic performances were not stage plays in a legal sense, *Simpson* 5499-5508——The Norwich theatre is still open and doing well, and there are three or four other theatres under the same management, *Poole* 5698-5703.

Number of Theatres. Doubt as to the non-increase of theatres in the metropolis being owing to any change of public taste, or to the spread of music halls, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 323-330——Non-objection to an increased number of places for dramatic entertainment, so long as the buildings are suitable for the purpose, and refreshments and smoking are prohibited, *Smith* 3926-3930. 3943.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Number of Theatres—continued.

Opinion that so long as the building is suitable and the public safety satisfactorily provided for, the license should follow as a matter of course, *Boucicault* 4079–4085. 4149–4150. 4435, 4436——Scope to be given to dramatic authors by increasing or doubling the present number of theatres; illustration in witness's case, *ib.* 4180–4184. 4195–4197. 4410–4416——Opinion as to the unduly limited number of theatres in the west end of London, *ib.* 4271——Room in London for double the present number of theatres; question of their succeeding considered, *ib.* 4370–4373. 4455–4464——Ill success of the drama at Astley's and at the St. James's Theatre adverted to, in connection with the view that there is room for a great increase in the number of metropolitan theatres, *ib.* 4455–4464.

Opinion as to the sufficiency of the number of theatres in London, though an increased number might probably widen the taste for theatrical performances, *Wigan* 4578–4582. 4717–4722——Opinion that there are sufficient theatres in London to ensure an adequate competition for good and attractive dramas, *Taylor* 4768–4779. 4896——Approval of licenses to additional theatres, if the accommodations be suitable, and if the public-house element be not introduced, *ib.* 4787–4793.

There are sufficient theatres in London already, without giving the music halls the privileges of theatres, *Lee* 4992——Room for an increased number of theatres, *Coyne* 5837–5841——Doubt as to the necessity of any increase in the number of theatres, *Francis* 6018, 6019.

Room for more theatres in London but for the legislative restrictions on the subject, *Reade* 6727–6730——Circumstance of there having been seventeen theatres in London in the time of Shakespeare, *Tomlins* 6909–6911——Further statement as to the numerous theatres and the freedom which existed in the days of Shakespeare, *ib.* 6942.

List of Theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain in 1843 and in 1865, *App.* 293.

See also *Competition.*

O.

Offenbach, M. Desire of M. Offenbach to produce an opera in London, only there is no theatre available for the purpose, *Hollingshead* 5378.

Oldham. Reference to the theatre at Oldham as having done very well, and being well conducted, *Knowles* 6396–6371——Oldham has recently obtained an Act by which music and dancing licenses may be granted by the magistrates, *Jackson* 7233. 7241–7244.

Operas. Similar principle adopted by witness in the licensing of operas and of plays, *Donne* 2289–2306. 2392–2395. 2489–2496——Contemplated right of the music halls to employ choruses, and to provide not only selections of good music but light operas, *Stanley,* 2845–2851——Decided objection to music halls giving operas in full, *Lee* 5039.

See also *Music Halls,* 3–5.

Oxford, The. Understanding as to there being private apartments, or supper-rooms, at the Oxford, *Pownall* 512–514——Comment on the refusal of a dancing license to the Oxford, *Stanley* 2792. 2796–2799.

Sundry particulars supplied by Mr. Stanley relative to the Oxford, *App.* 306–309——Inaccuracy of the statement as to there being any private rooms, *ib.* 309——Total of 40,000 *l.* as the cost of the building and fittings, there being accommodation for 2,000 persons daily, *ib.* 313.

See also *Ballets.* *Music Halls.*

P.

Pantomimes. Check upon the matter in pantomimes since witness has required the comic business to be written down; impossibility of preventing "gag" by the clown or pantaloon, *Donne* 2124–2127. 2270–2279——*See* also *Music Halls,* 3–5.

Paris. Satisfactory working of the system in Paris, where the places of public amusement are all under one officer, *Sir T. Henry* 789. 798——Advantage under the former practice in Paris of licensing particular theatres for particular descriptions of performances, *ib.* 829–835——Beneficial result of the greater power of the police in Paris than in London, *Sir R. Mayne* 1128.

Much less liberty of the theatre in Paris than in London; grounds for this statement, *Webster* 2930–2934. 3068–3094——Prohibition upon singers at the cafés chantants in Paris appearing in costume, *ib.* 3074–3076——Practice in regard to drinking at the cafés chantants; it is of a very harmless kind, and there is no eating, *ib.* 3140–3150——Distinction between cafés chantants, as in Paris, and the London theatres or music halls, *ib.* 3281–3284.

System

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Paris—continued.

System of Government supervision of certain theatres in Paris, whereby a school of acting is maintained, *Boucicault* 4090–4112——Right of the Théâtre Français to compel other theatres to give up actors, if the latter are willing to go to the former, *ib.* 4106–4112——Circumstance of none of the music halls or cafés chantants in Paris having availed themselves of the privilege of giving dramatic performances; conclusion as to their having such privilege, *ib.* 4124–4137——The cafés chantants are now permitted to give dramatic entertainments under police regulations, *ib.* 4250–4259——Statement as to the subsidised theatres in Paris not being able to compete pecuniarily with the others, *ib.* 4396–4401.

Inaccuracy of certain evidence in regard to cafés-chantants in Paris being empowered to give dramatic performances; nor are they fitly constructed for the purpose, *Wigan* 4641–4649——Information relative to the system of subsidies in Paris to the Théâtre Français and the Odéon, whereby those places operate as nurseries of art, and are constantly turning out well-qualified actors, *ib.* 4898–4905.

Means of egress in the case of theatres in Paris, *Shaw* 6450–6457—— Systematic precautions taken against fire in the theatres in Paris, each theatre being under the control of the chief of the Sapeurs et Pompiers; details hereon as to the functions and constitution of this body, *ib.* 6504–6523. 6543–6547——Less risk of large fires in Paris than in London, the fire-engines and water supply in Paris being, however, very inadequate, *ib.* 6548–6551.

Strict supervision and restriction in Paris over the performances in the cafés chantants and salles de danse, *Viscount Sydney* 7180. 7206——System of censorship in Paris, *ib.* 7617.

See also *France.*

Patent Theatres. Witness took an active part in opening the drama to the minor theatres, but experience has shown him his error, *Webster* 2926. 2971–2973——Examination as to the patent theatres not having always confined themselves to the representations of the legitimate drama in former years, *Kean* 6659–6683——Part taken by witness in helping the movement for doing away with the privileges of the patent theatres, *Tomlins* 6885, 6886——Mixed class of performances in former years at the patent theatres, *ib.* 6887–6894.——*See* also *Actors. Drama, The. France. Paris.*

Penalties (*Act* 25 *Geo.* 2). Unduly high penalty (100 *l.*) for every offence under the Act of Geo. 2, *Pownall* 632, 633——Effect of the severity of the penalty in preventing informations being laid, *ib.* 764.

Penny Gaffs. Frequent complaints made of the penny theatres in Shoreditch and Whitechapel, *Pownall* 600——Expediency of the police exercising supervision of the penny gaffs, and cheap unlicensed entertainments, *ib.* 666–674——Absence generally of cause for police interference at penny gaffs and low dancing rooms, either as regards the performances or the behaviour of the people, *Sir R. Mayne* 1009–1018. 1039, 1040. 1072, 1073.

Information relative to the cheap theatres or penny gaffs, in the east of London; the chief evil of these places is the large attendance of young children, *Reason* 7807—— The police would doubtless report any impropriety or misconduct of which they were cognisant in connection with the dancing rooms or penny gaffs, *ib.* 7819–7828. 7845. 7859–7862. 7883–7885.

Piracy of French Plays. Witness was driven from writing for the stage partly by the narrowness of the market, but chiefly by the competition of pieces stolen from the French, *Reade* 6724–6740——Way in which the piracy of French plays operates in excluding English inventions, *ib.* 6726. 6738–6740——Argument as to the necessity of putting down piracy of French plays, in order that a great national drama may be restored in England, *ib.* 6775–6785.

Proposition for striking out that clause of the Copyright Act which permits "fair imitation or adaptation" of works from the French; conviction that if this be done, a great drama will arise in this country, *Reade* 6785 *et seq.* 6847–6852——Entire absence at present of any protection to Frenchmen or Englishmen against the piracy of their inventions; instance of this, *ib.* 6787. 6792–6810——Efficiency of the Act of William the Third for the protection of authors from piracy, *ib.* 6789–6791. 6850–6852——Statement as to the English drama having been always piratical to some extent, *Tomlins* 6907.

Plans of Theatres. Necessity of plans being sent into the Lord Chamberlain before the buildings of a new theatre are commenced: supervision thus exercised, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 291–301; *Donne* 2105–2116. 2504–2506.——*See* also *Public Safety.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Police Supervision:

Opportunity by means of the police of preserving good order and regulation in the music halls if the whole licensing system were abolished, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 225, 226——Exceedingly rare instances of misconduct in the management of the theatres, calling for the interference or report of the police, *ib.* 315–319.

Importance of an efficient control over music halls by the police, *Pownall* 418, 419 ——Provision suggested as to the visitation of music and dancing halls by the police, *ib.* 450——Advantage of a more complete inspection of licensed houses by the police, and of reports by the latter to the licensing magistrates, *ib.* 463. 469–475. 482–489. 675-982.

Limited supervision now exercised over music halls by the police, who are for the time the servants of the proprietors, being paid by them; objection to this arrangement, *Sir T. Henry* 781. 878–881. 885–888. 940–946——Means of laying down by Act of Parliament certain police regulations as a check upon the conduct of places of amusements, irrespectively of license from the magistrate, *ib.* 804–807——The managers might pay an annual sum to the Commissioners of Police, but should not pay the policeman directly, *ib.* 942–945——Necessity of still employing police for the preservation of order, whilst the duties of the staff under the licensing officer should be confined to a supervision of the performances, *ib.* 963–965.

As chief Commissioner of Police witness sees no objection to the present system of licensing music halls, *Sir R. Mayne* 966–968——Employment of police at the music halls upon application from the managers, for the preservation of order, *ib.* 969——Practice of the police at music halls, &c., not to interfere with, or report upon, the performances, unless grossly improper or immoral: approval of this course, *ib.* 971–978. 1009–1012 ——Large discretion exercised by witness as to the class of performance to be interfered with, *ib.* 988–990. 1024 *et seq.*

Frequent difficulty of witness in deciding whether performances in music halls are of a theatrical character and call for his interference, *Sir R. Mayne* 1024–1031——Considerable difficulty under the law as to police interference in the event of any indecent stage exhibitions, *ib.* 1045–1054——Employment of policemen in theatres as well as in music halls, their power to interfere in procuring order being, however, very restricted, *ib.* 1092–1100——Probable report by the police to witness if any music hall were conducted in a specially objectionable manner, *ib.* 1101–1108. 1115–1121. 1187–1193.

Explanation that it is no part of the duties of the police to enquire into the construction of music halls, &c., and the provision made for the public safety, *Sir R. Mayne* 1109–1114——Further statement as to the restricted power of the police in regard to the prevention of indecencies; report to witness and to the magistrates in the event of any gross violation of decency, *ib.* 1126. 1179–1193. 1201–1212——Explanation that the police at music halls are not paid directly by, and are not under the influence of the managers, *ib.* 1131–1134——Further disapproval of police control being exercised over the performances, save in special cases of abuse, *ib.* 1139. 1140. 1148–1151. 1201–1203.

Indirect and inadequate control through the police, over the songs, &c., at music halls, *Bodkin* 2037, 2038.

Inference from the excellent order at the Oxford and Canterbury Hall that police supervision is not necessary in music halls, *Stanley* 2823–2832——Further objections by Mr. Stanley to any further police supervision of music halls, *App.* 311.

See also *Penny Gaffs.* *Unlicensed Places.*

Ponsonby, The Honourable Spencer Cecil Brabazon (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Delivers in a "Memorandum on Theatres," drawn up at the Lord Chamberlain's Office; 1. Impression as to the Lord Chamberlain or Master of the Revels having exercised considerable control over the copyrights of plays previously to the Act 10 Geo. 2; 2–7——Origin of the Act 10 Geo. 2, on account of passages held to be objectionable in the "Beggar's Opera," and as a check upon the representation of plays of a political character, 5–13—— Regulation of theatres by the Act 10 Geo. 2, from the year 1737 till the passing of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. in 1843; 14.

Constant complaints on the part of the minor theatres, and litigation with the patent theatres, which led to Sir Edward Bulwer's Committee in 1832, to a subsequent Bill in 1833, and to the passing eventually of the Act 6 & 7 Vict in 1843; 15–27——Claim now made by the music halls to the privilege of preparing operas, &c., whilst the theatres oppose such claim under the Act of 1843; 28——Sole power of the Lord Chamberlain in regard to the licensing of theatres within the metropolitan boroughs, 29–33——Discontinuance since last year of the licensing of the Richmond Theatre by the Lord Chamberlain, Richmond being no longer a Royal residence, 34–36.

Very few plays which are refused licenses; total of only nineteen in thirteen years, 37. 171——Salutary effect of the power of withholding a license; check thereby upon the production of objectionable plays, 38–41. 170–174——Absence of connection between the Lord Chamberlain's office and the music halls, 42–45——Doubt as to the number of persons which each of the theatres will hold, 46–51.

Ponsonby, The Hon. Spencer Cecil Brabazon. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Broad distinction between music halls and theatres; opinion that the sale of drinks and refreshments is the chief object of the former, whilst the exhibition of the drama is the chief object of the latter, 52–78. 99, 100——Consideration of the extent to which drink is now sold in theatres under excise license; regulation as to the place of sale being removed from the audience part of the theatre, 54–78——Explanation as to the Lord Chamberlain having refused a license to Mr. Strange for certain performances at the Alhambra, 79–92——Guidance of the Lord Chamberlain by the recommendations of the Select Committees of 1832, and of 1853 and 1854, as regards the distinction drawn between theatres and music halls, 89–92.

Absence generally of any impropriety of conduct on the part of the public who attend music halls, 93–108——Reference to Canterbury Hall as an exceedingly well-conducted place, 96–98. 106——Exceptionable class frequenting the Alhambra; the witness has not observed any great impropriety of behaviour there, 101–106——Large portion of artizans, with their wives, who attend the Cambridge Music Hall, the place being very well conducted, 106–112.

Approval of the music halls if kept under proper restrictions, though as regards the question of their being licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, witness is in favour of maintaining the distinction drawn between places for drinking and places for the drama, 113–126——Suggestion that theatres should apply to the magistrates for their spirit licenses, and that the provisions on this score in the Act of Will. 4 should be repealed, 127, 128. 131–138. 281, 282——Practice of the Lord Chamberlain as to framing rules for the theatres, though the Act 6 & 7 Vict. is very defective on this score, 129, 130. 147.

Statement as to the music halls being under the double check of a music and dancing license and a spirit license, both granted by the magistrates, 139–145——Probability of the Lord Chancellor assuming the necessary power of shutting up a theatre, and revoking the license, though this step has never been requisite, 146–153——Explanation as to the circumstances and the authority under which the Lord Chamberlain has lately granted licenses to the Hanover Square Rooms, &c., for performances before five o'clock, 154–169.

Expediency of some restriction in the magistrates or Lord Chamberlain as to the performances at music halls, if placed on the same footing as theatres, 175——Much larger number of women of the town at the Alhambra and Strand Music Hall than at the theatres, 178–182——Apprehended degradation of the drama as an art, if mixed up with drinking and refreshments, 183——Refusal of license to any play, irrespectively of the question of withdrawing the license from the theatre, 184–188——Investigation of each play by the Examiner of Plays, by whom anything objectionable is reported to witness, who brings it before the Lord Chamberlain, 186–189.

Great difficulty anticipated in the exercise of a proper supervision over the performances in and the conduct of all the music halls in the metropolis, if licensed like the theatres, 190–192. 225, 226——Refusal of licenses to plays in the case chiefly of the minor theatres, 193——Circumstance of an English version of "La Traviata" having been refused a license at Drury Lane; opinion that the same opera in Italian should not have been sanctioned at the Italian Opera, 193, 194. 227–233. 347, 348——Further statement as to the more objectionable character of music halls than of theatres in regard to the presence of women of the town, 195–199. 309–314——Very good ballet performances at the Alhambra, &c., 200.

Practice of smoking in the Irish theatres adverted to; belief as to this being a breach of rule, 201–205——Very good class of music at the Oxford and at the Canterbury Hall; doubt as to its being equally select at the Alhambra, 206–219——Class of performance at the Strand Music Hall adverted to in connection with the insolvency of that establishment, 220–224——Opportunity, by means of the police, of preserving good order and regulation in the music halls, if the whole licensing system were abolished, 225, 226.

Very objectionable result of the conflicting jurisdiction between the Lord Chamberlain and the magistrates as to the licensing of theatres, and music halls, 234–238——Advantage if there were one responsible officer to license for the whole metropolis, 238. 259. 263. 334. 380——Separation of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain from that of the magistrates by the refusal of the former to grant licenses to the music halls, whilst the latter can only license them for music and dancing, 240–249——Fault of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. that no one is appointed to carry out its provisions, or to prevent the operation of unlicensed places, 250–255.

Refusal almost invariably of applications, there being in fact no applications from new places as *bonâ fide* theatres, 256, 257. 330——Importance of the question of the construction and safety of the building in guiding the Lord Chamberlain in licensing, 258——Suggested granting of a different class of license according to the different class of entertainment, 260–262——Additional staff required in the Lord Chamberlain's office if he were to carry out an extended system of licensing, including the music halls, 263–268.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Ponsonby, The Hon. Spencer Cecil Brabazon. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Several considerations by which the Lord Chamberlain would probably be guided upon the question of a license to a new music hall, if the matter rested with him, 269–280—— Information as to the former licensing of saloons by the Lord Chamberlain, 285–287—— Want of authority for the sale of spirits in theatres previously to the Excise license, 288–290——Character of the supervision exercised by the Lord Chamberlain over the site and plan of any new theatre, as well as over the subsequent arrangements for the public safety, 291–301——Non-interference of the Lord Chamberlain with any places save those licensed by him; there are no funds for such interference, 302–305.

Practice generally of the Examiner to strike out objectionable passages from plays, his alterations being then adopted by the managers, 306——Check by means of the license, when the renewal is applied for, upon any improper arrangement as to refreshments, 307, 308——Exceedingly rare instances of misconduct in the management of the theatres, calling for the interference or report of the police, 315–319——Doubt as to the non-increase of theatres in the metropolis being owing to any change of public taste, or to the spread of music halls, 323–330——Willingness of the managers to accede to the rules made conditional upon the license, 335–338.

Different class of entertainment and of audience at music halls when first established, as compared with the present time, 339–346——Reference to the prohibition by the Lord Chamberlain of dangerous performances, such as those of Blondin, or the exhibition of wild beasts in theatres, 349–351——Power and practice of the Lord Chamberlain in regard to closing of theatres on Good Friday, and on days of humiliation, &c., 352–357——Illegality of Divine Services and preachings in theatres on Sundays if money were taken at the doors, 358–360.

Absence of power in the justices to license a music hall for stage plays, 361–303—— Defects of the Act 25 Geo. 2, by which the justices are guided in granting licenses for music and dancing, 364–366——Present state of the law that no place which is not really a theatre can give a theatrical representation, 367–369——Illegality of private theatricals if money be taken, the place not being licensed, 370–372——Particular point in litigation under the Act 25 Geo 2, between the theatres and music halls, 373–375.

Opinion that if the justices had sole charge of the licensing, they should look primarily to the safety of the public, and also exercise a censorship in regard to the morality of the entertainment; convenience in having a single officer for these purposes, 376–380——Readiness of managers to consent to alterations in the plays, when suggested by the Lord Chamberlain's Department, 383–388——Check upon the production of objectionable plays on account of the censorship, 389–392——Legal definition of a stage play in the 23rd section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., 393.

Poole, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager and musical director of the Metropolitan Music Hall in the Edgeware-road; held for some years a similar position at a music hall in Birmingham, and was also engaged at the theatres in Norwich, Ipswich, &c., 5685–5697——The Norwich theatre is still open and doing well, and there are three or four other theatres under the same management, 5698–5703——Particulars in connection with Holder's Music Hall at Birmingham, and the character of the performances there; stoppage of a ballet on one occasion, at the instance of the manager of the theatre, 5704–5727.

Class of entertainment now given at the Metropolitan Music Hall; advantage if it were permitted to produce operettas, burlesques, &c., 5728–5774. 5795–5798——Dissent of Mr. Meacock, the proprietor of the Metropolitan Music Hall, from the proposition submitted to the Committee by Mr. Stanley, 5740–5758——Large capital represented by this music hall, 5759, 5760——Prices of admission, and average expenditure by each visitor upon refreshments, 5761–5769. 5692–5794——Statement as to the ghost illusion having been produced for several months at the Birmingham Music Hall, notwithstanding that proceedings were threatened, 5775–5791——Expediency of introducing operettas and improved musical entertainments at the music halls rather than farces or theatrical representations, even though empowered by law to give the latter also, 5799–5812.

Pownall, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been chairman of the Middlesex Bench of Magistrates for many years, 394——Explanation as to the Middlesex magistrates having, since 1851, when granting licenses, specified in all cases the particular entertainment which may be given, 395–414——Great increase in the number of magistrates' licenses, there being, in 1865, a total of 291 music licenses, and of 60 licenses for dancing and music, 397——Practice, since 1851, to omit from the license the words "or any entertainment of the like kind," and to specify merely whether the license is for music or music and dancing, 397. 401–414. 689–692.

Especial care taken by the magistrates before licensing any rooms as suitable for public dancing, 398–400——Licenses are granted for music only, but not for dancing except conjointly with music, 402, 403—— Practice of giving scenic entertainments and scenic-theatrical performances in rooms licensed only for music and dancing; impropriety thereof,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Pownall, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

thereof, 410-418——Injurious conflict of the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain and of the magistrates under the Act 25 Geo. 2,c. 36; 418. 630-632——Expediency of this Act being entirely remodelled or repealed, 418.

Importance of an efficient control over the music halls by the police, 418, 419——Belief as to the prevalence of much immorality in connection with music halls and other licensed places; objection especially to the private rooms, 418, 419. 494-519——Advantage in all semi-theatrical entertainments being under license from the Lord Chamberlain, 418-421——In the proposed retention of dancing licenses by the magistrates, dancing by the public is alone contemplated, 422-424. 450——Opinion that the use of scenic representations should necessitate a license from the Lord Chamberlain, 424-442. 724-726.

Advantage of keeping the magistrates' license distinct, and of requiring separate buildings in the event of a license from the Lord Chamberlain for dramatic performances, 434-442——Salutary check in the spirit licenses and the licenses for music and dancing being granted at different times of the year, 443-449——Suggestion that all licenses for spirits be granted by the magistrates exclusively, 448-450——Explanation as to the suspension of license to Caldwell's Dancing Rooms, 448. 733-735——Contemplated licensing by the Lord Chamberlain, exclusively, of all theatrical entertainments in their widest sense, 450.

Sundry conditions suggested in connection with the grant of music or dancing licenses by the magistrates, 450——Suggestion that the restriction as to the opening of licensed music halls be limited to the period between midnight and six o'clock in the morning, 450. 631. 634, 635——Recommended power in the magistrates to grant temporary special licenses, 450——Suggestion that places licensed for dancing must be rated at a certain rent, 450. 607. 745——Provision suggested as to the visitation of music and dancing halls by the police, 450——Proposal that there be a small fee upon each license granted by the magistrates, 450. 741-744——Circumstances by which the magistrates are guided in granting or withholding music and dancing licenses in any locality: demand for them more in the east end than the west end, 452-455. 609, 610.

Inexpediency of allowing public houses to provide music without the check of a license, 456-459——Constant opposition made to the licensing of new music halls by places already licensed, 460-462——Want of an organized supervision of the licensed places, that is, by means of the police, 463. 469-475. 482-489——Reasons for recommending that the control of all theatrical or semi-theatrical entertainments should rest entirely with the Lord Chamberlain, 464-468. 490-493——Steps taken by witness individually to see that the licenses are not abused, 470, 471. 475——Further considerations as to the mode of distinction desirable in order clearly to separate the matters to be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain and magistrates respectively, 476-481. 592-594. 619-621. 663-665. 724-726.

Conclusion as to the Alhambra not being a very moral place late in the evening, or after ten o'clock: numerous private rooms there, adverted to as a source of immorality, 494-511. 601-606——Understanding as to there being private apartments or supper rooms at the Oxford, 512-514——Also at Weston's, 515-519——Instances of immoral results from attendance at music halls, 517-519. 602-606——Large increase in the number of music licenses granted since 1845; 522-530——Defence of the practice of the magistrates in giving licenses for music rather than for music and dancing, and in interpreting the dancing as confined to the visitors, 531-552——Very few music halls having scenic performances, 551, 552.

Approval of the restriction upon music halls as to the non-performance of Shakspeare, &c., there being already more fitting places for such performances, 553-581——Great difficulty in preventing mischievous consequences if the public could witness theatrical representations in music halls and public houses, whilst they were at the same time probably indulging in drink, 564-583——Occurrence of immoral practices at music halls chiefly late in the evening, it being impossible or extremely difficult to prevent the mischief through the police, 578-583.

Several instances of the magistrates' license being used as a means of obtaining a theatrical license from the Lord Chamberlain, 584-586——Instances of private influence being brought to bear on the magistrates in the granting of licenses, 587-590——Contemplated prohibition on the supply of spirituous liquors in semi-theatrical places, 594-599. 638-644——Frequent complaint made of the penny theatres in Shoreditch and Whitechapel, 600——Check contemplated in order to secure that, where dancing licenses are granted, the accommodation is safe and ample, 607, 608.

Refusal of the Lord Lieutenant of the county to appoint brewers as magistrates, 611, 612——Reasons for not licensing the same house for music and dancing, and for theatrical representation, 613-618——Great mischief if all the public houses having music and dancing licenses were turned into theatres, 617, 618——Unduly high penalty (100 *l.*)

Pownall, Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

for every offence under the Act of Geo. 2; 632, 633——Approval of the provision of ample amusements for the people, the only restriction proposed by witness being that theatrical entertainments should be entirely under the Lord Chamberlain, and confined to suitable places, not having spirit licenses, 636–665. 740.

Expediency of the police exercising a supervision over the "Penny Gaffs" and cheap unlicensed entertainments, 666-674——Advantage of a more complete inspection of licensed houses by the police, and of reports by the latter to the licensing magistrates, 675-682——Want of some organized inquiry in regard to the size and safety of dancing and music rooms, the magistrates having at present no machinery for this purpose, 683-688. 710——Further evidence in favour of preventing at the same place the supply of spirits and the giving of scenic representations, or professional dancing, 693–709.

Inexpediency of open competition, without licensing, in the supply of popular amusements, 711-718——Advantage if, as in France, Government could supply some refined amusements for the people, 719, 720——Improvement in the state of the streets at night by the attractions at music halls, &c., 721–723——Opinion further expressed as to the music and dancing rooms engendering vice, 727–731——Justification of the course pursued by the magistrates, in refusing to license more than one music hall or dancing room in the same street or neighbourhood, 732. 736–738.

Constant objection by the inhabitants to the licensing of music halls, 739——Amendments suggested in the forms required in the granting of licenses, much unnecessary time being now occupied, 746, 747——Explanation as to the part taken by the Middlesex magistrates with reference to the license to the Hanover Square Rooms, and Egyptian Hall: petition on the subject adverted to, 748–760——License for music and dancing after five o'clock, in the case of St. James's Hall: duty of the magistrates not to renew such license if there has been music before that hour, 761–763——Effect of the severity of the penalty in preventing informations being laid, 764.

Discretion exercised by the magistrates as to the renewal of licenses, where the dancing has not been confined to the visitors, 765–767——Very large attendance at the leading music and dancing halls, 768, 769——Belief that the magistrates are not now made cognisant of any gross improprieties at the places in respect of which licenses are applied for, 770.

Pownall, Mr. Paper submitted to the Committee by Mr. Pownall, containing suggestions for an amendment of the present system of licenses, *App.* 300.

Preston Theatre. Amount of accommodation and character of the performances at the Preston Theatre, *Knowles* 6364–6368.

Prices of Admission. Much lower prices of admission to theatres than in former years, *Boucicault* 4212.

Princess's Theatre. Great increase in the rent of the theatre, *Hollingshead* 5217.

Private Boxes. Obstacle to any immoral occurrences in the private boxes in theatres, *Webster* 3002–3008. 3249; *Wigan* 4724–4726.

Private Rooms (*Music Halls*). Belief as to there being much immorality in connection with private rooms in music halls, *Pownall*, 418, 419. 494–519.

Understanding that there are no private rooms at the Alhambra, or Canterbury Hall, *Sir T. Henry* 911. 914——Belief that in very exceptional instances only, are private rooms attached to music halls, *Sir R. Mayne* 1019–1023. 1069. 1152–1155. 1213–1217——Positive denial that there are any private rooms at the Alhambra, *Strange* 1385–1391——In accuracy of the statement that there are private rooms at the music halls; there are none at Canterbury Hall, or the Oxford, *App.* 309.

Private Theatricals. Illegality of private theatricals if money be taken, the place not being licensed, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 370–372.

Profits of Theatres. Less remunerative result from the theatres than in former years; grounds for this statement, *Smith* 3680–3686. 3841–3851. 3891–3900.

The large fortunes made by managers within the last ten years have been largely owing to the pits and galleries being recruited from the music halls, *Boucicault* 4238. 4278. 4344——Numerous instances of theatrical managers having realised fortunes in recent years, *ib.* 4357–4365——Profitable operation of the theatres in recent years, so that witness concludes the music halls have not interfered with them, *Wigan* 4588–4592——Grounds for concluding that theatres in London are now very prosperous if well managed, *Hollingshead* 5369–5378.

See also *Rents of Theatres.*

Prosecutions. See *Legal Proceedings.*

Provincial Theatres. See *Country Theatres.*

Public Houses. Inexpediency of allowing public houses to provide music without the check of a license, *Pownall* 456-459——Great mischief if all the public houses in the metropolis having music and dancing licenses were turned into theatres, *ib.* 617, 618——Suggestion that young persons under the age of fourteen should be excluded from the public houses, as at Sheffield, when character dancing and singing and smoking take place, *Jackson* 7258–7267.——*See* also *Liverpool*, 3. *Sheffield.*

Public Safety. Importance of the question of the construction and safety of the building in guiding the Lord Chamberlain in licensing, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 258——Character of the supervision exercised by the Lord Chamberlain over the site and plan of any new theatre, as well as over the subsequent arrangements for the public safety, *ib.* 291–301——Opinion that if the justices had sole charge of the licensing, they should look primarily to the safety of the public, and also exercise a censorship in regard to the morality of the entertainment; convenience in having a single officer for these purposes, *ib.* 376–380.

Want of some organized inquiry in regard to the size and safety of dancing and music rooms, the magistrates having at present no machinery for this purpose, *Pownall* 683–688. 710——Explanation that the magistrates pay considerable attention to the question of public safety before licensing any music hall, *Bodkin* 2006, 2007. 2011–2014.

Duty of witness, as inspector of theatres, to see that the exits and entrances, and the building arrangements generally, are sufficient for the public safety, before theatres are licensed, *Donne* 2071–2076——Instances of wider passages and other improvements being carried out in existing theatres; difficulty in enforcing these alterations after the theatres are built, *ib.* 2076–2080. 2103–2106——Submission of the plans of all new theatres to the Lord Chamberlain when the width of the passages and other points are regulated according to the circumstances of each case; advantage of this practice over a system of fixed rules as to the size of the passages, &c., *ib.* 2105–2116——Strict enforcement of the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain affecting the public safety, *ib.* 2312——Control of the buildings in the country by the local magistrates, *ib.* 2552.

Sufficiency of the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain's department for the public safety in theatres, *Webster* 3220–3222——Faulty and unfit character of many of the London theatres for dramatic representations, *Hollingshead* 5238, 5239——Expediency of a careful survey of theatres and music halls with a view to the public safety, *ib.* 5323–5329.

Sufficient powers of witness by withholding or suspending the license to any theatre, for compelling the adoption of improvements suggested by the Surveyor of the Department, *Viscount Sydney* 7597–7606.

Explanatory statement of the measures adopted by the Lord Chamberlain of late years in regard to the security and convenience of the public, *App.* 281, 282.

Resolution of the Committee that it is desirable that any Act of Parliament dealing with the licensing of theatres, music halls, and other places of entertainment, should render compulsory the inspection and survey of such places, as regards the stability of structure, due security against fire, ventilation, and facility of ingress and egress, *Rep.* iii——Also that the authority to whom the licensing may be entrusted, be required to frame regulations from time to time for ensuring the safety and accommodation of the public, which regulations should receive the sanction of the Secretary of State, and be laid upon the table of the House of Commons, *ib.*

See also *Dangerous Performances. Egress from Theatres. Fire. Foot Lights. Holborn Theatre. Inspection of Buildings. Interiors of Theatres. Lord Chamberlain's Department*, 1. *Paris.*

Public Taste. Increasing taste of the public for amusements where refreshments can also be had; propriety of this taste being yielded to and guided, *Sir T. Henry* 850. 916, 917. 952–959——Anticipated elevation of the taste of the people by means of the music halls, under proper regulations, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1273–1275. 1287. 1290. 1299. 1333–1344——Appreciation by the public of eminent actors, if there were any such, whereas the public taste for the legitimate drama is at an extremely low ebb, *Brooks* 4515–4523. 4531–4533. 4553–4555——Way in which theatrical performances in music halls would not only injure the theatres but would probably deteriorate the public taste, *Turner* 5165–5188——Increased taste of the public for intellectual amusement, *Hollingshead* 5248, 5249——Anticipated improvement in the entertainments at music halls, and in the taste of the public, if the present restrictions were withdrawn, *ib.* 5362–5368.

R.

Ramsgate Theatre. Difficulty experienced some time ago in obtaining a license for the theatre at Ramsgate, *Wigan* 4915–4918.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Reade, Charles. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a Dramatist and Novelist; has not written for the stage for some years, 6719-6723——Was driven from writing for the stage partly by the narrowness of the market, but chiefly by the competition of pieces stolen from the French, 6724-6740——Way in which the piracy of French plays operates in excluding English invention, 6726. 6738-6740——Room for more theatres in London, but for the legislative restrictions on the subject, 6727-6730——Rare instances of large sums being given for theatrical pieces, 6731-6737.

Expediency of every one being free to build a theatre, and being secure of obtaining a license, 6741——Approval of plays being subject to a limited censorship; there should, however, be an appeal against the decision of the licenser, 6742-6745. 6861-6863——Practice as to the censorship of the stage under the old office of Master of the Revels; considerable powers of interference possessed by this officer, 6746-6759——Misgiving in witness's mind, lest the interests of provincial managers should be prejudicially affected if music halls were allowed to perform what they pleased, 6760-6774. 6854. 6856. 6864, 6865——Approval in any case of the Dramatic Licensing Act being altered, and of the London music halls being empowered to produce ballets and pantomimes, 6760-6766. 6774——Admission that on the principle of free trade, it may be only right to permit music halls to perform what they please, 6767-6774. 6853-6856. 6864, 6865.

Argument as to the necessity of putting down piracy of French plays, in order that a great national drama may be restored in England, 6775-6785——Proposition for striking out that clause of the Copyright Act which permits "fair imitation or adaptation" of works from the French; conviction that if this be done, a great drama will arise in this country, 6875 *et seq.* 6847-6852——Entire absence at present of any protection to Frenchmen or to Englishmen against the piracy of their inventions; instance of this, 6787. 6792-6810——Efficiency of the Act of William the Third for the protection of authors from piracy, 6789-6791. 6850-6852.

Dissent from the view of some witnesses before the Committee as to the drama having desperately declined, 6823——Explanation as regards the play of "Never too Late to Mend," that the crank scene was not altered through any display of public opinion on the subject, 6824-6827——Probability of there being better employment for some actors if the music halls were thrown open, 6828, 6829——Orderly conduct of the audience at the Alhambra; doubt, however, as to their being sufficiently attentive for stage plays, 6831-6833. 6842-6846——Improbability of dramatic authors benefiting much by the music halls being opened, 6834, 6835.

Opinion that the style of acting on the whole is higher than it used to be in former years, 6836, 6837——Value of the patent theatres in training actors, 6838, 6839——Belief that the music halls have had no effect upon the style of acting, 6840, 6841.

Suggestion that theatres in the country as well as in London should be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, with an appeal to the judges in equity, 6857-6860——Reason for preferring the Lord Chamberlain to the magistrates as the licensing authority, 6857, 6858——Opinion that the music halls would still confine themselves chiefly to music, and would not cause any degradation of the drama, if empowered to enact plays, 6866.

Reason, Richard. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Chief Inspector of Common Lodging Houses; has visited some music halls, &c. at the east end of London, but it is no part of his duty to inspect those places, 7796-7800—— Supplies sundry particulars relative to the music rooms and dancing places attached to public houses in Whitechapel; is not aware of any special complaints against these places, 7801 *et seq.*——Information also, relative to the cheap theatres, or penny gaffs in the east of London; the chief evil of these places is the large attendance of young children, 7807 *et seq.*——The police would doubtless report any impropriety or misconduct of which they were cognisant in connection with the dancing rooms or penny gaffs, 7819-7828. 7845. 7859-7862. 7883-7885.

Reed, Mr. and Mrs. German. Explanation as to a theatrical license having been granted to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, *Donne* 2175-2184——Approval of the theatrical license to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's entertainment, *Turner* 5163, 5164.

Refreshments (*Theatres and Music Halls*). Consideration of the extent to which drink is now sold in theatres, under Excise license; regulation as to the place of sale being removed from the audience part of the theatre, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 54-78——Check by means of the Lord Chamberlain's license, when renewal is applied for, upon any improper arrangement as to refreshments, *ib.* 307, 308——Approval of the system of refreshment at music halls, as a check upon the public houses, *Sir T. Henry* 855, 856. 916, 917. 955-959——Supervision suggested in regard to the conduct of the refreshment department at music halls, *ib.* 876, 877.

Considerations as to the entertainment at music halls involving drinking and refreshments; circumstance of the theatres also being licensed to sell drink, *Sir R. Mayne* 1141-1147. 1156, 1157. 1166-1170——Suggestion that admission and refreshment be charged for separately in music halls, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1238-1243——Suggestions as to the distinction desirable in regard to the refreshments allowed in theatres and

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Refreshments (*Theatres and Music Halls*)—continued.

and in music halls, *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1253-1255. 1300-1332——Essential difference between the practice of refreshments at theatres and at music halls, *Bodkin* 1870-1878. 1956-1959. 2009, 2010.

Practice as to the supply of refreshments in theatres under Excise license; restrictions hereon through the check of the Lord Chamberlain, *Donne* 2159-2174——Exceptional practice of allowing a bar or drinking place at the back of the pit, *ib.* 2313-2320.

Very limited drinking in the theatres, whereas it is the chief source of the profits of music halls, *Webster* 2948-2954——Further statement as to the limited amount of drinking at the London theatres, *ib.* 3151-3164. 3205-3208. 3285-3288. 3291——Suggestion that the managers of theatres be allowed to have refreshments in the auditorium or wherever they pleased, *Boucicault* 4158-4163.

Very small return from the sale of drink in theatres as compared with music halls, *Wigan* 4633-4637. 4749. 4750——Statement showing that theatres cannot sell drink and refreshments in the same way as in music halls, *ib.* 4639, 4640——Reference to a statement by Mr. Strange, that refreshments made 50 per cent. of his receipts, *ib.* 4749, 4750.

Advantage of the system of refreshment in music halls, as enabling the visitors to go home earlier than if they adjourned to public houses, &c. for refreshment, *Tomlins* 6942.

Explanation as to the regulation required in the case of theatres, that eating and drinking must not take place in the auditorium, *Viscount Sydney* 7687-7699.

Statement in defence of the sale of spirits and refreshments in music halls, *App.* 309.

Different forms of licenses recommended by the Committee, accordingly as refreshments, tobacco, &c., may or may not be consumed in the auditorium of the building, *Rep.* iii.

See also *Alhambra*, 7. *Drama, The*, 5. *Excise License.*

Renewal of Licenses. Power of the magistrates to refuse a renewal of license adverted to as the chief restraint upon the proprietors of the music halls, *Sir T. Henry* 781, 782. 930.

Rents of Theatres. Statement to the effect that there has not been an advance in the rents of theatres in recent years, *Smith* 3847, 3848——Great increase of rents of theatres in recent years; instances of this, *Boucicault* 4199-4211——Considerable rise in the rents of the London theatres during the last twenty-five years, *Hollingshead* 5217.

Richmond Theatre. Discontinuance since last year of the licensing of the Richmond Theatre by the Lord Chamberlain, Richmond being no longer a royal residence, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby*, 34-36.

Robson, The late Mr. Eminence of the late Mr. Robson adverted to; belief that, though he commenced his career at the Grecian, he did not become an actor there, *Webster* 2980-2990. 3113, 3114. 3245-3248——Consideration of the circumstance of Mr. Robson having commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon; he did not, however, learn the art of acting there, *Buckstone* 3428-3449——Statement that Mr. Robson learnt his art at the Grecian, and was a great actor before he went to Dublin, *Boucicault* 4239-4242——Robson was a waiter at the Grecian, *ib.* 4240.

Inaccuracy of the statement that Mr. Robson learnt his art or commenced his career at a music hall, *Wigan* 4693-4699——Mr. Robson was originally an engraver's apprentice, and was never a waiter, *ib.* 4695——With regard to Mr. Robson having commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon, it was really a theatre in which he performed, *Turner* 5073-5078——Efficiency of Mr. Robson as an actor when at the Grecian Saloon or music hall, *Hollingshead* 5300-5307.

Rochdale Theatre. Information relative to the theatre at Rochdale; new theatre being built, *Knowles* 6346-6352.

Rotunda, Blackfriars Bridge. Letter from the Lord Chamberlain in 1844, declining to grant a license for the Rotunda, *App.* 294.

Rules and Regulations. Practice of the Lord Chamberlain as to framing rules for the theatres, though the Act 6 & 7 Vict. is very defective on this score, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 129, 130. 147.

See also *Managers of Theatres. Public Safety.*

S.

Sadler's Wells Theatre. Success of the drama at Sadler's Wells, *Smith* 3921-3925.

St. James's Hall. License for music and dancing after five o'clock in the case of St. James's Hall; duty of the magistrates not to renew such license if there has been music before that hour, *Pownall* 761-763—— Refusal of a theatrical license to St. James's Hall, on the ground that the building was not fit for the purposes of a theatre, *Donne* 2140-2148—— Resolution adopted by the St. James's Hall Company in support of Mr. Locke's Bill, *Hollingshead* 5231.

Salaries of Actors. See *Actors.*

Saloons at Theatres. Information as to the former licensing of saloons by the Lord Chamberlain, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby,* 285-287——Considerable improvement in the conduct of theatres since the removal of the saloons, *Sir T. Henry* 814-819.

Saunders, Daniel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager of Day's Music Hall at Birmingham, 7377, 7378——This hall will hold 2,500 people, and is licensed under a Local Act for music and dancing, there being also a spirit license, 7379-7396——There is a stage and scenery, and some 120 performers; particulars hereon as to the entertainments given, 7397-7432. 7497-7521——Statement relative to some proceedings against the music hall for the representation of the ghost illusion; modification of this representation subsequently, 7410-7427——Terms of admission to the hall, 7433-7435. 7509——Respectable class of people composing the audience, 7436. 7529-7533——Views of one of the Birmingham magistrates as to the excellence of the management, 7436-7439.

Necessity of a variety of pieces, including ballets, good operatic selections, and pantomimic sketches, in order to please the audiences at music halls; any long or heavy pieces are not suitable, 7440-7446. 7456-7458. 7463——Further privileges required by the music halls as to the class of entertainments provided; difficulty of any legal definition or line of demarcation, so that the better plan would be to let them perform what they please, 7440 *et seq.* 7534-7537——Permission under the license to Day's Music Hall to perform ballets or stage dancing, 7446-7455. 7539, 7540——Insufficiency of a permission to employ four or even six performers on the stage at the same time, 7472-7494.

Check exercised by the magistrates and police as to the conduct of Day's Music Hall, 7505-7508——Sundry details as to the management of the establishment, 7510-7533——Circumstance of smoking, eating, and drinking going on during the performances; quiet observed, however, when operatic selections are being given, 7525, 7526. 7541-7547——There are only two other music halls in Birmingham, where also the performances go on in the presence of eating, drinking, and smoking, 7548-7554.

Scenic Representations. Practice of giving scenic entertainments and semi-theatrical performances in rooms licensed only for music and dancing; impropriety thereof, *Pownall* 410-418——Opinion that the use of scenic representations should necessitate a license from the Lord Chamberlain, *ib.* 424-442. 724-726.

School of Dramatic Art. Opinion that a subsidised theatre, as the Théâtre Français is the only means of leading to a supply of good actors, *Brooks* 4545, 4546—— Proposition for the establishment and subsidising of a model theatre, to be maintained as a school of dramatic art, *Taylor* 4798-4825——Opinion as to its being the duty of a Government to foster art in every way, *Wigan* 4906—— *See* also *Actors. Paris.*

Security (*Managers of Theatres, &c.*). Security given by the managers of theatres against transgression of the Lord Chamberlain's regulations, *Donne* 2389-2391——Willingness of the managers of music halls to give pecuniary security for good conduct, *Stanley* 2617, 2618.

Form of bond signed by the manager of each theatre, and his sureties on receiving a license, *App.* 291.

Resolution of the committee that it is desirable that when application is made for a license for a theatre, music-hall, or other similar place of entertainment, the applicants should be required to furnish such security as shall be satisfactory to the licensing authority, *Rep.* iv.

Sensation Dramas. Approval of so-called sensation dramas at theatres rather than of scenes from such plays as the "School for Scandal" at music halls, *Webster* 3318-3327——Attraction of sensation pieces, rather than of legitimate dramas, *Smith* 3865. 3895-3907.

Shaw, Captain Eyre Massey. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is at the head of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, 6410——Absence of any special arrangements, or of any system, with regard to danger from fire in theatres, 6410*-6413——Great improvements feasible for

Shaw, Captain Eyre Massey. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

for the prevention of fire, more especially in the case of new theatres, 6414-6415——Want of proper arrangements in music halls, as well as in theatres, against the occurrence of fire, 6416-6420——Suggestion that there be a constant high-pressure water service at all the theatres by means of fire-proof towers and cisterns above the top of the buildings; considerable expense of such towers, 6419, 6420. 6465-6478. 6494-6503.

Expediency of a special survey with regard to fire before a license is granted to any new theatre or music hall, 6422——There have not been many cases of fire at music halls, 6424——Great importance of adequate provision for the egress of the public from theatres and music halls, in the event of fire; suggestions as to the improved arrangements required, 6426-6429. 6449-6464. 6528-6533——Absence of any survey after licenses are granted, 6430-6433——Difficulty in regard to the Lord Chamberlain compelling the adoption of all that is required, 6434-6439.

Approval of the precautions proposed by the Bill of Mr. Locke, though further precautions are desirable, 6440-6446. 6533——Expediency of requiring ample means of egress before the plans of any new theatres are sanctioned, 6450——Means of egress in the case of the theatres in Paris, 6450-6457——Importance of all the modes of egress at Covent Garden, Drury Lane, &c., being in constant use, 6458-6459——Consideration of the arrangements at the Alhambra for the prevention or stoppage of fires, 6477-6482.

Systematic precautions taken in the theatres in Paris, each theatre being under the control of the Chief of the *Sapeurs et Pompiers*: details hereon as to the functions and constitution of this body, 6504-6523. 6543-6547——Functions of witness to extinguish fires, but not to take any precautions against them, 6524-6527——Great risk at present in the case of the numerous music halls, dancing rooms, &c., so that systematic precautions should be enforced in all places holding upwards of 500 people, 6528-6533.

Total of fifty fires at theatres in London within the last thirty-three years, only seven theatres having been seriously injured, 6533——Very little loss of life through fire, 6534-6542——Less risk of large fires in Paris than in London, the fire-engines and water supply in Paris being, however, very inadequate, 6548-6551——Increasing number of firemen under witness; next year he will have 300 or 350; 6552-6554.

Shaw, Captain. Further suggestions by Captain Shaw, with reference to the prevention of fire, and the building arrangements generally, *App.* 325, 326. 330, 531.

Sheffield. There is but one licensed theatre in Sheffield, the Theatre Royal, *Jackson* 7202-7204——Rules drawn up by the magistrates, in licensing the theatre, by which they may close the theatre if the rules are infringed, *ib.* 7205-7211——The theatre is very well conducted, *ib.* 7212, 7213.

Large music-hall at Sheffield, called the Alexandra Music Hall, not licensed as a theatre, and having only a beer license; this place is also exceedingly well constructed, and all improper characters are excluded, *Jackson* 7215-7218. 7271-7274. 7281. 7292-7295. 7305, 7306——Beer is sold in refreshment rooms attached to the music hall, but not in the place where the people sit, *ib.* 7217, 7218. 7382——There is a second music hall in which concerts and other entertainments are given, *ib.* 7218-7220. 7281.

Information relative to certain public-houses at Sheffield, in which character dancing and singing are the chief entertainments, and which are largely attended by artisans and their wives; these places are unobjectionable and well conducted. *Jackson* 7221-7228, 7235, 7236. 7245-7257. 7309 *et seq.*——Suppression of two places where the audience joined in dancing, *ib.* 7236, 7268-7270——Advantage if the magistrates could make rules for places having music and dancing, as well as for the theatre; it should, in fact, be necessary to obtain a license for music and dancing in the same way as a spirit license, *ib.* 7275, 7347-7353.

Important difference between casinos or music halls in London, and music halls, such as the Alexandra, in Sheffield, *Jackson* 7276-7281. 7292-7302. 7307, 7308——There is no place at Sheffield where theatrical performances are given whilst the audiene are eating, drinking, and smoking, *ib.* 7283, 7284——Interference by witness, on the part of the police, if anything like theatrical performances were given in the public houses or concert rooms, or in any place not licensed as a theatre, *ib.* 7285-7291. 7354-7369.

Character of the performances in public houses in Sheffield, whilst drinking and smoking are going on; particulars hereon as to the supervision exercised over these places by the police, *Jackson* 7309-7346——Difficulty as to witness's interference, on account of the uncertainty as to what constitutes theatrical performances; instance of this, *ib.* 7354-7369——Dismissal of an information laid by the theatre at Sheffield, against a sort of pantomime in a circus, the magistrates not considering it a theatrical performance, *ib.* 7370.

Rules for the regulation of theatres in Sheffield, *App.* 332.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Simpson, William Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has for nearly thirty years been playing in, or connected with, different theatres throughout the kingdom: is now manager of a travelling theatre, 5387, 5388. 5391–5393——Great uncertainty of obtaining licenses from the magistrates for theatres in the country: impediment thereby to the erection or increase of country theatres, 5388 *et seq.*—Very objectionable character of the singing rooms or music halls in country places, as in Staffordshire and Shropshire, 5388–5391. 5520–5530——Complaint as to the uncertainty of the law, as interpreted by different magistrates, upon the question of licenses being required for travelling theatres: illustration in witness's case of the inconvenience and injury arising from this source, 5393 *et seq.*

Anticipated large increase in the number of country theatres, if the difficulty as to the license were removed: instances at Kingston, Croydon, &c., 5413–5416. 5449–5454. 5469–5478. 5511, 5512——Numerous travelling theatres, many of which would be changed into permanent theatres, but for the legal obstacles, 5449–5454——Expediency of the license being granted by some authority more free from prejudice than many of the country magistrates are, 5454. 5457–5465.

Restrictions under the Metropolitan Police Act, as to licenses within twenty miles round London, 5455, 5456. 5515, 5516. 5525–5529. 5532——Way in which witness carries out theatrical performances without rendering himself liable to prosecution under the Act, 5482–5488——Statement as to country magistrates having decided that ballets and certain dramatic representations were not stage plays within the meaning of the Act, 5488–5508——Practice as to refreshments being allowed in witness's theatre, 5517–5519.

Sites of Theatres. Inspection by witness of the site before approving of the plans of a new theatre, *Donne* 2307, 2308——Difficulty in getting proper sites, but for which there would be more theatres, *Viscount Sydney* 7669–7672——*See* also *Public Safety.*

Smith, Edward Tyrrell. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is lessee of Astley's Theatre: has also been connected with Drury Lane, Cremorne Gardens, the Alhambra, &c., 3595–3600——Approval generally of the present system of theatrical licenses, 3601——Strong objection to the granting of theatrical licenses to music halls, or to the drama being performed simultaneously with eating, drinking, and smoking, 3602 *et seq.*——Reference to the Alhambra as well adapted for dramatic performances, and as being entitled to a theatrical license, if smoking, eating, and drinking are abolished in the auditorium, 3603. 3606. 3633–3650. 3885.

Very indecent and objectionable songs, &c, at some of the music halls, there being a great want of supervision over many of these places, 3606–3610. 3623, 3624. 3874, 3875——Lowering of the drama if enacted in music halls as at present conducted, 3612–3622——Tendency of the music halls to encourage drunkenness, 3621, 3622. 3876, 3877——Information as to the class of entertainment usually given by witness at the theatre at Cremorne: approval of similar representations at the Alhambra, if smoking, drinking, and eating, are disallowed, 3626–3650——Belief that exceedingly objectionable plays would be produced but for the Lord Chamberlain's censorship, 3651–3659——The censorship is no hindrance to dramatic authorship, 3655.

Adequate demand for good plays at the present time, 3660–3672——Great falling off in the supply of good actors, owing to all the theatres being thrown open to the drama, and to young men not making a study of the art as they used to do, 3672–3703. 3831–3840. 3972–3974——Better school for the drama if there were only two or three patent theatres as formerly, 3672–3674. 3677. 3972–3974——Less remunerative result from the theatres than in former years: grounds for this statement, 3680. 3686. 3841–3851. 3891–3900——High salaries commanded by good actors, if they were only forthcoming, 3691–3696.

Production of equally good plays, as in former years, though of a different class, 3704–3706——Explanation that witness does not adopt the former practice of allowing gentlemen to go behind the scenes: nor is it the custom of other managers to do so, 3706–3721——With regard to the admission of gentlemen to the canteen at the Alhambra, there was no canteen when witness was there, 3722–3726——Details relative to the entertainments and performances generally at Cremorne, the regulations as to the refreshments and smoking, and as to the use of small private rooms or boxes from which to witness the dancing, &c., 3727–3789. 3947–3957. 3975–3978.

Further statement as to the prejudicial effect of allowing smoking and drinking simultaneously with dramatic performances, 3790–3805——Restriction of smoking and drinking in the auditorium of the Bower Saloon as being under a theatrical license, 3805–3807. 3887——Regulations at Astley's in regard to the supply of refreshments: receipts derived from this source, 3807–3830. 3933, 3934——Evidence in support of the conclusion as to the decline of the drama, and of actors, 3831–3851. 3864, 3865. 3891–3925——Opinion as to the orderly conduct of the Alhambra, and as to the audience being much the same as at theatres, 3852–3861.

Inferior

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Smith, Edward Tyrrell. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Inferior class of actors at music halls as compared with theatres, even if the former had theatrical licenses, 3862, 3863. 3871–3873——Opinion that the drama is not answering at Drury Lane, 3865——Attraction of sensation pieces, rather than of legitimate dramas, 3865. 3895–3907——Great difficulty of getting any very good actors, there not being, indeed, any first-class actor before the public, 3865. 3892. 3908–3920——Approval of good burlesques, as being beneficial rather than injurious to the drama, 3866–3870.

Statement as to witness not taking any steps for excluding women of the town from Astley's, 3878–3883. 3940–3942——Objection to any attempted definition of light pieces to be allowed at music halls, or to a permission to employ a limited number of performers, 3884–3886. 3943–3946. 3958–3961——Consideration whether the change of public taste and habits, and the increased variety of amusements may not account to some extent for the decline of the drama, irrespectively of the want of first-class actors, 3904–3920——Success of the drama at Sadler's Wells, 3921–3925.

Non-objection to an increased number of places for dramatic entertainment, so long as the buildings are suitable for the purpose, and refreshments and smoking are prohibited, 3926–3930. 3943——Probable amount of the profit per head on the sale of refreshments at the Alhambra, 3935——Considerable number of women of the town probably to be seen at the Alhambra, 3936–3939——Objection to any scenery or costume at music halls, but not to songs in character, 3962–3967——Causes of the long run of some pieces at the present time, 3968–3971.

Particulars as to the performances produced by witness at Astley's, 3987–3997——Prices of admission to Astley's; discontinuance of half-price, 3998, 3999——Reduction made by witness in the prices at Drury Lane when lessee there, 4000–4002——Absence of any injury to the theatres by the introduction of stalls, and the increase of private boxes, 4003–4017——Witness has never seen any curtains drawn right across private boxes, 4018–4021.

Smoking. Practice of smoking in the Irish theatres adverted to; belief as to this being a breach of rule, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby,* 201–205——Prohibition of smoking in the London theatres, under the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain, *Donne* 2319——Importance as regards licenses of distinguishing between places where smoking is and is not allowed, *Stanley* 2607–2612. 2619–2624——Contemplated prohibition of smoking in the Alhambra and similar places, if licensed for theatrical representations, *ib.* 2878–2887——Approval of smoking being prohibited in theatres, *Boucicault* 4437–4440——Prohibition of smoking in the theatres in America and Australia, *Kean* 6584–6586——Evidence as to the practice of smoking in theatres in Shakespeare's time, *Tomlins* 6942

Recommendation by the Committee that there be different forms of licenses for places where tobacco, refreshments, &c., may be consumed in the auditorium, and for places where they may not be so consumed, *Rep.* iii.

See also *Drama, The,* 5. *France.* *Music Halls.* *Refreshments.*

Songs (*Music Halls*). Great benefit if the songs at music halls were subject to censorship, *Webster* 3132; *Smith* 3606–3610. 3624; *Green* 5639–5669; *Coyne* 5818, 5819; *Knowles* 6227–6231. 6259–6262. 6271–6275——Belief as to indecent songs being sung at some music halls, *Smith* 3606–3610. 3623, 3624; *Lee* 5011, 5012. 5023. 5035–5037——Indecent songs at music halls would not be attractive at the present time, *Hollingshead* 5254–5262——Part taken by witness in excluding indecent and coarse songs from music halls, *Green* 5642–5645.

Stage Managers. Prejudicial effect of the very general abolition of the office of stage manager since the theatres have been thrown open, *Kean* 6705–6711.

Stage Plays. Legal definition of a stage play in the 23rd section of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 393.——*See* also *Drama, The,* 5. *Music Halls,* 3–5.

Stalls. Absence of any injury to the theatres by the introduction of stalls and the increase of private boxes, *Smith* 4003–4017.

Stanley, Frederick. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is solicitor for the London Music Halls Association; has personally been interested in the Oxford and Canterbury Halls, 2559, 2560——Delivers in a paper explanatory of his views on the question of theatrical licenses, 2561, 2562——Considers that music halls should still be subject to license, but that they should be enabled to produce light pieces, employing five or six actors on the stage, 2563–2566. 2613–2616. 2639 *et seq.*——Does not see any necessity for licensing the pieces at music halls, as anything immoral or indecent would be disallowed by the audience; immense difficulty moreover in submitting all the songs, &c. for approval, 2567, 2568. 2595–2605.

Objection to open competition between music halls as tending to degenerate the performances; expediency of regard being had to the wants of the neighbourhood and to other considerations before the grant of new licenses, 2569–2594. 2803–2806——Witness does not represent the Alhambra, 2581——Opinion that there should be distinct authori-

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Stanley, Frederick. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

ties for licensing theatres and music halls, 2606–2612——Importance of distinguishing between places where smoking is and is not allowed, 2607–2612. 2619–2624——Willingness of the managers of music halls to give pecuniary security for good conduct, 2617, 2618.

Enumeration of the music halls represented by witness, 2625–2627——Production of ballets both at the Oxford and Canterbury Hall, there being one now at the latter, 2628–2638——Desire of the music hall proprietors merely to employ six, or even four performers, without wishing for a license to produce heavy pieces suitable only to the regular theatres; grounds for advocating this limited permission, rather than a system of free trade in acting, 2639 *et seq.*——Belief that under open competition the music halls would not pay, and would be closed or turned into theatres, 2644. 2650–2652. 2674–2684. 2852–2875——The Alhambra is a theatre rather than a music hall, and should have a theatrical license, 2645. 2878–2880.

Circumstances under which the music hall managers came to the resolution in favour of being allowed to produce any entertainment where not more than five or six persons are engaged, 2655–2659. 2668–2673——Statement as to the music halls requiring permission also to provide "all Ethiopian entertainments," 2659–2667. 2737——Adoption of the foregoing resolution as comprising all the music halls really wanted, and not as a compromise with the theatrical managers, 2668–2673. 2701–2720.

Increased attendance at music halls adverted to in connexion with the improved class of entertainments given, 2689–2700——Recent interview of witness with the music hall proprietors when he was authorised to submit to the Committee the proposed limit of five or six persons, and other points, 2709–2720——Explanatory statement with reference to a Bill prepared by witness in 1861, the principle of which was approved by Sir Cornewall Lewis, for amending the Acts relating to places of amusement, 2721–2736.

General attack on the part of the theatres against the music halls in 1860; further combination against them after the lapse of a few years, 2738–2752——Reference to the proceedings against Canterbury Hall in respect of "Hodge Podge"; subsequent suggestion by Mr. Norton to apply to the Lord Chamberlain to license this piece, 2752–2762——Performance at present of a ballet at Canterbury Hall, for which, in witness's opinion, a penalty might be inflicted; the managers of the theatres have not, however, taken any legal proceedings lately, 2763–2771.

Limitation of the number of performers adverted to as the only definition which the music hall proprietors could arrive at in regard to the pieces proper for music halls, 2772–2775. 2833–2851——Prohibition upon the public at music halls going behind the stage, or into any places at all private, 2776——Reference to the admission of gentlemen to the canteen at the Alhambra as not leading to any immorality; Mr. Strange, however, is perfectly willing to abolish this practice if against public opinion, 2776–2778. 2807–2811——Practice at all the music halls to charge for admission, irrespectively of refreshments, 2779–2781——Necessity of the admission money in addition to the profit from refreshments, in order to make the places pay, 2782–2786.

Objection to the magistrates as the licensing tribunal for music halls, inasmuch as they are a constantly changing body, and sometimes exercise private influence in the consideration of applications; grounds for this statement, 2787–2802. 2812–2820——Comment on the refusal of a dancing license to the Oxford, 2792. 2796–2799——Inference from the excellent order at the Oxford and Canterbury Hall that police supervision is not necessary in music halls, 2823–2832.

Further statement as to the music hall proprietors preferring to be without open competition, and wanting merely to have six actors on the stage at once, 2833 *et seq.*——Exclusion of complaint by the theatres, if the music halls were legally empowered to employ six actors, and kept within this limitation, 2836–2842——Contemplated right of the music halls to employ choruses, and to provide not only selections of good music, but light operas, 2845–2851.

Expected deterioration of the performances, as a consequence of open competition, further adverted to, 2852–2875——Contemplated prohibition of smoking in the Alhambra and similar places if licensed for theatrical representations, 2878–2887——Doubt as to the proposed extension of the powers of the music halls having the effect of drawing many people away from the theatres, 2887–2890.

[Second Examination.]—Witness delivers in an estimate of the cost of the several music halls in London, 2891.

Stanley, Mr. Paper submitted to the Committee by Mr. Stanley, on behalf of the London Music Halls Proprietors' Protection Association, *App.* 306–313.

Strand Music Hall. Class of performance at the Strand Music Hall adverted to in connection with the insolvency of that establishment, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 220–224——Information as to the Strand Music Hall being no longer licensed for dancing, nor for the sale of spirits, *Bodkin* 2016–2022.

Strange,

Report, 1866—*continued*.

Strange, Frederick. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Managing Director of the Alhambra Music Hall, now owned by a Limited Liability Company, 1349–1351——Particulars as to the expenditure upon the Alhambra, and the several kinds of entertainment, from time to time, 1352–1368——Information relative to the present performances, consisting chiefly of ballets and operatic selections, 1366–1378. 1422–1433, 1491–1494——Several licenses under which the place is now conducted; addition recently of morning performances under license from the Lord Chamberlain, 1370–1383.

Entire absence of complaint as to improper conduct at the Alhambra, 1384——Positive denial that there are any private rooms, 1385–1391——Classes of refreshment used by the public, and relative amount received from this source and from admission money, 1392–1399. 1451–1453——Employment of three policemen every evening, in addition to six private policemen, there being also about twenty-four waiters, 1400–1408, 1526, 1527——About 300 persons are employed on the stage, 1409–1411.

Improved position of the young ladies employed in the ballet through their salaries at the Alhambra, in addition to their earnings during the day as dressmakers, tailoresses, &c., 1412–1418——Propriety of conduct of these ladies, so far as the Alhambra is concerned, 1419–1421——Advantage if the music halls had power to perform what is termed dress opera, and anything in the way of farce or pantomime, 1434–1450——Unfitness of Shakespeare for the music halls, 1434. 1481–1484.

Average of more than 3,000 visitors every evening, 1454——About three per cent. of the visitors are women of the town, there being an average of 100 or so every evening, 1455, 1456——Mixed character of the audience generally, about half consisting of persons with their wives and families, 1457–1460, 1529, 1530——Good order kept, 1461, 1462. 1531.

More economical and efficient conduct of the Alhambra, if not restricted as to the nature of the performances, whilst the effect would be that the tone of the performances would decidedly be raised, 1463 *et seq.*——Tendency under witness's management to raise the general tone and character of the entertainment, 1491–1500. 1532–1540.

Information relative to the canteen at the Alhambra frequented by the ladies of the ballet, if they please, and attended by such gentleman of the audience as may have special permission from witness for the purpose, 1501–1509. 1513, 1514. 1541–1553——Impossibility of anything immoral taking place in the canteen; large number of persons generally in it, 1504——There is no admission to the canteen by payment, 1507–1509. 1514——Improved class of people at the morning performances, the number being about one-third of that in the evening, 1515–1522——There is no free admission of women of the town, 1522–1525.

[Second Examination.]—Further details on the subject of the canteen, the admission of visitors to it without payment, the attendance of the ballet girls there, &c.; checks upon any immoral occurrences, 1554–1594. 1654–1662. 1668–1688. 1711–1714——Number of police further adverted to; there is no gratuity given to them, 1595–1598. 1665–1667——Occupation of the body of the hall by respectable people, there being no women of the town there, 1599–1601——Practice not to allow re-admission, nor to give free admissions, 1602–1612. 1663, 1664.

Employment at present of about 360 persons at the Alhambra, the weekly pay being 490 *l.*, 1613–1615——Grievance in witness being subject to prosecution by the theatres, though he has gained his cause three times, 1616–1620——Benefit to witness's employés, as well as to the public, if operettas, vaudevilles, &c., could be produced at the Alhambra, 1621–1652——Absurdity of the restrictions under the Act 6 & 7 Vict., 1635——Short performances required in music halls, a play of Shakspeare being quite unsuitable, 1648–1652. 1732–1741.

Further denial that payment is ever made for admission to the canteen, 1661, 1662. 1711–1714——Practice in theatres of allowing gentlemen to go behind the scenes, 1668–1674. 1720——Dismissal of the ballet girls at the Alhambra if it were known that they were loose characters; instances of such dismissal, 1689–1700——Witness has no reason to believe the females who attend at the bars are an ill-conducted class, 1701–1705——Belief as to ballet girls geing generally considered to be very much worse as a class than they really are, 1707–1710.

Objection to a turntable at the Alhambra as a check upon the admissions, 1715–1718——The closing of the canteen would not injure the place in the slightest degree, 1719——Desire of witness to be empowered to produce everything the theatres can produce, and to be subject to the same license and supervision, 1721–1750——More modest costume of the ballet girls at the Alhambra than at the theatres, 1729, 1730——Closing of the place every night before twelve o'clock, 1751–1754——Especially full attendance of the labouring classes on Saturday, 1755–1757.

Subsidised Theatres. See *Paris.* *School of Dramatic Art.*

Supervision. Expediency of proper supervision over all places of public entertainment, *Knowles* 6408——Conclusion as to the necessity of supervision over both theatres and music halls, *Viscount Sydney* 7611, 7612——Character of the supervision to be exercised

Supervision—continued.

by witness's staff over the performances in music halls and other places, if licensed by the department, *Viscount Sydney* 7761–7776——Objection to any extension of central supervision to the country, *ib.* 7779–7782

Memorandum, dated, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 12 March 1866, with reference to the licensing and supervision of theatres since the year 1628, *App.* 279–283.

See also *Music Halls*, 6. *Police Supervision.* *Public Safety.*

Surrey Theatre. Supervision exercised through witness's department before the new Surrey Theatre was erected, *Viscount Sydney* 7578.

Surveys. Expediency of a special survey with regard to fire before a license is granted to any new theatre or music hall, *Shaw* 6422——Absence of any survey after licenses are granted, *ib.* 6430–6433——*See* also *Public Safety.*

Suspension of Plays. See *Censorship.* *Withdrawal of Plays.*

Sydney, the Right Honourable Viscount, G.C.B. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has for some time been strongly of opinion that the theatres and music halls should be under one jurisdiction, 7556. 7568——The Lord Chamberlain's department could undertake the licensing of music halls in the metropolis, and would probably be a more fit department for the purpose than the Home Office, 7556. 7568–7571——An additional staff would be necessary, the expense of which might be met by the fees charged for the licenses, 7556. 7561–7568, 7746–7753.

Suggestion that there be separate licenses for the theatres and music halls, as in Paris, 7556, 7557. 7582——Very unsatisfactory system at present in regard to the licensing of music halls by the magistrates, 7558–7560. 7572. 7573. 7640–7643——Willingness always evinced by witness to license new theatres, if the locality and site were satisfactory, and if the plans showed that the public safety was properly provided for, 7574–7579——Inaccuracy of any statement that it was through any difficulties raised in witness's department, that Mr. Boucicault was prevented from building a new theatre, 7578. 7758. 7783–7787.

Considerable improvements effected in the interiors of many of the theatres, at the instance of witness's department, 7579, 7580. 7597–7603——Great willingness shown by the managers to fall in with the views and directions of the department, 7579. 7598. 7607, 7608. 7769—— Question considered as to the expediency of licensing the music halls for theatrical performances; approval of a permission to perform light pieces, if a clear definition can legally be drawn up on the subject, 7583, 7584. 7695–7707. 7789–7794——Statement as to its not being considered the business of witness's department to interfere with the performances in music halls, even though illegal performances may be given, 7585–7596. 7644, 7645.

Sufficient powers of witness, by withholding or suspending the license to any theatre, for compelling the adoption of improvements suggested by the surveyor of the deparment, 7597–7606——Effectual interference of witness for the adoption of precautions in the matter of the foot-lights, &c., 7602, 7603. 7739–7742——Interference of the department in the event of improprieties in the dresses of the ballet dancers, 7606, 7607——Refusal of witness to interfere in preventing gentlemen going behind the scenes, as being rather the duty of the managers, 7608–7610——Conclusion as to the necessity of supervision over both theatres and music halls, 7611, 7612.

Approval of the censorship of plays, public opinion not being a sufficient check, 7613, 7614——Very few plays rejected, 7615, 7616——System of censorship in Paris, 7617——Particulars as to the way in which the censorship is and has been exercised, with reference more especially to certain plays which have been objected to, such as "Ruy Blas," "Jack Sheppard," "La Traviata," "Robert Le Diable," &c., 7618–7633. 7708–7713. 7788——Conclusion as to its not being necessary to have any appeal (except to public opinion) from the decision of the Lord Chamberlain in the rejection of plays, 7620–7622. 7634, 7635. 7714–7718.

Difficulty at present in stating the staff to be required in witness's office, if entrusted with the licensing and supervision of the music halls, 7636–7638. 7761——Importance of removing the present uncertainty of the law as to the performances legal at music halls; difficulty of a clear definition on the subject, 7639. 7701–7706. 7770, 7771, 7789–7794——Interference of witness's department if a regular theatre were to give performances without a license, 7644–7647——Explanation in justification of the refusal of occasional theatrical licenses to literary institutions and other places, that is, on the ground of public safety, 7648–7665.

Approval of the principle of free trade in theatres, subject to proper regulations for the safety of the public; this is in fact the guiding principle of witness's department, 7665–7671——Difficulty in getting proper sites, but for which there would be more theatres, 7669–7672——Necessity of obtaining the Queen's consent to any increase of witness's department, as the staff is paid for out of the civil list, 7673, 7674. 7746–7753——Doubt

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Sydney, the Right Honourable Viscount, G.C.B. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Doubt whether, in addition to the theatres and music halls in London, the country theatres could properly be superintended by witness's department, 7675–7686. 7777–7782.

Explanation as to the regulation required in the case of theatres, that eating and drinking must not take place in the auditorium, 7687–7699——Considerations as to the provisions made in regard to egress in the existing theatres generally, and as to the requirements desirable in this respect in all new theatres: arrangements in the Paris theatres adverted to hereon, 7719–7738——Opinion that in the country the municipal authorities rather than the magistrates, should have the supervision of the theatres, 7754–7757. 7778, 7779.

Expediency of some consideration being given to any local objections to the erection of new theatres, 7759, 7760——Character of the supervision to be exercised by witness's staff over the performances in music halls and other places if licensed by the department, 7761–7776——Inconvenience of the licensing by magistrates in the neighbourhood of the metropolis further adverted to, 7778——Objection to any extension of central supervision to the country, 7779–7782.

T.

Taylor, Tom. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—As a dramatic author of some experience considers that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain has not practically any appreciable effect either for good or evil, as regards the west-end theatres, 4751–4757. 4760. 4854–4866——Belief that a check is, however, very necessary upon the character of the plays in small theatres in the east of London and in penny gaffs, 4758–4761——Doubt as to the necessity for the censorship with regard to political allusions, 4762–4767. 4826–4834. 4860–4866——Opinion that there are sufficient theatres in London to ensure an adequate competition for good and attractive dramas, 4768–4779. 4896

Apprehension lest a low and objectionable class of drama should be the result of empowering the music halls to give theatrical representations, 4780–4793. 4835–4853. 4879–4886——Probability of actors degenerating through the production of a lower class of pieces at music halls, 4782. 4841, 4842——Very inadequate supply of good actors at the present time, 4783, 4784——Opinion that actors are not suffering in any way from the monopoly of certain theatres, 4785, 4786——Approval of licenses to additional theatres, if the accommodation be suitable, and if the public-house element be not introduced, 4787–4793.

Probability of no injury arising to the interests of literature by opening the music halls to theatrical representations; conclusion, nevertheless, that the combination of the drama with eating, drinking, and smoking, would have generally a lowering tendency, and is undesirable, 4787–4793. 4835–4853. 4879–4889——Belief that the drama has suffered from free trade in theatres, 4794–4799——Way in which the patents of the royal theatres used to operate in producing a superior class of actors, 4798, 4799. 4878——Proposition for the establishment and subsidising of a model theatre, to be maintained as a school of dramatic art, 4798–4825——Insufficient supply of good plays and good actors for the theatres, irrespectively of the music halls, 4841. 4878.

Doubt as to any increased adaptation of immoral pieces from the French, if the Lord Chamberlain's censorship were withdrawn, 4854–4859——Tendency of acting in burlesque to introduce a lower class of actors, and to injure the demand for superior plays, 4867–4871——Approval on the whole of the retention of the censorship, 4873–4877——Indirect rather than direct injury apprehended from licensing music halls for dramatic representations, 4879–4885——Importance attached to the objection that ladies would not go to music halls, 4882.

Dissent from the views submitted to the Committee in a certain petition from Members of the Dramatic Authors' Society, 4890–4896——Opinion that the present regulations concerning theatres do not operate as any prejudice to dramatic writers capable of producing good pieces, 4896.

Temporary Special Licenses. Recommended power in the magistrates to grant temporary special licenses to music halls, &c., *Pownall* 450.

Theatres and Theatrical Licenses. See the *Headings generally throughout the Index.*

"Ticket of Leave Man." Reference to the "Ticket of Leave Man" as not legitimate drama; even acting of all the parts adverted to as the chief cause of success, *Webster* 3328–3334.

Tomlins, Frederick Guest. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is an author and journalist; has occupied himself with theatrical matters for nearly forty years, 6867–6870——Belief that the performance of stage plays in music halls would not tend to decline of the drama, 6872——Conclusion as to the very beneficial effect of the music halls, and as to the constant improvement in the class and tone of the performances at them, 6873. 6887–6891. 6936–6941——Expediency of the music halls being empowered to produce

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Tomlins, Frederick Guest. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

theatrical pieces and light operas; grounds for concluding that they would be sure to go on in an intellectual direction, 6873–6885. 6926–6941——Satisfactory attendance of artisans and their wives and families at the Alhambra, Canterbury Hall, &c., 6881–6814.

Part taken by witness in helping the movement for doing away with the privileges of the patent theatres, 6885, 6886——Mixed class of performances in former years at the patent theatres, 6887–6894——Change of public taste, so that the high tragic drama is probably gone out for ever, 6895–6906——Statement as to the English drama having been always piratical to some extent, 6907——Frequent interference of the Lord Chamberlain with plays after the Restoration, 6908——Circumstance of there having been seventeen theatres in London in the time of Shakspeare, 6909–6911——Very good actors at the present time, there being an inferiority in the pieces rather than in the performers, 6912–6917.

Strong feeling among actors against the music halls, though there would be an additional demand for both actors and actresses if the music halls could perform light pieces, 6918–6925——Great improbability of the music halls attempting anything but music and dancing and light pieces, 6925–6930——Statement as to the amusements of the people still being of an inferior class, though the music halls have greatly improved in moral tone, 6931–6941.

[Second Examination.] Evidence as to the practice of smoking in theatres in Shakspeare's time, 6942—— Further statement as to the numerous theatres and the freedom which existed in the days of Shakspeare, *ib.*——Absolute power vested formerly in the Master of the Revels, *ib.*——Advantage of the system of refreshments in music halls, as enabling the visitors to go home earlier than if they adjourned to public houses, &c. for refreshment, *ib.*

Toole, Mr. Circumstance of Mr. Toole having first appeared at the Beaumont and other institutions, *Francis* 5995–5998

Travelling Theatres. Facility with which witness used to obtain permission from the local magistrates to perform in country towns when he travelled about with a company, *Lee* 4934–4942.

Complaint as to the uncertainty of the law, as interpreted by different magistrates, upon the question of licenses being required for travelling theatres; illustration in witness's case of the inconvenience and injury arising from this source, *Simpson* 5393 *et seq.* —— Views of the magistrates that it is only on particular occasions, such as fairs, that they have power to license travelling theatres, *Simpson* 5400. 5417–5447.

Numerous travelling theatres, many of which would be changed into permanent theatres but for the legal obstacles, *Simpson* 5449–5454——Way in which witness carries out theatrical performances without rendering himself liable to prosecutions under the Act, *ib.* 5482–5488——Practice as to refreshments being allowed in witness's theatre, *ib.* 5517–5519.

Turner, H. J. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has had considerable experience as a theatrical agent, that is, in furnishing managers with the actors and actresses required, 5044–5050——Large increase in the salaries of actors in the provinces within the last few years; in London there has not been much alteration, 5051. 5102–5104——Great demand for good actors and actresses, the supply being very inadequate; increased difficulty if there were more theatres in London, 5052–5055. 5092–5096. 5111–5128. 5210–5212——Employment of many subordinate actors in music halls, where they get better salaries; belief that this is an injury rather than a benefit to the profession generally, and to the theatres, 5056–5072.

With regard to Mr. Robson having commenced his career at the Grecian Saloon, it was really a theatre in which he performed, 5073–5075——Belief that Miss Carlotta Leclercq did not spring from a music hall, 5076, 5077——Nor Miss Marie Wilton, 5078, 5079——Conviction that music halls spoil actors, 5080–5082——Incompatibility of the performance of the drama with the practice of eating, drinking, and smoking, as in music halls, 5083–5092. 5129–5137——Non-objection to music halls giving theatrical performances, if they come under the same restrictions as theatres, 5092. 5139–5145. 5172–5177.

Difficulty for some years in providing an adequate supply of actors, if the music halls were to give dramatic performances, even though the salaries might be increased, 5092, 5093. 5105–5128. 5138. 5178–5183——Much better social position of actors than in former years, 5094–5100——Injurious effect upon the theatres and the drama if dramatic entertainments were given in places where eating, drinking, and smoking were going on at the same time, 5101. 5105 *et seq.*——Approval of an increased number of theatres, though if all the music halls were theatres, the competition would be ruinous, 5111, 5112. 5141–5145.

Higher salaries in music halls than in theatres, the probable tendency of the music halls being to increase theatrical salaries, 5146–5150——Objection to any dramatic performance in a music hall, even though the number of performers were limited to three or four, 5151–5162——Approval of the theatrical license to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's entertainment,

Turner, H. J. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

entertainment, 5163, 5164——Way in which theatrical performances in music halls would not only injure the theatres, but would probably deteriorate the public taste, 5165–5188.

Opinion that it would be an improvement if the theatres in the country were licensed by the central office, 5189–5198——Belief that music halls in the provinces are not permitted to give dramatic entertainments, any more than the London music halls, 5199–5209.

U.

Uniformity. Wholesome uniformity of administration to be secured by putting all places of public entertainment in the metropolis under the Lord Chamberlain's Department, *Sir T. Henry* 787. *Hon. G. C. Norton* 1348.

See also *Lord Chamberlain's Department.*

United States. High standard of the drama in the United States, where public opinion is the only check upon the plays, there being no licenser; several of witness's plays originally produced there, *Boucicault* 4045–4058—— Power of the theatres or music halls in the United States to combine eating, drinking, and smoking with the representation of the drama, whereas such combination never takes place, and the theatres and music halls are kept quite distinct, *ib.* 4163–4170.

Performance generally of English plays on the American stage; doubt as to any pieces being acted there which would be rejected here on the score of immorality, *Boucicault* 4260–4262. 4266–4270. 4283–4287. 4394, 4395——Very good actors produced in America, *ib.* 4263–4265. 4378 —— Structual advantages of the American theatres as compared with the London theatres, *ib.* 4272–4273——Opinion as to the public taste in America being purer than in this country, and more in favour of the legitimate drama, *ib.* 4379–4390. 4393–4395.

Practice not to supply drink or refreshment in the auditorium of American theatres, *Kean* 6587–6592——Great difference between the habits of the Americans and the English, the former dining early, and being thus more at liberty to frequent the theatres, *ib.* 6562, 6563. 6571 —— Performance generally in America of the sensational drama, the legitimate drama not being acted as a general rule, *ib.* 6572–6577——Absence of music halls in the United States, *ib.* 6582, 6583.

See also *New York.*

Unlicensed Places. Want of the appointment of some authority for preventing the operation of unlicensed places, *Hon. S. C. B. Ponsonby* 250–255——Non-interference of the Lord Chamberlain with any places save those licensed by him; there are no funds for such interference, *ib.* 302–305.

Report by the police in the event of dramatic performances in unlicensed places, witness frequently taking steps for the infliction of penalties on the managers, and on the people attending, *Sir R. Mayne* 970–979. 996——Indirect and limited power of the police in the case of unlicensed places where only music and dancing go on, *ib.* 991–1008—— Expediency of all places for public entertainment being licensed, and being under the police, *ib.* 1135–1138. 1196–1200.

Statement that there are in this country 5,000 places in which dramatic representations are given without license, irrespectively of music halls, *Hollingshead* 5221. 5351–5356.

Penalty under the Act 6 & 7 Vict. for performances in unlicensed places, *App.* 289.

Resolution of the Committee that the provisions for enforcing the proper working of the Act of 25 Geo. 2, c. 36, relative to the licensing of music halls, are insufficient and unsatisfactory, as there is no legal authority under which the police can take direct proceedings against unlicensed houses in which music and dancing are going on, although they are empowered to deal summarily with cases of unlicensed theatrical entertainments, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Beer-houses. Penalties.*

W.

Webster, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is sole proprietor and manager of the Adelphi Theatre, 2892——Very salutary operation of the present system of licensing theatres, 2893——Necessity of the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain in order to prevent immorality and objectionable political matter in dramatic literature, 2894–2901 —— Destruction of the art of acting and great injury to the drama generally, if the music halls were allowed to represent stage pieces, 2902 *et seq.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Webster, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Adequate competition at present for legitimate dramas; exceptional instances of pieces having such a long run as to prejudice the demand for a fresh supply, 2903–2906. 3009–3048. 3115–3118——Particular instances at the Adelphi of pieces being acted for long consecutive periods, it being, however, necessary to supplement these with new pieces from time to time, 2905. 3009–3022. 3035–3048. 3243, 3244——Great difficulty now experienced in supplying the stage with good actors, owing very much to the vitiating operation of the music halls upon the style of acting, 2908, 2909. 2928–2937. 3262——Salaries of actors at theatres and music halls respectively; denial that on the score of remuneration it is any undue interference of the Legislature to confine actors to theatres, 2910–2919. 3049–3058. 3120–3121.

Adverse feeling of all actors of the higher class to music halls, 2920–2922——Result of witness's experience that the school of acting has been destroyed by the removal of the privileges of the patent theatres, and by the present free trade in the drama, 2923–2947. 2970–2976——Witness took an active part in opening the drama to the minor theatres, but experience has shown him his error, 2926. 2971–2973——Much less liberty of the theatre in Paris than in London; grounds for this statement, 2930–2934. 3068–3094.

Different class of audiences at music halls and at theatres on account of the temptation of smoking and drinking in the former case, 2934–2937. 2948–2954——Special legislation required for the protection of the drama and of acting, as being a special art, 2938–2947——Very limited drinking in the theatres, whereas it is a chief source of the profits of music halls, 2948–2954——Belief that the acting of the drama in music halls would not eventually be profitable, 2955–2966——Main ground of witness's objection that the drama would be degraded where drinking and smoking are such prominent attractions, 2967–2969. 2977–2979. 3059–3067. 3217.

Non-objection to music halls having theatrical licenses, and giving dramatic performances, if they comply with the same conditions as theatres, and exclude drinking, eating, and smoking, 2977. 3095–3104. 3133, 3134. 3216–3219. 3263–3278——Eminence of the late Mr. Robson adverted to; belief that though he commenced his career at the Grecian, he did not become an actor there, 2980–2990. 3113, 3114. 3245–3248——Immoral atmosphere of music halls as compared with theatres; grounds for this statement, 2991–3008. 3122–3127. 3135–3140. 3165–3170. 3249——Prohibition upon singers at the *cafés chantants* in Paris appearing in costume, 3074–3079——Decline of acting in France, though there are more first-class actors than in England; probable cause of such decline, 3082–3094. 3105, 3106.

Stage acting at some of the music halls, whereas none of them have ever turned out a good actor, 3107–3112——Ample demand among the twenty-five theatres in London for good pieces, 3115–3119——Pecuniary injury to witness, who has the freehold of his theatre, if the music halls could compete with him, 3128, 3129——Effect of the music halls in destroying the half-price at some of the theatres, 3129——Entire satisfaction expressed with the present system of theatrical licensing, 3130–3132. 3301, 3302——Advantage if there were a censorship over the songs at the music halls, 3132.

Practice in regard to drinking at the *cafés chantants* in Paris; it is of a very harmless kind, and there is no eating, 3140–3150——Further statement as to the limited amount of drinking or refreshment at the London theatres, 3151–3164. 3205–3208. 3285–3288. 3291——Prohibition upon visitors going behind the scenes, 3165–3170. 3209–3215——Great difficulty in getting together a really efficient company at any one theatre, since the system of free trade in the legitimate drama among the twenty-five theatres in London, 3171–3180. 3250–3255.

Attractiveness of old plays and legitimate dramas at the present time, 3181–3186. 3225–3233. 3259, 3260——A nightly receipt of 150 *l.* at the Adelphi would be a very fair business, 3187——The nightly expenses may be taken at about 100 *l.*; 3188–3190——Large sums paid by witness for good plays, 3191–3196——Non-objection to music halls so long as they keep to their legitimate business, and leave theatrical representations to the theatres, 3197–3202——Objection to ballets being performed at the music halls, 3203, 3204.

Sufficiency of the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain's department for the public safety in theatres, 3220–3222——Suggestion that the Lord Chamberlain should have funds at his disposal for the prosecutions of those who infringe the law, 3223, 3224.

Further statement that authors have every facility for getting good plays acted, though the supply of legitimate drama is very limited, 3225–3244——Appreciation of the legitimate drama by the public, if the supply were forthcoming, 3228–3233. 3256–3260——Insufficient supply of acting talent adverted to as the chief cause of the non-production of good plays, 3233–3237. 3250–3262——Character of the plays of the present time as compared with those produced in former years, 3238–3244——Deterioration of acting talent further adverted to as arising from free trade in the drama, and from many good actors being spoilt at music halls, 3250–3262.

Witness further contends that the practice of eating, drinking, and smoking, is inconsistent

Webster, Benjamin. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

sistent with the legitimate drama, and that the two must be kept distinct, 3270–3280. 3318–3326——Objection to the music halls being allowed to enact select portions of dramas or small pieces requiring only a few performers, 3271–3275. 3278–3280. 3318–3322——Distinction between cafés chantants as in Paris, and the London theatres or music halls, 3281–3284——Definition of the legitimate drama, 3289——Injurious effect of burlesques upon the legitimate drama, more especially the inferior class of burlesque produced of late years, 3290. 3350–3357——Probability of the decline of acting talent in France being owing to the freer style of drama there than in England, 3292–3294.

Absence practically of any school of acting in England since the theatres have been thrown open, 3295–3300——Fair supply of pieces at the disposal of managers though frequently wanting in plot, 3303–3307——Doubt as to any decrease of theatres in country towns, 3308–3317. 3335–3348——Approval of so-called sensation dramas at the theatres rather than of scenes from such plays as the "School for Scandal" at music halls, 3318–3327——Reference to the "Ticket of Leave Man," as not legitimate drama; even acting of all the parts adverted to as the chief cause of its success, 3328–3334.

Weston's Music Hall. It is understood that there are private apartments or supper rooms at Weston's Music Hall, *Pownall* 515–519.

Whitechapel. Witness (as police inspector) supplies sundry particulars relative to the music rooms and dancing places attached to public houses in Whitechapel; is not aware of any special complaint against these places, *Reason* 7801 *et seq.*

Wigan, Horace. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager of the Olympic Theatre; has written several successful pieces, 4564–4566——Considers that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain is extremely beneficial, and that it does not operate as any bar upon dramatic authorship, 4566–4577——Opinion as to the sufficiency of the number of theatres in London, though an increased number might probably widen the taste for theatrical performances, 4578–4582. 4717–4722——Large increase in the salaries of actors, particularly in the country, 4583. 4625——Conclusion that there is practically free trade in theatres at the present time, as the license would be sure to be given to a new theatre unless the building were unsatisfactory, 4584–4587. 4649–4651. 4721. 4723.

Profitable operation of the theatres in recent years, so that witness concludes the music halls have not interfered with them, 4588–4592——Belief that if the music halls could act stage plays, they would bring the drama and the professors of the stage into great disrepute, 4594–4599. 4658 *et seq.*——Expediency of the performances in music halls being subjected to censorship, 4600, 4601——Supervision exercised by the Lord Chamberlain over ballets; instance at Her Majesty's Theatre, 4602–4605. 4700–4705——Grounds for the statement that the demand for good dramas is much greater than the supply, 4606–4620.

Dissent from certain opinions as to the declining state of the drama, 4608, 4609. 4625, 4626——Statement as to Mr. Boucicault having asked very exorbitant terms from witness for a play; very large sums made by Mr. Boucicault upon the principle of sharing the profits with the managers who produce his pieces, 4613–4618——Very few dramatic authors in England; large proportion of the pieces which are of foreign origin, 4620——Great difficulty in writing successful plays, 4620–4624——Good prospect of an improved supply of actors, 4625——Opinion that actors have not fallen off within the last thirty years, but that the public are more critical than they used to be, 4626. 4706–4716.

Illustration of the importance of the Lord Chamberlain's license as a check upon immorality, 4627–4630——Explanation as to the prosecutions against the music halls having been undertaken in witness's name, 4631, 4632——Very small returns from the sale of drink in theatres as compared with music halls, 4633–4637. 4749, 4750——Willingness of witness to see the sale of spirits, &c. prohibited in theatres, 4638, 4639——Statement showing that theatres cannot sell drink and refreshment in the same way as the music halls, 4639, 4640——Inaccuracy of certain evidence in regard to the cafés chantants in Paris being empowered to give dramatic performances; nor are they fitly constructed for the purpose, 4641–4649.

Approval of music halls having theatrical representations, if they conform to the same regulations as theatres, but not otherwise 4652 *et seq.*——Exclusion of the more respectable classes from the drama, if eating, drinking, and smoking were allowed in the auditorium, 4658–4660——Conclusion as to the music not being the chief attraction to the public who go to music halls, 4666–4674. 4740–4748——Witness would be glad to see the ballet excluded from theatres, and only objects to it at music halls as being a stepping-stone to further infringement of the law, 4675–4682. 4727, 4728——Inaccuracy of the statement that Mr. Robson learnt his art or commenced his career in a music hall, 4693–4699.

Obstacle to any immoral occurrences in the private boxes in theatres, 4724–4726——Approval of burlesques in theatres, though they have deteriorated greatly of late years, 4729——Doubt as to the music halls having tended to cause any increase in the salaries

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Wigan, Horace. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

at theatres, 4731–4735——Inability of witness to deny that at some theatres ladies may have been allowed to act without salary, or may have paid for permission to appear on the stage, 4736–4739.

[Second Examination.] Explanation that witness has no positive knowledge that managers have received sums of money to allow ladies to appear on the stage, 4898—— Information relative to the system of subsidies in Paris, to the Théâtre Français and the Odéon, whereby those places operate as nurseries of art, and are constantly turning out well qualified actors, 4898–4905——Opinion as to its being the duty of a Government to foster art in every way, 4906——Impression that there is a State theatre in Austria as in France, 4909–4911.

Statement as to the system of licensing country theatres by the magistrates being in an unsatisfactory state; instances at Glasgow and Ramsgate, 4912–4919——Improvement if the licenses in town and country were all under one officer, and were given as a matter of course if the buildings were proved to be safe, 4920–4929——Several objections to the magistrates as the licensing body in the country, 4920–4924——Necessity of a central licensing officer being aided by a proper inspecting staff, 4925–4927.

Wigan Theatre. Information relative to the theatre at Wigan, *Knowles* 6359–6363.

Wilton, Miss Marie. Belief that Miss Marie Wilton did not commence her career in a music-hall, *Turner* 5078, 5079.

Withdrawal of Licenses. Suggested power in the magistrates to withdraw the license in the interval between the October Sessions and the period of renewal, *Pownall* 659—— Contemplated power in the licensing officer at once to rescind any license, as well as to refuse renewals, *Sir T. Henry* 787. 790–803.

Withdrawal of Plays. Contemplated power in the Lord Chamberlain to stop any play or performance, *Honourable G. C. Norton* 1267–1272——The only plays stopped after having been licensed, were "Jack Shepherd" and "Oliver Twist," *Donne* 2286, 2287 ——Instances of the Lord Chamberlain having exercised the power of withdrawing plays already licensed, *ib.* 2542–2546.

See also *Censorship.*

Women of the Town. Much larger number of women of the town at the Alhambra and Strand Music Halls, &c., than at the theatres, *Honourable S. C. B. Ponsonby* 178–182. 195–196. 304–314——Larger proportion of women of the town at music halls than at theatres, *Sir R. Mayne* 1070–1072——Decorous behaviour of women of the town at music halls and dancing rooms, so that witness, as a police functionary, sees no cause for interference with such places, but on the contrary, approves of them, *ib.* 1072–1080. 1127——Belief that women of the town are not admitted free to the music halls, *ib.* 1104. 1122——Discontinuance many years ago of the practice of admitting women of the town to theatres, whereas the music halls are now extremely objectionable on this score, *Buckstone* 3410–3421.

See also *Alhambra,* 4.

Woodin, Mr. Reference to Mr. Woodin's entertainment as not coming within the interpretation of a dramatic performance, though he considered it advisable to apply for a license, *Donne* 2321, 2322. 2418–2435.

INDEX

TO THE

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

THEATRICAL LICENSES AND REGULATIONS.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
28 *June* 1866.

[*Price* 9 *d.*]

373—I.

Under 8 *oz.*

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TRADE IN ANIMALS;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
19 *July* 1866.

427.

Thursday, 15*th March* 1866.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the manner in which the Home and Foreign Trade in Animals by Sea and Railroad is conducted, and to report what Regulations, if any, should be enforced, with a view of improving the Treatment of Animals in Transit, and to prevent any introduction and spreading of Infectious or Contagious Diseases amongst them.

Monday, 16*th April* 1866.

Ordered, THAT it be an instruction to the Committee on Trade in Animals, that they inquire how far it is desirable and practicable for animals brought by sea to ports in the United Kingdom to be slaughtered or quarantined at the port of landing, and to report their opinion thereon to the House.

Friday, 20*th April* 1866.

Ordered, THAT the Committee do consist of Nineteen Members.

Committee nominated of—

Mr. Milner Gibson.	Mr. Cogan.
Lord Naas.	Mr. Carnegie.
Viscount Cranborne.	Mr. Dent.
Sir James Fergusson.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Leader.
Sir Morton Peto.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Graves.
The O'Conor Don.	Mr. Norwood.
Sir Matthew Ridley.	

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Wednesday, 25*th April* 1866.

Ordered, THAT the Committee do consist of Twenty-one Members.

Ordered, THAT Mr. Alderman Salomons and Mr. Wilbraham Egerton be added to the Committee.

Monday, 30*th April* 1866.

Ordered, THAT it be an instruction to the Committee on Trade in Animals, that they inquire how far it is desirable to prevent, restrict, or regulate the Slaughter of Animals in the Metropolis and other populous places, and to report their opinion thereon to the House.

Thursday, 19*th July* 1866.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to Report their Observations, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, to the House.

REPORT - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. iii
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE - - - - - p. viii
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 301

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the manner in which the HOME and FOREIGN TRADE in ANIMALS by SEA and RAILROAD is conducted, and to Report what REGULATIONS, if any, should be enforced, with a view of improving the Treatment of Animals in transit, and to prevent any introduction and spreading of Infectious or Contagious Diseases amongst them, and who were instructed to inquire how far it is desirable to prevent, restrict, or regulate the Slaughter of Animals in the Metropolis, and other populous places;——HAVE considered the Matters referred to them, and have agreed to the following REPORT:

TRANSIT.

FOREIGN cattle and sheep are imported into England and Scotland from Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Holland, Schleswig, Denmark, and Sweden, and various parts of Europe.

Cattle and sheep are also carried by sea from Orkney and Shetland to various ports in Scotland, and from Scotland and Ireland to England.

At present, cattle can only be landed at ports approved of by the Customs authorities. The chief ports for foreign cattle are, Liverpool, London, Harwich, Hull, Newcastle, Leith, and Granton; for Irish cattle, Glasgow, Silloth, Morecambe Bay, Liverpool, and Bristol. The Scotch cattle are chiefly taken to Liverpool and London.

The sea-borne cattle arrive generally in good condition. The vessels are, with some exceptions, specially fitted up for the purpose, and have divisions for every four or six animals, windsails or other means to secure ventilation, and in some cases shelter for the cattle on deck. The cattle, however, in well-ventilated vessels appear to suffer from the want of a free current of air when the vessels are coming up the Thames or are waiting for the tide to discharge their cargo, as at Newcastle, Hull, Bristol, and Leith, where the cattle cannot be landed at all states of the tide.

The animals carried between decks are usually tied with their heads to the sides of the vessel, though the best mode is to tie them with their heads to the centre, because this latter method affords greater facility for feeding and watering, and for good ventilation; the Irish store cattle are brought over loose.

There is no rule respecting the numbers put on board, but with the exception of some cases in the Irish and Bremen trade, the vessels do not appear to be overcrowded.

It is in evidence that in Ireland much injury arises to cattle from bad treatment received from drovers, and that cattle landed from Oporto and Spain arrive in a better state than those from Ireland.

In the voyage from Oporto, each animal is allowed space to lie down, and is fed with compressed food, and watered; in other cases the animals are packed close to one another, so as to prevent their lying or being shaken down, and sometimes are neither fed nor watered until landed.

The animals are chiefly made to walk on and off board, and the practice of slinging is nearly abandoned.

It has always been the practice to cleanse the ships, more or less, after each voyage and recently disinfectants have been used.

On the railways cattle are often overcrowded and badly treated, especially in Ireland, and are carried for 36 to 48 hours without being fed or watered.

It is bad for the cattle and troublesome to untruck them, while there is some difficulty in watering them while in a truck, a difficulty, however, which is not insuperable.

A journey, whether by sea or rail, causes cattle to deteriorate in value, and makes them feverish, and tends to produce, if it does not actually cause, the foot and mouth disease. These evils are very much increased if cattle are ill-treated, or not properly watered.

Since the recent Orders in Council, the cattle trucks appear to have been properly cleansed as far as is possible. Possibly the floors might be constructed so as to admit of a more thorough cleansing than is at present practicable.

Your Committee are of opinion that it should be made imperative upon all railway companies or steamboat proprietors who are engaged in the carriage of animals, to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the trucks, steamboats, and pens used by them after every journey or voyage; and that provision should be made under Government superintendence for the proper ventilation of all vessels employed in carrying cattle by sea; and also that similar provision should be made with respect to the vessels employed in carrying cattle from Ireland and Scotland.

The laws relating to cruelty to animals might be often enforced with advantage in the case of both vessels and railways.

Home Trade.

If London and other large towns could be supplied entirely with meat killed in the country, a great deal of the traffic in cattle, and consequently a great deal of the chance of spreading infectious diseases, would be avoided.

London and other large towns can, except in hot weather, be supplied, to a great extent, with dead meat from a distance; and frequently country-killed meat, though not so good looking, is better and keeps longer than town-killed meat.

At present, the cost of sending carcases by rail is larger than that of sending live cattle; but, with proper arrangements, the cost of carriage might be diminished.

If animals are slaughtered in districts which are thinly peopled, there is great difficulty in disposing of the offal, which does not bear the expense of carriage. It would be a loss to the farmer in such districts to be obliged to send his cattle to distant markets, dead instead of alive, and to the poor of London and large towns, who are great consumers of offal, and who would be deprived of it if those places were supplied by dead meat only.

The trade generally object to a dead-meat system; they say that the supply is very irregular, and that prices are only kept from violent fluctuations by the live-meat market.

Moreover, while admitting that the general demand is tolerably uniform, they say that their individual demand varies, that they can only meet this irregularity by buying cattle and keeping them alive in their own lairs to slaughter when required.

Many butchers and contractors who supply the suburbs of London are dependent for their meat on the metropolitan markets. If they could only obtain dead meat at these markets, it would be impossible to supply meat in as good a condition as they do at present.

Your Committee are of opinion that it is not possible at present to dispense with a live-meat market in the metropolis and other large towns.

Both

Both in London and in the provincial towns, butchers of the suburbs or neighbouring places have been in the habit of purchasing cattle in the live markets, and removing them to their own premises, and keeping them there until required for slaughter. These persons have suffered great inconvenience, and extra expense by the recent prohibition of such removal, by the Orders in Council made in consequence of the cattle plague.

There does not seem to be any general desire permanently to restrain the general home traffic in cattle, but your Committee recommend that the Metropolitan Market should be confined to animals intended for immediate slaughter; and that all animals exhibited therein should be branded, and not allowed to be exhibited for sale in any other market, but should be slaughtered within 10 days, and that, subject to this regulation, the animals might be moved so as to allow butchers to take them to their own places and slaughter them.

Your Committee do not recommend that any permanent restrictions, other than those above suggested, should be placed on the home traffic in cattle. That they are of opinion that the wilful exposure for sale in a public market of animals suffering from infectious disorders, such as rinderpest, sheep pox, pleuro-pneumonia, or glanders, or the knowingly driving such animals upon the public highways, or conveying them upon railway or boat, should be rendered an offence punishable in a summary manner; and, if necessary, a Bill to effect this should be introduced into Parliament.

The great inconvenience of cattle driving in the streets of London and other towns arises partly from cattle being driven to the live-meat markets, and partly from cattle being driven from those markets to private slaughter-houses.

The live markets are not unhealthy in themselves, nor are slaughter-houses, if properly kept, though they usually attract several trades which, in crowded localities, are injurious to public health.

The private slaughter-houses are occupied by two classes, carcase butchers and retail butchers.

The carcase butchers kill animals for the purpose of selling them wholesale in the dead-meat market. This slaughtering could be carried on at a public slaughter-house adjoining the live market as well as at private slaughter-houses; and if this were done the number of cattle driven through the streets would be very much reduced, and the noxious trades which are connected with them would be removed.

The slaughter-houses of the retail butchers stand on a different footing. Their abolition would cause great hardship to many butchers who have slaughter-houses adjoining their shops, and can slaughter animals as they require them under their own superintendence.

For the public interest it would be advisable as far as practicable to adopt a system of public slaughter-houses, and in all cases slaughter-houses should be placed under regulations and proper inspection, as is the case at present in some of the provincial towns; and your Committee are of opinion that power should be given by a general Act to local authorities to acquire land for the erection of slaughter-houses, and to make regulations respecting them.

That the system of inspection at present existing in the City of London should be extended to the whole metropolitan district, although no entirely satisfactory inspection of meat can be carried out until all meat is killed in specified public slaughter-houses.

Foreign Trade.

The importation of foreign cattle is very important, for, as the home supply of cattle is reduced, the importation tends to keep down the price of meat, and it appears impossible to supply dead meat from foreign ports, to any but a very small extent.

The introduction of disease is, to a great extent, prevented by the system of inspection, which makes importers careful to send sound animals. The

inspection is at present carried out effectually, though the accommodation at some wharves is deficient.

Diseased animals are slaughtered, but the rest of the cargo is sold, except in cases of rinderpest, when the whole cargo is slaughtered. Store stock affected with foot and mouth disease are, in some cases, detained until cured.

Inspectors cannot discover undeveloped seeds of disease in an animal, and therefore with the view of preventing the importation of disease from abroad, many persons are desirous of placing store cattle in quarantine, and of maintaining the present regulation as to slaughtering fat cattle at the port of discharge within four days from their arrival.

The compulsory slaughter of all foreign cattle at the port of discharge, under the recent Orders in Council, has prevented the importation of any store cattle or sheep (which was an increasing trade), much to the detriment of the Scotch farmers who have been unable to stock their lands, and has diminished the importation of fat cattle, a trade which would otherwise have increased.

The temporary inconvenience of insufficient accommodation for slaughtering at the wharves could no doubt be removed, but the evil of causing a large amount of additional slaughtering in large towns, as Liverpool and Hull, is more difficult to deal with.

Compulsory slaughter at a port, like compulsory slaughter at a market, is more expensive to the butcher, hampers the trade, and will diminish the importation, and raise the price to the consumer.

Your Committee recommend that all imported fat cattle should be subject to the same rule as English fat cattle when exposed in a market.

That the Privy Council shall declare any country, in which they have reason to believe the cattle plague is existing, to be an infected country, and to prohibit the importation altogether of animals therefrom, or to declare that such importation shall only take place at certain ports, and that animals so imported shall not be taken into any market, but be slaughtered at the port of entry within four days of their being landed.

Besides the general question of slaughtering at the port of discharge, it was suggested that there might be a separate market for foreign fat stock in London close to the wharves, and that foreign stock might be excluded from the metropolitan market, or on the banks of the Thames.

The plan would prevent the chance of introducing infection from foreign cattle into the Metropolitan Market, and would stop the inconvenience of driving cattle through the streets from Blackwall to Copenhagen Fields, many of which are brought back to Whitechapel.

It is objected to by Dr. Letheby, by several inspectors, and by nearly all the butchers and salesmen who alleged that the separation of the home and foreign markets would be inconvenient, would decrease the competition, and tend to diminish the importation; while by giving additional trouble to the butchers it would increase the price and would "give an unfair advantage to owners of English stock."

Although to some extent one class of butchers purchase foreign, and another class, English fat cattle, yet there are many who purchase both. The separation of the markets would exclude these men from one or the other market.

Such a separation of the two markets seems therefore undesirable. The evil of the cattle driving in the streets might be much diminished if the cattle were landed lower down the river than at present, and brought up by rail, while this course would also bring the cattle in better condition, and allow of better accommodation at the wharves.

The chance of infection will also be much diminished if the Metropolitan market were made exclusively a fat meat market, as in that case all the cattle would be, according to our previous recommendations, killed within 10 days.

It

It seems desirable, where practicable, in large towns to separate the fat and store cattle markets.

Any system of quarantine will require extensive accommodation at the port of arrival, and in some cases (as Liverpool and London) there will be great difficulty in providing this.

The objections urged to any system of quarantine are the expense, the interference with trade, and the deterioration of the animal during the quarantine, while it is said that the animal might catch the disease from the place where it is quarantined. A quarantine would, no doubt, act as a tax on importation, and if it did not stop importation altogether, would diminish it, and raise the price to the purchaser.

It is alleged on the other hand that a purchaser would gladly pay an increased price, as he would have a kind of warranty of the soundness of the animal; but it may be doubted whether the quarantine furnishes an adequate security that the animal is free from disease.

The only disease for which quarantine appears to be at all reasonable, is the rinderpest.

Where countries like Spain or Denmark are not only free from rinderpest, but are not a channel for the exportation of cattle from infected inland countries, there seems to be no reason for a quarantine for cattle exported from them.

Your Committee are of opinion that a permanent department of the Council Office should be appointed to keep up communications with the Board of Customs and Her Majesty's Consuls abroad, in order to have accurate accounts as to the existence or otherwise of the cattle plague, upon whose recommendation the Council could, if they thought fit, order a quarantine, or impose such restrictions upon the trade in animals as circumstances might appear to them to justify.

19 *July* 1866.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Friday, 27*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Hunt.	Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Dent.	Sir James Fergusson.
Mr. Carnegie.	

Mr. HUNT was called to the Chair.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 30*th April* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Dent.	Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.	Mr. E. Egerton.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Goschen.	Mr. Graham.

Mr. *Patrick Daniells* and Mr. *Robert Moseley* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 3*rd May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Dent.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Hunt.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Leader.	Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Holland.	The O'Conor Don.
Lord Cranborne.	Mr. Cogan.
Sir J. Fergusson.	

Dr. *W. Stewart Trench*, Mr. *Hugh Cullen*, Mr. *Richard Hall*, Mr. *William Bradbury*, and Mr. *F. Salmon*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 7th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Viscount Cranborne.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Graves.
Lord Naas.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Leader.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Mr. Hunt.	Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Goschen.

Mr. *Robert Moseley*, Mr. *Godefridus Samuel Peters*, Mr. *François Hager*, Mr. *John Ellis*, Mr. *Seymour Clarke*, and *Clare Sewell Reade*, Esq., a Member of the House, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 10th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Leader.	Mr. B. Stanhope.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Cogan.	Mr. W. Egerton.
Lord Naas.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. E. Egerton.	

Mr. *John Honch*, examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 14th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Hunt.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Sir James Fergusson.	Lord Naas.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Norwood.	

Mr. *Thomas Coulson*, Mr. *John Malcolm*, Mr. *Noel James Lockwood*, and Mr. *William Valentine* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 17th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Carnegie.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.	Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Hunt.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Graves.	Mr. Edward Egerton.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Sir James Fergusson.	

Mr. *James Cresswell Wall*, Mr. *John Dickenson*, and Mr. *Mark Aungier* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday, 28th May, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 28*th May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Edward Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Stanhope.	Mr. Leader.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Hunt.	Lord Cranborne.

Mr. *Martin Pratt*, Mr. *Anthony George Robinson*, Mr. *William Simmonds*, and Mr. *Stephen Giles Holmans* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 31*st May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. E. Egerton.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Carnegie.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Stanhope.
Mr. Hunt.	Lord Cranborne.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Graves.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.

Mr. *J. G. Ratcliffe*, Dr. *Letheby*, Mr. *Charles Hicks*, and Mr. *A. E. Hirschler* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 5*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Holland.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Dent.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Graves.

Mr. *Baker*, Mr. *Giblett*, Mr. *Woodley*, and Mr. *Pickworth* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Friday, 8*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Milner Gibson.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Carnegie.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Stanhope.	Mr. Holland.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Lord Naas.

Mr. *J. Simon*, Mr. *W. Slater*, and Mr. *J. Bannister*, were severally examined.

Mr. *Charles Hicks* further examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 11*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Dent.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Carnegie.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Mr. Holland.	Lord Naas.

Mr. *John Swan*, Mr. *John Swales*, Mr. *Samuel Higgins*, and Mr. *James Stewart*, were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 14*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Leader.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	

Mr. *R. Herbert*, Captain *O'Brien*, Mr. *George Wakefield*, Mr. *Betts*, Mr. *James Hutcheson*, Mr. *Joseph Butler*, and Mr. *Joseph Nelson* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 18*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	The O'Conor Don.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.	Lord Cranborne.

Mr. *Thomas Rudkin*, Mr. *Thomas Lovell*, Mr. *James Currie*, Professor *Strangeways*, and Mr. *James Higgins* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 21*st June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Dent.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Sir M. W. Ridley	Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Graham.	Lord Naas.

Mr. *Wm. Torr*, Mr. *T. M. Hudson*, Mr. *James Druce*, Mr. *W. Fair*, Mr. *William Lindsay*, and Mr. *T. Bonsor* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 25th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. DENT in the Chair.

Mr. Holland.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Lord Naas.	Mr. Norwood.
Sir James Fergusson.	Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	

Mr. *R. Walsh*, Mr. *Joseph Garnett*, Mr. *J. Watson*, and Mr. *Joseph Hennessy* were severally examined.

[Adjourned till Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Monday, 2nd July 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. HUNT in the Chair.

Mr. Carnegie.	Lord Naas.
Mr. W. Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Graves.

Mr. *H. E. Wilkinson*, Mr. *W. D. Stevens*, and Mr. *Charles Hunt* were severally examined.

Room cleared.—The Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 17th July, at Twelve o'clock.

Tuesday, 17th July 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Mr. Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Norwood.	

The Committee deliberated, and—

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Thursday, 19th July 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. MILNER GIBSON in the Chair.

Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Carnegie.	

Draft Report proposed by the Chairman, read a first time, as follows:

" TRANSIT

"TRANSIT.

"1. Foreign cattle and sheep are imported into England and Scotland from Spain, France, Belgium, Holland, Schleswig, Denmark, and Sweden.

"2. Cattle and sheep are also carried by sea from Orkney and Shetland to various ports in Scotland, and from Scotland and Ireland to England.

"3. Under the present restrictions, cattle can only be landed at ports allowed by the Customs' authorities. The chief ports for foreign cattle are Liverpool, London, Harwich, Hull, Newcastle, Leith, and Granton; for Irish cattle, Glasgow, Silloth, Morecambe Bay, Liverpool, and Bristol. The Scotch cattle are chiefly taken to Liverpool and London.

"4. The sea-borne cattle arrive generally in good condition. The vessels are, with some exceptions, specially fitted up for the purpose, and have divisions for every four or six animals, windsails or other means to secure ventilation, and in some cases shelter for the cattle on deck. The cattle, however, in well-ventilated vessels appear to suffer from the want of a free current of air when the vessels are waiting for the tide to discharge their cargo, as at Newcastle, Hull, Bristol, and Leith, where the cattle cannot be landed at all states of the tide.

"5. The animals are usually tied with their heads to the sides of the vessel, though the best mode is to tie them with their heads to the centre; the Irish store cattle are brought over loose.

"6. There is no rule respecting the numbers put on board, but with the exception of some cases in the Irish and Bremen trade, they do not appear to be overcrowded.

"7. In the voyage from Oporto, each animal is allowed space to lie down, and is fed with compressed food, and watered; in other cases the animals are packed close to one another, so as to prevent their lying or being shaken down, and generally are neither fed nor watered until landed.

"8. The animals are chiefly walked on and off board, and the practice of slinging is nearly abandoned.

"9. It has always been the practice to cleanse the ships, more or less, after each voyage, and recently disinfectants have been used.

"10. On the railways cattle are often overcrowded and badly treated, especially in Ireland, and are carried for 36 to 48 hours without being fed or watered.

"11. It is bad for the cattle and troublesome to untruck them, while there is some difficulty in watering them while in a truck, a difficulty, however, which is not insuperable.

"12. A journey, whether by sea or rail, causes cattle to deteriorate in value, and makes them feverish, and tends to produce, if it does not actually cause, the foot and mouth disease. These evils are very much increased if cattle are ill-treated, or not properly watered.

"13. Since the recent Orders in Council, the cattle trucks appear to have been properly cleansed as far as is possible. The form of truck admits of great improvement, and possibly the floor might be also constructed so as to admit of a more thorough cleansing than is possible with the present construction.

"14. Several salesmen and inspectors have recommended that the vessels which carry cattle should be subjected to some Government superintendence. Legal restrictions on the carriage of cattle by sea do not appear from the evidence to be needed; regulations, especially with regard to watering and disinfecting, would be very difficult to enforce; and as it is the direct interest of the shipowner as well as of the shipper to carry the cattle in as good a condition as possible, your Committee think that the expected advantages are not sufficient to outweigh the general objections to Government interference.

"15. In the case of the railways, it may be worthy of consideration whether some regulations might not advantageously be made respecting the treatment of cattle and sheep in transit by railway in the United Kingdom.

"16. The laws relating to cruelty to animals might be often enforced with advantage in the case of both vessels and railways.

"HOME TRADE.

"17. If London and other large towns could be supplied entirely with meat killed in the country, a great deal of the traffic in cattle, and consequently a great deal of the chance of spreading infectious diseases, would be avoided, while the other evils, viz., the driving cattle through the streets and the town slaughter-houses, would be avoided.

"18. London and other large towns can, in the absence of hot weather, be supplied with dead meat from a distance; and frequently country-killed meat, though not so good looking, is better and keeps longer than town-killed meat.

"19. At present, the cost of sending meat by rail is larger than that of sending live meat, and the actual charge made by the railway must always be higher, as the carriage of dead meat involves more labour and risk to the railway company; but with proper organisation and arrangements, such as are carried out by the Bristol and Exeter Railway Company, the cost of carriage might be so diminished as not to affect the price.

"20. If animals are slaughtered in districts which are not in the neighbourhood of large towns, or which are thinly peopled, there is great difficulty in disposing of the offal,

which, though valuable in London, does not bear the expense of carriage. It would be a loss to the farmer in such districts to be obliged to send up his cattle dead instead of alive.

"21. The offal also is largely consumed by the poor in London and the large towns, who would be deprived of it if those places are supplied by dead meat only.

"22. The trade generally object to a dead-meat system; they say that the supply is very irregular, and that prices are only kept from violent fluctuations by the live-meat market.

"23. Moreover, while admitting that the general demand is tolerably uniform, they say that their individual demand varies, that they can only meet this irregularity by buying cattle and keeping them alive in their own fairs to slaughter when required.

"24. Many butchers and contractors who supply the suburbs of London are dependent for their meat on the metropolitan meat market. If they could only obtain dead meat at this market, it would be impossible to supply meat in as good a condition as they do at present.

"25. In hot weather, at present, the supply of country-killed meat in London ceases almost entirely for a week, or more, at a time. In all cases there seems more risk, and less profit, in a dead meat trade, so that the price to the consumer would necessarily be raised.

"26. Your Committee are of opinion that it is not possible to dispense with a live-meat market in the metropolis and other large towns.

"27. Both in London and in the provincial towns, butchers of the suburbs or neighbouring places have been in the habit of purchasing cattle in the live-meat markets, and removing them to their own premises, and keeping them there until required for slaughter. These persons have suffered great inconvenience, and extra expense by the prohibition of such removal.

"28. There does not seem to be any general desire permanently to restrain the home traffic in cattle, or any reason for doing so; and your Committee recommend that English cattle, when exposed in the metropolitan or other markets, should be marked for slaughter, and should not be again exposed in any market, but should be slaughtered within a given time, not less than a week; but that, subject to this regulation, the cattle should be moved so as to allow butchers to take them to their own places and slaughter them as required.

"29. The question of the extent to which the regulations respecting the movement and slaughter of cattle have affected the price of meat, is complicated by so many considerations as to make it impossible to determine it with any certainty.

"30. Your Committee do not recommend that any permanent restrictions, other than those above suggested, should be placed on the home traffic in cattle; but they are of opinion that for any person knowingly to expose a diseased animal for sale should be made penal.

"31. The great inconvenience of cattle driving in the streets of London and other towns arises partly from cattle being driven to the live-meat markets, and partly from cattle being driven from those markets to private slaughter-houses.

"32. The live-meat markets are not unhealthy in themselves, and, for the reesons given above, appear indispensable. Slaughter-houses, if properly kept, are not necessarily unhealthy, though they usually attract several noxious trades.

"33. The private slaughter-houses are occupied by two classes, carcase butchers and retail butchers.

"34. The carcase butchers kill animals for the purpose of selling them wholesale in the dead-meat market. This slaughtering could be carried on at a public slaughter-house adjoining the live-meat market as well as at private slaughter-houses; and if this were done the number of cattle driven through the streets would be very much reduced.

"35. The slaughter-houses of the retail butchers stand on a different footing. Their abolition would cause great hardship to many butchers who have slaughter-houses adjoining their shops, and can slaughter animals as they require them under their own superintendence; and it would be necessary, in any case, to have slaughter-houses in several parts of the town, so that the driving of cattle through the streets would be but slightly diminished.

"36. For the public interest it would be advisable as far as practicable to adopt a system of public slaughter-houses, and in all cases slaughter-houses should be placed under regulations and proper inspection, as is the case at present in some of the provincial towns.

"37. No proper inspection of meat can be carried out until all meat is killed in specified public slaughter-houses.

"Foreign Trade.

"38. The importation of foreign cattle is very important, for, as the home supply of cattle is reduced, the importation tends to keep down the price of meat, and it appears impossible to supply dead meat from foreign ports, to any but a very small extent.

"39. The introduction of disease is, to a great extent, prevented by the system of inspection, which makes importers careful to send sound animals. The inspection is at present carried out effectually, though the accommodation at some wharves is deficient.

"40. Diseased animals are slaughtered, but the rest of the cargo is sold, except in cases of pleuro-pneumonia and rinderpest, when the whole cargo is slaughtered. Store stock affected with foot and mouth disease are, in some cases, detained until cured.

"41. Inspectors

"41. Inspectors cannot discover undeveloped seeds of disease in an animal, and therefore, with the view of preventing the importation of disease from abroad, many persons are desirous of placing store cattle in quarantine, and of maintaining the present regulation as to slaughtering fat cattle at the port of discharge within four days from their arrival.

"42. The compulsory slaughter of all foreign cattle at the port of discharge, under the recent Orders in Council, has prevented the importation of any store cattle or sheep (which was an increasing trade), much to the detriment of the Scotch farmers who have been unable to stock their lands, and has diminished the importation of fat cattle, a trade which would otherwise have increased.

"43. The temporary inconvenience of insufficient accommodation for slaughtering at the wharves could no doubt be removed, but the evil of causing a large amount of additional slaughtering in large towns, as Liverpool and Hull, is more difficult to deal with.

"44. Compulsory slaughter at a port, like compulsory slaughter at a market, is more expensive to the butcher, hampers the trade, and will diminish the importation, and raise the price to the consumer. The foreign trade is uncertain in amount, and if a large cargo of animals comes in hot weather, it is impossible to dispose of them as dead meat, while it is impossible for a butcher to buy them and keep them alive until he requires them. Although, as a rule, fat cattle, when imported, are slaughtered in three or four days after their arrival, the obligation to slaughter places the importer in the hands of the butcher.

"45. Your Committee recommend that all imported fat cattle should be subject to the same rules as English fat cattle when exposed in a market; that is to say, marked for slaughter within a week, and not allowed to be exposed in any other market.

"46. The butchers would be satisfied with this, and coupled with an inspection at the port, it would probably afford a fair precaution against introduction of disease.

"47. The additional precaution of having special trucks for the conveyance of animals so marked might also be adopted.

"48. Besides the general question of slaughtering at the port of discharge, it was suggested that there might be a separate market for foreign fat stock in London close to the wharves, and that foreign stock might be excluded from the metropolitan market.

"49. The plan would prevent the chance of introducing infection from foreign cattle into the Metropolitan Meat Market, and would stop the inconvenience of driving cattle through the streets from Blackwall to Copenhagen Fields, many of which are brought back to Whitechapel.

"50. It is objected to by Dr. Letheby, by several inspectors, and by nearly all the butchers and salesmen, who alleged that the separation of the home and foreign markets would be inconvenient, would decrease the competition, and tend to diminish the importation; while by giving additional trouble to the butchers it would increase the price and would 'give an unfair advantage to owners of English stock.'

"51. Although to some extent one class of butchers purchase foreign, and another class, English fat cattle, yet there are many who purchase both. The separation of the markets would exclude these men from one or the other market.

"52. Such a separation of the two markets seems therefore undesirable. The evil of the cattle driving in the streets might be much diminished if the cattle were landed lower down the river and brought up by rail, while this course would also bring the cattle in better condition, and allow of better accommodation at the wharves.

"53. The chance of infection would also be much diminished if the Metropolitan Meat Market were made exclusively a fat meat market, as in that case all the cattle would be, according to our previous recommendations, killed within a week.

"54. It seems desirable throughout the country to separate the fat and store cattle markets. It is easy, by compulsory slaughter, to exclude store cattle from fat meat markets, but it seems difficult to prevent a store cattle market from becoming a fat cattle market also.

"55. Any system of quarantine will require extensive accommodation at the port of arrival, and in some cases (as Liverpool and London) there will be great difficulty in providing this.

"56. The objections urged to any system of quarantine are the expense, the interference with trade, and the deterioration of the animal during the quarantine, while it is said that the animal might catch the disease from the place where it is quarantined. A quarantine would, no doubt, act as a tax on importation, and if it did not stop importation altogether, would diminish it, and raise the price to the purchaser.

"57. It is alleged on the other hand that a purchaser would gladly pay an increased price, as he would have a kind of warranty of the soundness of the animal; but it may be doubted whether the quarantine furnishes an adequate security that the animal is free from disease.

"58. The only disease for which quarantine appears to be at all reasonable, is the rinderpest, and there appears no reason for a quarantine in the case of any other animals than store cattle.

"59. Where countries like Spain or Denmark are not only free from rinderpest, but are not a channel for the exportation of cattle from infected inland countries, there seems to be no reason for a quarantine for cattle exported from them.

"60. It might properly be left to the Privy Council to order a quarantine in cases

where it appeared to be required, on account of the danger of an introduction of the rinderpest, but in all other cases your Committee recommend that no quarantine should be enforced except in the case of an animal actually diseased."

Draft Report proposed by Mr. Dent, read a first time, as follows:

"1. YOUR Committee have examined several witnesses connected with the home and foreign trade in animals, members of the medical profession, veterinary surgeons, graziers, butchers, railway managers, and steamboat proprietors; and are of opinion—

"2. That in ordinary times it is inexpedient to interfere with the movement or sale of live animals, the produce of the United Kingdom.

"3. At the same time they would suggest that it is desirable that the exposure for sale in a public market of animals suffering from infectious disorders, such as rinderpest, sheep pox, pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease, scab, or glanders, or the driving such animals upon the public highways, should be rendered an offence punishable in a summary manner; and, if necessary, a Bill to effect this should be introduced into Parliament.

"4. That it should be imperative upon all railway companies or steamboat proprietors who are engaged in the carriage of animals, to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the trucks, steamboats, and pens used by them after every journey; and that the Board of Customs should regulate the number of cattle to be conveyed, and take care that proper provision be made for ventilation, in all vessels employed in the foreign trade in cattle; and also that similar provision should be made with respect to the vessels employed in carrying cattle from Ireland.

"5. That the Metropolitan Market should be confined to animals intended for immediate slaughter; and that all animals exhibited therein should be branded, and not allowed to be exhibited for sale in any other market, but be slaughtered within eight days of their exhibition in the Metropolitan Market.

"6. That in case of rinderpest appearing in the United Kingdom, the Privy Council should have power to declare any district in the United Kingdom an infected district, and by Order in Council to stop all fairs and markets therein, and to place such restrictions upon the movement of cattle within and from such districts as they may think necessary.

"7. That a special department of the Council Office should have charge of these duties, and should keep up communications with the Board of Customs and Her Majesty's Consuls abroad, in order to have accurate accounts as to the existence or otherwise of the cattle plague.

"8. With respect to the trade in foreign animals, your Committee are of opinion that generally the foreign cattle and sheep imported into this country are very healthy, and that it would be most undesirable to place upon them any restrictions which might check their free importation; but they recommend—

"9. That the Privy Council should have power to declare any country, in which they have reason to believe the cattle plague is existing, to be an infected country, and to prohibit the importation altogether of animals therefrom, or to declare that such importation shall only take place at certain ports, and that animals so imported shall not be taken into any market, but be slaughtered at the port of entry within four days of their being landed.

"10. With respect to foreign cattle or sheep arriving from all other countries, the Committee do not recommend that any restrictions shall be placed upon them other than those which are placed upon the cattle and sheep of the United Kingdom.

"11. The Committee have taken evidence on the subject of dead-meat markets, and the supply of large towns by such means. Much evidence has been adduced in favour of this trade, and the Committee recommend that every facility should be given to the local authorities to provide markets and other accommodation for it.

"12. They have also taken evidence as to the separation of the foreign and English cattle and sheep markets in the Metropolis, but are of opinion that the weight of evidence is against this course.

"13. With respect to the establishment of public slaughter-houses, the Committee are of opinion, that although in the Metropolis this could not be effected without great inconvenience and difficulty, both to the consumer and the butcher, in all other towns above a certain population the establishment of such slaughter-houses is to be recommended; and they are of opinion that power should be given to local authorities, if they think fit, to purchase land and erect the necessary buildings for these purposes."

Motion made, and Question, That the Draft Report proposed by the Chairman be now read a second time and considered paragraph by paragraph, put and *agreed to*.

Paragraph 1, amended, and *agreed to*.

Paragraph 2, *agreed to*.

Paragraphs 3 to 8, amended, and *agreed to*.

Paragraphs

Paragraphs 9 to 12, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 13, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 14, *disagreed to.*

Amendment proposed, after paragraph 13 to insert the following paragraph, "It should be imperative upon all railway companies or steamboat proprietors who are engaged in the carriage of animals, to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the trucks, steamboats, and pens used by them after every journey or voyage, and that provision should be made, under Government superintendence, for the proper ventilation of all vessels employed in carrying cattle; that similar provision should be made with respect to the vessels employed in carrying cattle from Ireland and Scotland"—(Mr. *Dent*).—Question, That this paragraph be inserted in the proposed Report, put and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 15, *disagreed to.*

Paragraph 16, *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 17 to 21, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 22 and 23, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 24, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 25, *disagreed to.*

Paragraphs 26, 27, and 28, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 29, *disagreed to.*

Paragraph 30, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 31, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 32, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 33, *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 34 to 37, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 38 and 39, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 40 amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 41, 42, and 43, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 44 amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 45—Amendment proposed in line 2, to leave out the words "in a market," in order to insert the words "in the Metropolitan Market"—(Mr. *Stanhope*)—instead thereof. —Question put, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the paragraph:—The Committee divided:

Ayes (3.)	Noes (3.)
Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Stanhope.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Leader.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Egerton.

Whereupon the Chairman declared himself with the Ayes.

Another amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "market" to the end of the paragraph—(Mr. *Dent*).—Question, That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the paragraph,—put and *negatived.*—Paragraph, as amended, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 46, *disagreed to.*

Amendment proposed, after Paragraph 45, to insert the following paragraph:—"That the Privy Council should have power to declare any country, in which they have reason to believe the cattle plague is existing, to be an infected country, and to prohibit the importation altogether of animals therefrom, or to declare that such importation shall only take place at certain ports, and that animals so imported shall not be taken into any market, but be slaughtered at the port of entry within four days of their being landed" —(Mr. *Dent*).—Question, That this paragraph be inserted in the proposed Report,—put and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 47, *disagreed to.*

Paragraphs 48 and 49, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 50 and 51, *agreed to.*

Paragraphs 52 and 53, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 54, *disagreed to.*

Paragraph 55, 56, and 57, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 58, amended, and *agreed to.*

Paragraph 59, *agreed to.*

Paragraph 60, *disagreed to.*

Amendment proposed, to insert the following paragraph: "It is in evidence that in England much injury arises to cattle from bad treatment received from drovers, and that cattle landed from Oporto and Spain arrive in a better state than those from Ireland" —(Mr. *Leader*).—Question, That this paragraph be inserted in the proposed Report—put, and *agreed to.*

Question, That this Report, as amended, be the Report of the Committee to the House —put, and *agreed to.*

Ordered, To Report, together with the Minutes of Evidence, and an Appendix.

EXPENSES OF WITNESSES.

NAME OF WITNESS.	Profession or Condition.	From whence Summoned.	Number of Days Absent from Home, under Orders of Committee.	Expenses of Journey to London and Back.	Allowance during Absence from Home.	TOTAL Expenses Allowed to Witness.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
William Salmon	Writer	Liverpool	1	2 11 6	1 1 –	3 12 6
Francois Huger	Merchant	Antwerp	3	7 8 –	3 3 –	10 11 –
Richard Hall	Cattle Inspector	Liverpool	3	3 10 –	3 3 –	6 13 –
Hugh Cullen	Cattle Dealer	Liverpool	3	3 10 –	3 3 –	6 13 –
Samuel Higgins	Butcher	Leeds	2	2 2 6	2 2 –	4 4 6
Thomas Lovell	Farmer and Grazier	Rugby	2	1 10 –	2 2 –	3 12 –
John Swales	Cattle Salesman	Leeds	2	2 2 –	2 2 –	4 4 –
James Higgins	Inspector of Cattle markets.	Leeds	2	2 2 –	2 2 –	4 4 –
James Hutcheson	Butcher	Inverury	3	8 5 –	3 3 –	11 8 –
Joseph Butler	Butcher	Aberdeen	3	8 5 –	3 3 –	11 8 –
John Swan	Butcher	Edinburgh	3	7 – –	3 3 –	10 10 –
James Stewart	Butcher	Aberdeen	3	8 5 –	3 3 –	11 8 –
William Torr	Farmer and Grazier	Grimsby	3	3 3 –	3 3 –	6 6 –
Thomas Moore Hudson	Farmer and Grazier	Brandon	2	1 12 6	2 2 –	3 14 6
William Fair	Farmer and Grazier	Hartford	3	3 7 –	3 3 –	6 10 –
James Druce	Farmer and Grazier	Eynsham	2	1 6 –	2 2 –	3 8 –
James Currie	Steamship owner	Leith	1	7 10 –	1 1 –	8 11 –
W. Lindsay	Provost of Leith	Leith	5	– –	5 5 –	5 5 –
W. D. Stephens	Manager of Shipping	Newcastle-on-Tyne	4	6 5 –	4 4 –	10 9 –
H. Wilkinson	Veterinary Surgeon	Newcastle-on-Tyne	4	6 5 –	4 4 –	10 9 –
Joseph Hennessy	Cattle Dealer	Bristol	3	2 12 –	3 3 –	5 15 –
Richard Walsh	Merchant	Dublin	5	5 8 –	5 5 –	10 13 –
Samuel Garnett	Gentleman	Kells (Ireland)	6	6 5 –	6 6 –	12 11 –
Thomas Strangeways	Veterinary Surgeon	Edinburgh	3	5 – –	3 3 –	8 3 –
				TOTAL	£.	180 2 6

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Monday, 30*th April* 1866.

	PAGE
Mr. Patrick Daniels	1
Mr. Robert Moseley	9

Thursday, 3*d May* 1866.

Dr. William Stewart Trench	15
Mr. Hugh Cullen	21
Mr. Richard Hall	29
Mr. William Bradbury	36
Frederick Salmon, Esq.	40

Monday, 7*th May* 1866.

Mr. Robert Moseley	43, 50
Mr. Godefridus Samuel Peters	45
Mr. Francois Huger	48
Mr. John Ellis	51
Mr. Seymour Clarke	53
Clare Sewell Read, Esq., M.P.	61

Thursday, 10*th May* 1866.

Mr. John Hönck	65

Monday, 14*th May* 1866.

Mr. Thomas Coulson	77
Mr. John Malcolm	83
Mr. Noel James Lockwood	86
Mr. William Valentine	90

Thursday, 17*th May* 1866.

Mr. James Cresswell Wall	94
Mr. John Dickenson	98
Mr. Mark Aungier	101

Monday, 28*th May* 1866.

Mr. Martin Pratt	104
Mr. Anthony George Robinson	113
Mr. William Simmonds	118
Mr. Stephen Giles Holmans	124

Thursday, 31*st May* 1866.

Mr. James John Ratcliff	126
Dr. Henry Letheby	132
Mr. Charles Hicks	142
Mr. A. E. Hirschler	145

Tuesday, 5*th June* 1866.

Mr. Benjamin Bloomfield Baker	149
Mr. John Giblett	157
Mr. Thomas Woodley	167
Mr. Thomas Pickworth	171

Friday, 8*th June* 1866.

	PAGE
Mr. John Simon	175
Mr. William Slater	179
Mr. John Bannister	182
Mr. Charles Hicks	186

Monday, 11*th June* 1866.

Mr. John Swan	189
Mr. John Swales	198
Mr. Samuel Higgins	202
Mr. James Stewart	205

Thursday, 14*th June* 1866.

Mr. Robert Herbert	208
Captain William O'Brien	213
Mr. Thomas Betts	215, 219
Mr. George Wakefield	218
Mr. James Hutcheson	219
Mr. Joseph Butler	222
Mr. Joseph Nelson	224

Monday, 18*th June* 1866.

Mr. Thomas Rudkin	227
Mr. Thomas Lovell	240
Mr. James Currie	242
Professor Thomas Strangeways	243
Mr. James Higgins	247

Thursday, 21*st June* 1866.

Mr. William Torr	250
Mr. Thomas Hudson	257
Mr. Joseph Druce	263
Mr. William Fair	265
Mr. William Lindsey	268
Mr. William James Bonser	270

Monday, 25*th June* 1866.

Mr. Richard Walsh	275
Mr. Samuel Garnett	279
William Watson, Esq.	283
Mr. Joseph Hennessy	286

Monday, 2*nd July* 1866.

Mr. Henry Etridge Wilkinson	289
Mr. William Davies Stephens	295
Mr. Charles Hunt	297

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Monday, 30th April 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Graham.
Mr. Cogan.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.
Mr. James Fergusson.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.

THE RIGHT HON. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. PATRICK DANIELS, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *P. Daniels.* 30 April 1866.

1. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—A merchant and shipping agent at Harwich.

2. Are you connected with the Great Eastern line?—For two years I and my partner were agents for the company at the formation of their passenger and cattle traffic from Rotterdam and Antwerp to Harwich; we were agents from the time they commenced their traffic.

3. Are you employed at this time?—I am not.

4. Have you any knowledge of cattle traffic from Holland to Harwich?—I have been resident at Harwich for 27 or 28 years, and I have generally superintended the entire cattle traffic for two years.

5. Can you tell the Committee what quantity of cattle has been brought in the steamers from Holland to Harwich?—I can hardly give you that now, but generally speaking the boats are loaded as fully as they can be fairly loaded each voyage. It is very rarely that they come with light cargoes, but I cannot give the exact number from memory.

6. What kind of cattle?—All sorts of cattle; fat cattle, store cattle, sheep, pigs, and calves; sometimes about 300 or 400 calves. Some boats will bring 2,000 and odd sheep, 200 or 300 pigs, and 300 head of cattle.

7. Milch cows?—Yes; a large number of milch cows.

8. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are they fat calves?—Yes; and some store calves, about a year old, and two years old.

9. *Chairman.*] What has been the course of the trade; what has become of the cattle when they have been landed at Harwich?—The cattle principally went to London. Myself and partner established a market in Harwich, and at one time it bade fair to be a very prosperous one, and would have been of much benefit to the country, as we used to send beasts all over the country in fact, by railway; but we broke down rather for want of boat accommodation, and were obliged to give it up to a great extent, and afterwards to discontinue it; the traffic was more than the railway company were able to take, and they did not consider it desirable to give us a preference where others had not it, and the consequence was, that cattle that we had bought and had had bought for us on the other side, had to remain on the other side at great expense, in order to enable them to bring cattle for other parties; and that was the cause of the Harwich market being principally done away with.

10. It was for the London market?—Entirely.

11. Mr. *Dent.*] Yours were principally store cattle?—Yes, that was in connection with ourselves.

12. *Chairman.*] There was only an inconsiderable portion of all these that were disposed of in the neighbourhood of Harwich?—Not in a general way; we have had one entire cargo at one time disposed of at Harwich, but as a rule, they went to London.

13. What was the condition generally, of the cattle when they arrived at Harwich?—Very good indeed; there were two or three exceptions, when the ship encountered a very severe gale of wind coming over; then there were some few dead; but taking the general run of the two years I was connected with the company, I do not think the whole number brought dead into port amounted to 20.

14. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Winter and summer together?—Yes.

15. *Chairman.*] During the whole two years?—During the whole two years.

16. Used the boats to carry any cattle on deck?—Always on deck, and below as well; part of the hold was taken up for dead cargo, and part for cattle, and the decks were entirely filled.

Mr. *P. Daniels.*
30 April 1866.

17. Mr. *Hunt.*] Were these vessels constructed for carrying cattle alone?—Not for carrying cattle alone; cattle, goods, cargo, and passengers.

18. They were vessels belonging to the Great Eastern Railway Company?—They were vessels belonging to the Great Eastern Railway Company; and very fine vessels they are; better there cannot possibly be.

19. Do any vessels belonging to the Company trade between the ports you have mentioned with cattle?—There were some that the Company chartered.

20. No other Company or individual carried cattle between these ports?—No other.

21. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] How many were there?—Five.

22. How many voyages did each make a week?—Two voyages.

23. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The cattle trade between those ports was the creation of the Great Eastern Railway Company?—Yes.

24. There was none existing there before?—None before; it commenced two years last August.

25. *Chairman.*] Were those cattle which were brought in dead, killed by the effect of the gale and bad weather, or did they die from other causes on board?—There were various causes; some had been very tired when they came on board, and could not stand the voyage, and would get down, and if the vessel rolled much in a heavy sea, that would have some effect on them; but it is very rare, indeed, to have a dead beast on board.

26. Mr. *Hunt.*] What was the average length of your voyage?—I think you may calculate the sea-voyage was eight to nine hours generally; doing it very comfortably indeed in 11 hours from quay to quay.

27. Has there been any dead meat traffic during those two years?—Yes; a great deal, more particularly in pigs, and sometimes in calves. At the present time there is not a heavy traffic, but there has been considerable traffic in calves.

28. Does the meat always arrive in good condition?—Very good.

29. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the largest number of animals you ever brought over in any one ship?—From 2,000 to 3,000 sheep, when they have brought sheep alone.

30. And other beasts?—About 300 beasts.

31. How many of those would be on deck?—Well, I can hardly tell. I should think they would take from 80 to 100 on deck. They are very large boats; very fine boats indeed.

32. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you ever heard of any of the cargo of beasts in the ship, being thrown overboard from stress of weather, to secure the safety of the vessel and of the cargo?—There has never been an instance in my time. One of the chartered boats got ashore on Brill Bar, and some of those cattle were put overboard.

33. *Chairman.*] Supposing a boat arrives with some dead beasts on board, who bears the loss?—The shipper on the other side; that is an arrangement made with the shipper and the consignee; sometimes the insurance clubs. There have been cases where they have been insured, and then they fall on the insurance club.

34. The freight is the same to the shipowner, whatever be the condition in which he delivers the cattle, is it not?—Yes; that is an arrangement. If there has been any great loss I think that sometimes the company have met the parties by allowing some part of the freight, but otherwise as soon as the steamer takes the animals on board they are subject to the freight.

35. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is there any restriction put on the number of animals taken on board each vessel?—No; they put on board what the ship can fairly stow.

36. Is there a fixed number, I mean beyond which they are not allowed to go?—There is no fixed number.

37. Who does it rest with; does it rest with the captain of each vessel?—The captain has liberty to refuse to take any more when he pleases; the captain has the entire control of the ship.

38. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there any fixed space allotted; so many cubic feet?—The boats are fitted up with stalls, which take about six beasts in one stall, so that they fill these stalls round and the shippers ship these; on deck they are the same.

39. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is the freight paid per head, or by cargo?—The freight is paid per head.

40. Mr. *Graham.*] Have you a lien on the living beasts for the freight for the dead ones in case there are any dead ones?—I cannot say that there is so, as a rule.

41. I mean could they refuse to receive the delivery of the cargo, and so save paying freight for it?—If the dead beasts are unfit for human food, the Custom House authorities order the beasts to be sent out to sea, and thrown overboard.

42. And then there is no freight paid?—Then there is no freight paid.

43. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is there any officer on the shore to see that the vessel is not overloaded?—Only the company's agents.

44. Nobody on behalf of the public?—Nobody on behalf of the public except the parties themselves to whom the cattle belong.

45. There is no Custom-house agent?—I do not think the Custom-house agents have anything to do on the other side.

46. There is no Government officer to regulate it?—There is not.

47. *Chairman.*] If the steamship was so loaded that some of the cattle arrived in a state unfit for human food, then the steamship owners would suffer a loss?—Yes, they would lose the freight.

48. You say they would not receive the freight?—I think not. I think that is matter more for arrangement with the shippers and the owner of the vessels. I think strictly speaking by law they can claim their freight, but I do not think it is at all times done. I think they generally pay the freight for what they deliver.

49. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you know what the arrangements are in the Dutch ports for the accommodation of cattle before they are shipped?—Yes. There are stables built close by the shipping places, and the beasts are put in there until the steamer is ready to take them on board. I suppose it takes about three hours to load a ship.

50. Do they keep them there for any number of days?—That depends entirely on circumstances. Some of the beasts come a long way by railway, then they are unloaded out of the trucks and put on board, and given a little hay and watered, perhaps they stay about three hours. Up the country some few miles there are large stables built expressly to relieve the beasts in the course of their railway transit.

51. Are the beasts untrucked and put into stables?—The beasts are untrucked and put into stables.

52. At

52. At what places?—I cannot really give you the exact name now, but it is about 60 miles up the country.

53. Is that under any State regulation?—I think that the beasts are not allowed to travel more than a certain distance by rail without being fed.

54. Under the law there?—Under the law there; and there are stables built to take them in, that would take as many as 500 or 1,000 of these beasts at a time. They are fed and watered by the peasants in the village, for which they have to pay a small toll.

55. Who are responsible for the untrucking of the animals?—If the railway company bring them by trucks, they are responsible on the other side. If the company bring the beasts by trucks, then the railway company by their own servants unload these trucks, and there are drovers there who drive them on board the ship, and then they are tied up.

56. Are drovers sent with the animals, so as to see that the animals are put into the same trucks again?—That I cannot say. When they are taken out at Rotterdam, close by the wharf where the Company's boats go, the Great Eastern Company's boats run direct up to the station of the Dutch-Rhenish Railway in Rotterdam, and they are driven from those trucks direct into the boats.

57. You say they only go 60 miles without being untrucked for the purpose of being fed and watered; what security is there that the drover does not get them mixed, and that the same lot is put into the truck as came out of it?—You would not get the same beasts into the same truck, perhaps, but they all come in the same herd.

58. But, supposing that half-a-dozen people send animals, and they are untrucked at one place for the purpose of being fed and watered, how do they arrange that the lots are not mixed?—That is a question I cannot answer.

59. Mr. *Dent.*] Who built these large stables, and to whom do they belong; the Company or the Government?—They belong to a private individual, and they take them in at a toll of so much a head.

60. Mr. *Hunt.*] By the law of the State, they cannot travel above a certain distance without being fed and watered; is not that so?—I cannot give you the detail of that matter.

61. Could you furnish the name of a person on the other side who could give it us?—I think I could.

62. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What you have said applies to those merely travelling from Holland; do any of those come from Germany?—I am speaking of the German beasts, not the Dutch beasts.

63. Which come to Holland from any part of Germany?—Yes.

64. Mr. *Hunt.*] You were speaking of the regulations in Holland with regard to these foreign cattle coming through?—Yes. Messrs. Hudigan and Peters, the agents to the Company, could give you every information as regards that.

65. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What were your particular duties?—To receive the cattle at Harwich, to forward them on to the railway, to attend to the passengers, and receive the goods outward bound as well. Any cattle being disabled, or not in a fit state to go out, were always left to ourselves, to order them to be slaughtered.

66. Did you conceive that you had the power of ordering any beasts to be slaughtered?—Entirely.

67. I think you said you had never exercised that power yourself?—We have had accidents, with broken legs and so on, when sheep have come, and calves and bullocks. We have had to do that in many instances.

68. When you say "we" who do you mean?—I am speaking of myself and my partner; there are two of us.

69. Were you employed exclusively by the Railway Company?—We were employed exclusively by the Railway Company.

70. Mr. *Hunt.*] There is a Government inspection at the port of Harwich, is there not?—Yes, every animal is inspected before it is allowed to leave the place, by daylight.

71. What accommodation is there for the animals during the inspection; are they on the quay?—About 100 yards from where they are landed they are driven into a yard which is well watered, foddered, and fed. That yard will afford accommodation for from 500 to 700 or 800 bullocks and 2,000 sheep.

72. Are they always watered on leaving the ship until they are sent on by rail?—Always.

73. What sort of inspection do they actually undergo?—There is a member of the college of veterinary surgeons who is always in attendance, and who examines every head of cattle.

74. What time does he give to each head of cattle on an average?—I cannot exactly tell you what time, it takes some little time: frequently he is there, and as each beast is unloaded, he looks at them as they come out of the ship; that is his general custom, and sometimes he is not there, but inspects them in the yard.

75. His usual practice is to inspect them as they come from the ship?—To inspect them as they come from the ship.

76. Do they merely pass before him?—They are tied up, so that he can mouth them.

77. So that he can mouth every single beast?—Yes.

78. Does he examine the sheep too?—He turns up a great many of the sheep, and examines their wool.

79. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is that always the practice, or has it only been the practice since the cattle plague?—That has always been the practice since the commencement.

80. *Chairman.*] Have you heard any complaints of the treatment of the cattle on their voyage; as to there being too many on board the ships, insufficient ventilation, and so forth?—I never heard anything about the ventilation being insufficient; upon one occasion there was one of the boats came over-crowded, on which I wrote to the agents on the other side of the water about it, but it rested more particularly with the owners; for they had the sheep down there; they had no boats by which they could possibly send them, and they put more sheep on board than they ought to have done. It has not been more than once or twice.

81. Mr. *Graves.*] Where there any animals suffocated in that case?—I think that they lost 6 or 10 sheep coming over, but sheep are things you can hardly account for. They lay down and get trodden on by the others, whether they are thick or thin. This was one occasion on one of the traffic boats, which was a screw boat, and not a boat at all adapted for the trade; it may have been in the cattle trade before. I forget whether

Mr. *P. Daniels.*

30 April 1866.

it was or not, and she brought in several sheep dead.

82. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would be desirable to limit the number of cattle to be conveyed by any particular vessel under regulations by the Board of Trade?—I think not; I think if the beasts are properly made fast, they are rather a protection to each other by being stowed pretty closely on board, because in that case they support each other. There are only 6 in a compartment. If the beasts get down they are sure to be injured; but as long as they can stand on their feet, they are perfectly right.

83. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] As a general rule, do cattle on the deck, or under the deck, come in the best order?—I do not know that I noticed any difference. I have seen them come in capital order on deck, quite warm and comfortable, and the same below.

84. Are the deaths greater below than on deck?—No; the cattle are put in as they happen to come on board; they finish loading below first, and then place them on deck, and sometimes there have been one or two on deck which have died. I do not think there is any difference at all.

85. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Is there any deck-covering or protection to these animals against the sun in very hot weather, tarpauling?—Not on deck, they have very high bulwarks. The bulwarks are at least six feet high, and sufficient to protect them. The voyages are made principally by night.

86. Mr. *Graham.*] Are the vessels loaded principally by slinging the cattle?—There are two of the ships which load them by slinging, and the others let them walk down.

87. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] How many rows are there on deck?—Two rows, one on each side of the bulwarks.

88. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Do you consider there would be any difficulty in carrying an equal number of sheep in any cargo, if the space was properly subdivided in divisions for the sheep?—They are all divided.

89. Each sheep is separated from the other?—Not each sheep. Take a place about the size of this room; that would be divided into six compartments, the same as you would see them in a common market. It would never do to have the deck flush, so that they could go about; because then they would all get down to leeward.

90. But could not the sheep be divided sheep by sheep, and so make them perfectly comfortable without crushing each other, in the same way as you see sheep stall fed?—I think that will hardly do, and I do not think there would be any good arise from it. It is seldom indeed any accident happens. If you take a great number of sheep coming over, 2,500 in a ship, you may get the proportion; not above one or two die.

91. Mr. *Dent.*] Is there any regulation as to the cleaning the ship when the cargo is discharged?—The ships are all cleaned as soon as the cargo is out. A set of men are kept on purpose.

92. Is there any regulation by the Customs' Board, or the Government officers?—No.

93. There is no inspection of them?—No inspection.

94. *Chairman.*] What do they clean the hold of the ship with when the cattle have been discharged?—They are washed out with quick lime.

95. Lime water?—Yes; after every voyage. It has been so since the cattle plague.

96. What was the rule before?—The ships being new, the bottoms are all washed out perfectly clean, and sawdust put to them. There was a thick layer of sawdust put on the floor, and the decks are all washed out regularly with water.

97. But you did not use any lime before the cattle plague?—Not after every voyage.

98. Mr. *Hunt.*] I want to know, with regard to the accommodation of cattle at the port of Harwich, whether it will be advisable to keep cattle there in quarantine; is there space enough on the quay?—There is available room, at the present moment, of 50 acres, which could be had in two days.

99. Who does that belong to, a private individual?—Private individuals have it. It is principally the Government land, let to private individuals, and some of it is private land.

100. What is your opinion of the desirability of placing all animals in quarantine before they go inland, in order to prevent disease coming from abroad?—I think for store cattle that would be a very good thing, and a thing that ought to be done. I do not think any foreign beasts ought to be allowed to come into the country, without placing them under quarantine, at the present time.

101. What length of quarantine would you give them?—From 10 to 14 days.

102. *Chairman.*] You say "at the present time;" would you make that a permanent regulation?—We are always subject, more or less, to disease from foreign beasts more than from our own beasts. I should be almost inclined to say, we should. I think it would be a safeguard.

103. Most of the cattle disease we have suffered from (I am not speaking now of the cattle plague) has come from abroad. That is the general opinion among cattle dealers?—It is the general opinion among cattle dealers; but whether it is so, or not, I am hardly able to say.

104. Would there be any particular difficulty, at Harwich, in keeping all the animals in quarantine for a fortnight?—No.

105. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Have you any idea what expense it would be for a fortnight?—It would not be a heavy expense. The usual charge, in London, is 1*s.* a night. That is the charge at Rotterdam.

106. Mr. *Graves.*] Would that be at the expense of the consignee?—That would be at the expense of the company and the consignee or sender; it would be an arrangement between them.

107. Mr. *Hunt.*] It would enhance the value of the cattle if they had undergone quarantine; it would be like the warranty of a horse?—Decidedly; I think the cattle would fetch a considerable deal more money if the person buying them knew they were sound.

108. And the expense of that quarantine would be more than paid for by that?—Decidedly.

109. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you think people would refuse to send cattle on those terms?—I should say not.

110. *Chairman.*] You only apply it to store cattle?—Only to store cattle.

111. Mr. *Hunt.*] The effect would be that animals suspected to be diseased would not be sent, if there was once a regulation?—They would be more careful in sending them; I know sometimes they have stood over for a week, and nobody would credit the difference of the beasts after a week on our shores.

112. They

112. They had improved, I suppose?—Very much.

113. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do they suffer much from the voyage?—Although the voyage to Harwich is considerable, I think they do not suffer so much as they do when they go up to London; the last three or four hours from Rotterdam to Harwich is worse than the first seven hours, because as soon as the beasts get tired, they get down on the floor, and get sea-sick.

114. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you think fat animals can easily be slaughtered at Harwich, and forwarded as dead meat to the metropolis, and other places?—Oh, yes; cargoes of fat beasts coming into Harwich at six in the morning could be forwarded, slaughtered, to the number of 500 and upwards to London by the next day morning at 4 o'clock.

115. By the existing arrangement?—By the existing arrangement.

116. What conveniences have you for slaughtering them there?—There is a very large shed built there for an ice house; it has failed with the company in some respects, and this year there is no ice at all; this place could be made into a cattle slaughter-house, and there would be ample provision to slaughter 500 animals a-day.

117. When the railway traffic in animals was stopped, under the existing Act of Parliament, the stoppage afterwards continued by an Order in Council, were animals slaughtered at Harwich, for the purpose of being sent to London, in any considerable number?—Yes; there were 60 or 70 slaughtered.

118. Under your superintendence?—Not under my superintendence.

119. Slaughtered by local butchers?—The butchers come down from London, there have been as many as 600 or 700 head of sheep and calves and cattle slaughtered at a time. One boat came over which had a cargo not healthy, and the whole cargo was condemned.

120. I am speaking of the particular time when the railway traffic was stopped, and the slaughtermen came down from London to slaughter beasts at Harwich?—Yes.

121. Had they sufficient conveniences for that purpose there?—Yes, plenty.

122. They made no complaints?—They made no complaints. The meat that went up from Harwich to London was in considerably better order, and looked very much better than if it had been killed in London.

123. *Chairman.*] Compare the expense of carrying a beast, in the shape of dead meat instead of alive?—I should think that the same truck-weight that the Company could carry would be three times in dead meat what it is in live meat. As regards the carcass, they could take three carcasses to one live bullock.

124. Mr. *Hunt.*] How would that be packed; would it be packed or would it be swung?—I think that a truck could be made so that you could hang the meat up by quarters, the same as you see in a butcher's shop.

125. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are the carriages in which they travel open to the dust?—They should have sliding curtains to keep the dust out; and the current of air passing through the carriages, by the rate at which the train goes, keeps the meat beautiful and cool.

126. *Chairman.*] Is it the opinion of the slaughtermen that the meat is better when it arrives at its destination carried in that way than it would be if it had been slaughtered in London?—It is better. If it was taken alive to London, it would be liable to be bruised by shunting, more or less. Then it would be driven to the market, and killed in a hot state; under those circumstances, it cannot possibly be so good for human food.

127. Mr. *Hunt.*] The bullock gets heated before it arrives at the slaughterhouse, and the meat is not fit to be kept so long as meat that is sent up dead?—It is calculated to make a difference of six hours in the keep of the meat.

128. In the case of these animals slaughtered at this time by the London slaughtermen, did they send the whole of the carcasses up, or keep the coarser pieces at Harwich, and send up only the prime?—The whole carcass is taken up.

129. What is done with the offal?—The head and tongue, and all those sort of things are sent up with the carcass in a basket together; there is no offal disposed of at Harwich.

130. What is done with the heart, and so on?—The heart is sent up with the carcass to London.

131. The skins, horns, and hoofs, were retained, I suppose, at Harwich for the purpose of manufacture?—I can hardly give you an answer to that, but I think they were disinfected and sent up; I will not be certain on that point.

132. In the event of a regulation being made for all fat animals to be slaughtered at Harwich, would there be conveniences there for converting the offal for the purposes for which they are used; have they space for tan pits, and so on?—Quite so. There is now before the House a Bill for enclosing a large piece of land of an area of 350 acres, and the Committee sit on the Bill to-morrow.

133. A private Bill?—Yes.

134. Is that to vest it in a corporation, or a company?—In a company.

135. What is the object of the company?—There is the part they propose to enclose (*the Witness pointed out the place to the Committee*).

136. With regard to the rate for conveying dead meat or living cattle, how do they stand in relation to one another on your line?—The arrangement is at present 10 *s.* a head from Rotterdam to London; that includes every thing.

137. That is for neat stock, is it?—That is for neat stock.

138. And for sheep?—Sheep from Antwerp, 1 *s.* 6 *d.* a head.

139. From Antwerp to London?—From Antwerp to London; pigs 1 *s.*, calves 2 *s.* 6 *d.*

140. You say that a few weeks ago a great number of animals were slaughtered and sent up in the carcass to London. Do they transmit to London more slaughtered animals than if they had been sent up alive?—In that instance I think not. Mr. Moseley can better answer that question perhaps. I had nothing to do with the company then.

141. Do you think that any railway company will be able to carry meat in the carcass at as cheap a rate as if they carried the live animal?—I should think there would be very little difference. There would be more deterioration and more trouble in loading the carcasses than there would be in loading live animals, because the live animals load themselves.

142. That would depend on the arrangement, would it not. It would be possible if a slaughter-house was built for a truck to run into the slaughter-house and for the carcasses to be slid off the beam from which it was suspended into the

Mr. *P. Daniels.*

30 April 1866.

the truck at once?—No, I do not think they could carry dead meat as they could live meat.

143. Mr. *E. Egerton.*] Do not you know as a fact that they charge double for dead meat what they do for live meat?—I have no doubt they do. There is a certain risk attaching to dead meat more than there is to live meat, which causes a difference.

144. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would diminish the import of cattle if the restriction was adopted that they must be slaughtered at the port of arrival?—I think not; they have the cattle, and a very large quantity of it, and it must come to some port, and there is no place better than England to which they can send it to get rid of that surplus stock.

145. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you ever heard it suggested that the animals should be killed on the other side at Rotterdam, and so be brought over by boats?—I do not think that could be done.

146. Do you mean that the meat could not be brought over?—You could not make a sufficient certainty. There are fogs to contend with; there is weather to contend with; and there is Brill bar to contend with if you get your meat killed. It would be impossible, as a rule.

147. Mr. *Graves.*] Are you acquainted with the difference in the price of dead meat, when delivered in London, as compared with the cost of live cattle when delivered?—I cannot say that I am.

148. In the rate charged for dead meat there is included, is there not, an allowance for the cost of delivery?—There is the cost of delivery, but I should say, comparing the value of the live cattle and the value of the meat being killed at the port of landing, the receiver would pay the difference that there would be in the cost of transit; the dead meat would be worth more, and there would not be so much risk of the beast being bruised and knocked about while going to London.

149. *Chairman.*] Sometimes it happens that beasts which are sent to the metropolitan markets are not sold, because the owners do not think the price is adequate, and therefore they keep them for a short time, do they not?—They keep them at a very heavy expense; if they were killed they would be obliged to take the best price they could get.

150. Would not that tend rather to lessen the trade?—I think not; I think that after the system is founded it would work; you can get telegraphic communications; you could get a telegraphic message very quick, that you are to get a lot of beasts killed; you could send to Harwich, and tell them to kill them; an order sent down at 12 o'clock in the day, would be quite sufficient to get a lot of beasts killed and sent up by 4 o'clock the next morning.

151. Mr. *Hunt.*] So that you would keep them alive till they were wanted?—Yes.

152. And by sending down a telegram you could get them slaughtered, and sent up at once?—Yes, whether 20 or 500; 500 could be slaughtered in a day, as easily as 20.

153. You talked of slaughtermen being sent down to kill the animals?—At Harwich there would not be sufficient slaughtermen to do it, and the people not being able to get slaughtermen, they would send slaughtermen down at once, they having a free pass by the railway.

154. Mr. *Hunt.*] With regard to sheep, would you recommend that they should undergo a quarantine?—No. I do not think sheep themselves have any disease but what you may detect at once; the only thing is that it is a question whether they would carry disease with them or not, and whether it would be worth while keeping them under quarantine. If they have only a smallpox disease, it is very easy to detect it, or any other skin disease.

155. Scale or small-pox is easily detected?—Yes, or foot-rot.

156. *Chairman.*] If cattle come from a country where there is no disease, with clean bills of health, would you still keep them in quarantine?—The difficult job is to tell what has been done with them on the opposite side. They come in large droves, and are all mixed with different cattle. If you can insure that the trucks on the other side have always been cleaned and purified, and they have never been over ground where disease has existed, it is all right; but that is a difficult matter.

157. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you think by requiring animals to be quarantined, you would spread any of these diseases among them?—I should say not.

158. This is the evidence of Mr. Honck before the Committee, who sat here two years ago, "With regard to the quarantine arrangements that at present exist. The quarantine arrangements are very detrimental to cattle which have at all symptoms of foot or mouth complaint, by keeping them at the wharves, they invariably get it; in fact, they always get it." Have you any experience on that point?—It is a very different thing keeping them on the wharf, and keeping them on pasture-lands.

159. You would quarantine them by turning them out on pasture land?—Yes, on pasture land.

160. If there were stores?—Yes.

161. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What would you do if they were fat stock?—Slaughter them.

162. You do not propose to quarantine fat stock?—No, they would be slaughtered as required. The owners of that stock, if there is anything the matter with them in any way, if it is disease or anything that is catching at all, they would have them slaughtered at once.

163. Mr. *Dent.*] If you once get foot and mouth disease in your fields, every animal you bring in would be liable to take it?—There would be the risk as regards the store cattle, anyhow. It matters not, even if one lot of beasts walk over a wharf and another lot of beasts come on it the next day, or the day after, not knowing that those beasts are diseased, to be taken to another ship.

164. Mr. *Graves.*] A great deal may be done in the way of disinfecting the wharves, may it not?—Yes, a great deal might, but during this cattle plague; I think, that this is a matter one can hardly give an opinion upon.

165. But as to the liability to ordinary disease, a great deal may be done in relation to the cleansing of the wharves and roads?—Decidedly, and at Harwich, all the places where the beasts crossed, all are under the supervision of the corporation and the authorities of the town, and they will compel the Company to do it.

166. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You spoke of the cleansing of these vessels; were they cleaned within the port before they put to sea again, or was the process of cleansing left to be done at the opposite side?—As soon as the vessels had discharged the last head of cattle, they were cleansed

cleansed and sawdust was put down the holds, so as to make them perfectly dry, always before any other cattle were put in.

167. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Is there any trade in cattle at any other of the ports in the immediate neighbourhood of Harwich, on that coast?—Not nearer than Thames Haven.

168. Mr. *Graves.*] Could you give me any idea of the number of cattle you would require accommodation for, to carry out your suggestion of 14 days' quarantine at Harwich, taking the average weekly imports of the place?—I should think you might calculate upon having 250 or 300 store boats, sometimes more and sometimes not so many.

169. That is a fortnight's import. How would you calculate that?—There is no particular rule to go by; the beasts come over; many that you take for store cattle are sold for contracts, and not sold for store cattle at all. Others are; but as a rule, two-thirds of them are cattle for slaughter.

170. Who has charge of those cattle on the passage from Holland on board the steamers?—The senders on the other side, each sending a drover with their own beasts; and then the captain has the sole charge.

171. There is a drover to each shipment?—Generally speaking, there is a drover to each lot of beasts, or perhaps three or four small senders have one drover between the three.

172. Do the duties of the drovers cease when they arrive at Harwich, or do they go on upon land with the cattle?—They go on with the cattle.

173. Then these men are continuously employed in going from London to Rotterdam?—They get free passages on ship and rail from Rotterdam to London.

174. Mr. *Hunt.*] What countries do the animals come from that are shipped at Rotterdam and Antwerp?—Those beasts which come by way of Antwerp, travel 700 miles by rail before they come on board the boats, so that it is impossible to know where they come from.

175. Do you not learn at all where they come from?—No, they are merely sent; there is no description at all; the agents know nothing as to where the beasts come from.

176. When the animals come 700 miles, where would you assume they come from?—Somewhere from the interior; but we have no idea where, that is not a rule. This is merely the German beasts I am speaking of.

177. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is there nothing in the character of the animals to tell you whether they come from Poland or Hungary, or the north or south of Germany?—We have them from Germany and Holland. German beasts are easy to distinguish, and the Dutch beasts. The Dutch beasts are black and white, and the German beasts are very large, red, coarse-looking beasts.

178. Mr. *Hunt.*] You do not recommend that sheep should be put in quarantine, nor would you recommend that fat sheep should be slaughtered there?—I should say decidedly slaughter everything that comes from import for slaughter

179. Everything that is fit for the butcher you would slaughter?—Yes; that would be at the option of the party on this side, whether he would keep them for slaughter or whether he would keep them for store stock. Some would be sold at one time more advantageously for store cattle, and others for killing purposes.

180. You would not have any arrangements with regard to sheep if you did not subject them to quarantine?—No; some sheep would go to Manchester and others to Birmingham or elsewhere.

181. You would allow fat sheep to be sent inland alive?—Yes.

182. But not cattle?—Not cattle; store cattle, of course.

183. They would be submitted to the 10 or 14 days' quarantine, or they would be slaughtered?—Yes.

184. But you would make no such regulation with regard to sheep?—I hardly think that it would be necessary. I think it would more damage the trade, and there is not so much risk with sheep unless the sheep are diseased, and if the sheep are diseased, most decidedly I would have them slaughtered.

185. You make the distinction on the ground that disease in sheep is more easily detected by examination than disease in cattle?—Yes.

186. Mr. *Graves.*] Is the slaughtering of cattle at Harwich within the town or without the town?—Close by the water's edge; the width of this room from the water's edge.

187. You say you have a dead meat traffic from Holland; does that continue in summer, or is it confined to winter?—That has been more particularly since the restriction has been put on as to the importation.

188. Mr. *Graham.*] Would you propose that the sheep should be entitled to free egress if within a fortnight they were proved to be free from disease?—I think if sound on landing they might be sent away.

189. Suppose there were 50 beasts, and five of them were diseased, would you let the other 45 out?—No, certainly not.

190. What would you do with them?—I would have them slaughtered.

191. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Then you must have two places of quarantine?—They would be divided into four or five different places, quite apart from each other. There would be plenty of room to keep them separate and distinct.

192. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Would that not necessitate a very minute sub-division?—Two ships' cargo I should not put together.

193. You would put one whole ship's cargo together?—I should put one whole ship's cargo together. If there is any disease on board the ship, the sheep are likely to take the infection coming over as much as in quarantine.

194. If one sheep was diseased you would order the whole to be slaughtered?—Yes; there and then at once.

195. Is there a public cattle market at Harwich?—There are two market days by charter, but it has not been so much for cattle; we first started the cattle market two years ago.

196. When you started this cattle market had you to pay dues to the corporation?—No dues. As agents to the company we were allowed to use the lairs as the company did, and in consideration for that we paid an additional freight.

197. How did you settle it with the corporation. The corporation are entitled to dues for cattle coming into their chartered markets?—They have no chartered markets, not for live markets, but they have two chartered days for dead meat and vegetable markets.

198. But not for cattle?—Not for cattle.

199. There is no cattle market?—No.

Mr. *P. Daniels.*

30 April 1866.

200. They are generally sold by auction at Harwich, are they not?—Yes.

201. Mr. *Hunt.*] What is the population of Harwich?—Between 4,000 and 5,000.

202. Was there any effect on the price of meat in consequence of this Act of Parliament passing the other day, preventing the railway traffic in cattle?—In Harwich I cannot say that we did observe any. They are paying a high price, 11*d.* a pound, and they have been doing so all through the summer.

203. You did not see any appreciable difference?—No.

204. *Chairman.*] When a cargo of cattle arrives, if they are store cattle, you would put them in quarantine?—Yes.

205. And if, during this quarantine, one of them fell sick, you would have all the rest slaughtered?—If they were sick from disease.

206. That is the question I wanted to ask you. Is that regulation to be limited to this cattle plague?—Well, under quarantine they would still be under the inspection of the Government Inspector.

207. Would you propose that that power of slaughtering should be limited to this one disease; because cattle might have other contagious diseases besides the cattle plague?—I think, if there was simply one beast having the foot or lung disease, I should not slaughter the whole of the cargo for that.

208. Suppose it suffered from pleuro-pneumonia?—We get it in different forms; one beast will have it, and one will not, and you can hardly account for that, but as to this cattle plague, if there is one diseased beast, I should most decidedly slaughter the whole at once.

209. Would not that go to decrease the importation of cattle, if people knew that they were liable to that risk; supposing that cattle are sent by different owners in Holland and Germany, and form part of one cargo; and sound beasts might be slaughtered in consequence of having been put in quarantine, or being carried in a ship with unsound beasts, would not that be a risk tending to decrease the importation?—I think, as a rule, the cattle that are sent over to England would be much better, and more fit for immediate slaughter; but still there would be a large quantity of store stock sent over here, for this reason, because they could not winter them over there, and must send them.

210. Would not any owner of cattle on the Continent look rather unfavourably to the British market for cattle, if he could send them anywhere else, if he was liable to the risk of having them put in quarantine with other cattle that he did not know anything about, and slaughtered if they happened to be put in company with diseased cattle?—I think not more so than they are at the present time. They are under a similar risk now, for, if there are any diseased beasts, they are ordered in quarantine.

211. You would have a permanent regulation, without reference to the existence of disease in any particular country of this quarantine for store cattle; would it not act so as to decrease the importation of cattle into England, and make England an unfavourable market for foreign cattle?—There would be a little prejudice for a time, but I think it would only last for a time.

212. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are you acquainted with the regulation in foreign states?—I am not.

213. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I think you never told us the total number of cattle in any one year?—Mr. Moseley may have that, but I have not myself.

214. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are you aware whether there is any inspection on the other side of the channel?—Yes, every beast is inspected before it is shipped.

215. By what inspector?—I am not certain, but I believe it is an inspector appointed by the Government.

216. A foreign surgeon, of course?—A foreign surgeon. I think a foreigner would not stand the risk of sending meat likely to be thrown up or condemned.

217. You said there was some dead meat. Did they inspect that?—Yes.

218. And all the live cattle?—Yes.

219. Two?—Yes.

220. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is anything done now towards disinfecting the quays where the animals are landed?—They are all cleaned down. I do not know that there is any particular disinfectant put on them; there would be in case any animals appeared to be diseased on landing. Then they would be lime washed.

221. Since the existence of the cattle plague in England, have the places where the animals have been landed at Harwich been constantly cleansed?—They are constantly cleansed and washed down; the piers and places are always swept up. I do not say that the roadways are always swept up, but the lairs and all those places are lime washed every few days, or a week, as it may be.

222. Were these vessels of the Great Eastern Railway's Company built especially for this trade?—Yes.

223. Mr. *Graves.*] Are the cattle that are landed at Harwich generally placed to foreign account, or to an English account?—They are consigned to English salesmen.

224. Have you steamers running to any other port besides Rotterdam, out of Harwich?—Antwerp.

225. You receive cattle through both channels?—Lately we have received no cattle from Antwerp, only sheep.

226. At the time you speak of, when you did receive cattle from Antwerp, did you notice any variance in the cattle that arrived from Antwerp and those that arrived from Rotterdam?—On account of the sea voyage, do you mean?

227. On account of bad weather?—Those coming from Rotterdam generally were the best, on account of its being the shorter passage. The last three or four hours always told more upon them than the first five or six.

228. What is the general length of passage from Antwerp?—From 12 to 14 hours.

229. With regard to disease, did you notice at all the animals that came from Antwerp had more or less disease than those which came from Rotterdam?—We have never had any disease but once from Rotterdam, only one cargo, in fact, in one.

230. Is there any obligation upon the owners of these steamers to report casualties arising from deaths, to the Custom House officers on arrival?—The captain always issues his report as soon as he arrives.

231. I do not mean to his owners, but to the authorities of the port?—If they die on board they are thrown overboard. I do not know that he gives in any written report.

232. When

232. When he is entering the ship at the Custom House, does he state the number of cattle that has died on board?—I cannot say as to the rule.

233. Mr. *Hunt.*] Would it be possible to water the animals on board ship?—I think not, but I do not think there is any occasion.

234. Why do you think the last four hours on board hurts them more than the previous six hours?—From the motion of the vessel, working the beasts backwards and forwards on their legs, they cannot stand up to it. Their heads are all to the side of the ship, and they get leg weary and lie down, and once they get down they are liable to be stamped upon by the others.

235. You think it is from fatigue more than from the want of food and water?—Yes.

236. Mr. *Graham.*] Would there be any difficulty in slinging them?—I should say there would be, and for a short voyage, such as it is to Harwich, I do not think there would be any necessity. If they come a long voyage, it would prevent their falling down; but coming a short voyage, there is no occasion for it, I think. All this being done would considerably enhance the price of the thing, on account of the expense and the time it would take to load and unload. It would take a considerable time to load and unload.

237. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are the animals after being put on shore, watered directly?—Yes, watered and fed.

Mr. *P. Daniels.*
30 April 1866.

Mr. Robert Moseley, called in; and Examined.

238. *Chairman.*] You are connected with the Great Eastern Railway Company?—Yes.

239. You are traffic manager of that Company?—I am. I wish to remark in the onset that some questions having been asked the last witness in reference to the numbers of cattle imported at Harwich, I should be very glad if the Committee would give me an opportunity of having an account taken from the books of the company, showing the number from Antwerp and also from Rotterdam. We shall then have the correct data. Furthermore, I consider it is very important that our agents in Rotterdam and Antwerp should attend here; and I will summon them to answer questions put by Honourable Members to Captain Daniels in reference to where the cattle are sent from, the stable arrangements in Holland and Belgium, and to give any other information required. Looking at the importance of the inquiry, I think it is very necessary we should furnish this Committee with every information.

240. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Yours is a company that has carried by far the largest amount of cattle?—No; the General Steam Navigation Company bring by far the largest quantity.

241. That is up to the port of London?—Yes.

242. No other railway carries so many beasts?—No; taking our home traffic, Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge and Essex, we carry the largest quantity. Our receipts for cattle traffic are about 100,000 *l.* a year.

243. Mr. *Hunt.*] You supply many places on your line with store cattle?—Yes.

244. You do not bring many store cattle into London?—No.

245. Mostly fat cattle?—Yes.

246. Milch cows?—Yes, milch cows from Rotterdam.

247. There is a very large trade in Dutch cows?—Yes; the Dutch trade is large.

248. With the exception of those cows, you mostly bring fat stock into London?—Yes.

249. Do you bring many store sheep into London?—There are store sheep in the autumn of the year brought to London, and sent into Surrey and Sussex, and other counties.

250. Where do they come from principally?—They come from Fakenham, Wells, and Dereham, in West Norfolk.

251. With regard to the imported store cattle, where do you convey them to principally?—Principally to London; we have sent Dutch store cattle as far as Leicester. Cattle arriving at Harwich, say on the Tuesday morning, have been delivered in London on Tuesday night, and have been at Leicester the next day.

252. What countries are they principally from?—Holland.

253. *Chairman.*] You are the proprietors of the steam-boats that run from Rotterdam to Harwich, and from Antwerp to Harwich, are you not?—Yes.

254. Therefore, the transit by sea as well as by land of the cattle is entirely under your control?—Entirely.

255. Do you observe any sickening of the cattle, or any defect in their condition when they arrive at Harwich, before they are put on the railway?—That has come more immediately under the supervision of Captain Daniels, our Harwich agent; he has undertaken, or did undertake the management of the landing from the ship, and loading into trucks; that part of the business was entirely in his hands; I have not personally, myself, noticed the symptoms you have referred to.

256. Upon the land part of the transit has it been your practice to cleanse or disenfect the cattle trucks after they have been used for some time in carrying the cattle?—Yes, for several months; since we have had orders from the Privy Council, every truck, on its arrival with cattle, has been thoroughly cleansed; take Tottenham, which is our great cattle depôt, the trucks and the landing-stage have been thoroughly cleansed.

257. It was not a permanent rule to cleanse all these cattle pens and trucks, from time to time, before the cattle plague broke out in this country?—Previously to the appearance of the cattle plague, it was an invariable rule with us to cleanse the cattle waggons. We make use of them for the return journey (instead of going empty) to carry all descriptions of merchandize; and therefore, for our own protection, we took care that the trucks were perfectly cleansed.

258. You did not wash them with lime water, or use any disinfectant, did you?—No, we did not do so before the order from the Privy Council.

259. The cleansing before was a mere washing and scrubbing, I suppose?—Yes, with pure water.

260. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Is the scrubbing process possible to be carried out on every occasion, as defined by the Privy Council order?—I see no difficulty.

261. You see no difficulty in having the woodwork of the trucks scrubbed?—There is no difficulty

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

30 April 1866.

culty whatever; so far as we are concerned. I refer to the Privy Council orders of the 17th March 1866.

262. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is it not very difficult to cleanse the bottom of the cattle trucks?—There is the rib of wood across the bottom of the waggon, in order to give the animal a hold in case the truck oscillates; there is never any difficulty in cleansing the truck.

263. But does not the filth get down into the joints, so that ordinary washing will not entirely remove it?—There is no difficulty. It is the first time I have ever heard the suggestion made to me: I have made it my business to look at many of the trucks myself since the orders have been issued, and they are perfectly cleansed.

264. Are you aware of a clause which the Duke of Buckingham inserted into the Cattle Plague Bill, in the Committee of the House of Lords, with regard to the treatment of the floors of the cattle trucks?—I do not remember it.

265. It was to the effect that they should be either tarred or covered with asphalte, so that water then would entirely cleanse the trucks?—That would entail very considerable inconvenience, and I dare say loss to the railway company.

266. It would be an expense?—It would be an expense in the first place, and highly objectionable for the railway company to be obliged to send trucks away empty, by reason of their not being able to load them with goods which would sustain damage if they were put in the trucks. Tarring the truck bottoms is very objectionable.

267. But asphalting would not be?—Not the same objection.

268. Supposing the floors of the trucks were asphalted, they could be cleansed more readily?—They could.

269. Then supposing there was a permanent regulation that the railway company should cleanse their trucks, they would not increase their expenses if they were required to asphalte them?—That would increase the expense. There is the cost of the asphalte in the first place; and the reparation, year by year.

270. *Chairman.*] It has been suggested that all fat cattle that are imported should be slaughtered at Harwich, and carried in the shape of dead meat to the London market. Now what would be the difference of carrying the beast in the form of dead meat, instead of carrying it as you now do, as a live animal?—I should think cent. per cent. double the charge. I think when the additional services are taken into consideration, there is a justification for it. This is the process: the meat has to be packed in hampers; as a rule the railway company provide the hampers. We have then to load in the trucks, when the meat arrives in London. We have a large staff on duty at one o'clock in the morning, perhaps 200 men and clerks; the meat is unloaded again by labour, put into a railway van, passes to Newgate market, and waits its turn, before it can be unloaded. You have then a body of men to pitch the hampers on to the stalls. That being done we send, during the day, vans and horses to collect the return hampers and cloths, which have to be loaded and carried by rail to the sending station in the district. Comparing those services with those appertaining to the live animal, there is this difference, the animal walks in and out of the truck, and we have done with it.

271. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is with the present arrangements?—With the present arrangements.

272. But, supposing the whole of the arrangements were altered, and supposing it was required by law that fat animals should be killed at the port of Harwich, and slaughter-houses were made in such a way that the trucks would run into them, and, by mechanical contrivances, the meat could be slid into the trucks, and swung, and taken to London without any packing, would not that get rid of all those difficulties, and all these causes of expense?—No; I think not. In the first place, the suspending of the meat in the trucks, I do not think would answer.

273. That is quite a proper question to deal with; but I am going to the question of expense, which, supposing it did answer, and it could be converted, would entirely do away with those additional causes of expense?—No. By putting the meat in the trucks at Harwich, we get rid of one porterage; and, supposing we had a proper apparatus to sling the meat in the trucks, there would be required manual labour to suspend it in the trucks.

274. I am supposing that the meat is hanging in the slaughter-house in the carcase, and that then it is slid on to a bar in the trucks by a mechanical contrivance, without being lifted by men, that would do away with all the expense of packing and loading, would it not?—It would at Harwich, certainly, if it was the wish of the owner of the meat for it to be sent without being packed in hampers.

275. I am supposing an entirely new arrangement of the slaughter-houses, built for the express purpose, with rails running into the slaughter-houses, and the whole of the machinery so converted as to transfer the meat from the places where it hangs into the trucks by which it is to go to London. Supposing that to be so, you would be able to take dead meat at a less rate than you can now, where you have to provide all this machinery?—That is a new state of things contemplated. I am imagining the present arrangements are got rid of altogether, and that the railway company have to provide new plant and new stock.

276. With regard to hanging the meat so as to be allowed to swing free in the trucks, what is your objection to that?—I think coming loose in railway trucks, it would be exposed to the dirt and dust on the line of railway; imagine for a moment the clouds of smoke from the engine; I think myself that the meat would get damaged by such an exposure. I remember on the Great Northern line some 10 or 15 years ago Captain Laws, the manager of the Great Northern, had horse-boxes fitted up for the purpose of having the Lincolnshire mutton suspended in horse-boxes; and it failed, by reason of the consignees objection to the scheme, and it was abandoned.

277. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It was found that there were no possible means of keeping out the dust?—No.

278. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have there not been carriages constructed which will do that?—I have heard that the Great Western have made experiments, but with what result I do not know; we have been carrying to London from the Great Eastern district upwards of 100 tons of meat, daily, all packed in hampers or cloths; there is the greatest hesitation on the part of the senders to forward it unless it is packed in hampers.

279. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Dead meat suffers very much if there is any pressure upon it?—Yes, it spoils the appearance.

280. Sir *James Fergusson.*] The establishment of a dead meat market close to a railway station in London might obviate the expense of delivery, might it not?—Yes, that would be the natural result to some extent.

281. With regard to the great additional expense you have described as attaching to the dead meat traffic, you might set off as against that a great deal of expense connected with the delivery, the slaughter, and the dressing of the live stock after its arrival in town?—Yes.

282. So that, in fact, is it not the case that the actual wholesale cost of meat when delivered in London is very little more than that of live cattle?—It is considerably more.

283. I mean of meat after being slaughtered in London?—Take a Norfolk ox of 15 cwt.; and when dressed take it at 10 cwt.; the carriage by the Great Eastern Railway from Norwich is 12 *s.* when alive; when carried as dead meat the charge is something like 25 *s.*, and that arises from the additional duties and responsibilities cast upon us.

284. I meant the selling price to the public; the wholesale price of meat carried dead and delivered; I understand that that is not after all much greater than the cost of meat carried alive, but slaughtered and then delivered in town in the usual way?—I should think that the difference to the public is scarcely appreciable; take the animal arriving alive at Tottenham; it is there put in lairs; then walked to the cattle market; it is consigned to a salesman, and when sold, it is walked to the slaughter-house; it is taken thence to the market, such process involving a charge against the owner. But if sent from the country as dead meat, the various charges I have just enumerated are avoided.

285. Are you aware of the actual difference existing between the two comparative costs at the present time, by recent experience?—I cannot give you the exact figures at the moment, but I shall be prepared to do so when I put in the other returns.

266. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you know what the proportion of dead meat now brought into London is with reference to the living meat. Is there as much dead meat as living?—I should think the quantity of dead meat brought into London at the present time, by railways and steamboats, is 2,000 tons a week.

287. What is the consumption of London in a week?—I have heard it estimated at something like 20,000 tons per month.

288. But all the Scotch meat comes up, does it not?—Yes.

289. And a great deal of the Irish?—Yes, through Holyhead, Liverpool and Waterford.

290. Mr. *Hunt.*] What I understand you to say, is this; that although they have increased the rate for the carriage of dead meat by rail, that is compensated for by the omission of all these charges, which would be incurred if these animals were moved alive?—Yes.

291. So that the railway companies have a right to charge more, and the purchasers of the meat would not really pay any more for their meat by reason of the increased rates?—No.

292. *Chairman.*] They would not pay much more?—I do not think they would pay any more. If you take the value of an ox at 30 *l.*, the price of that for the carriage to London alive is 12 *s.* That sum on the 30 *l.* is scarcely appreciable.

293. You have to supply, at an expense, certain motive power which you get for nothing; so long as you avail yourself of the motive power of the ox; there must be that in addition?—Yes, you get rid of the expense of cartage by reason of his locomotion; by his walking; but when you come to put all these units into the aggregate, taking the live ox itself, I do not think there would be much benefit to the public.

294. Mr. *Hunt.*] You have less weight to carry in the case of dead meat, because you have not got the offal?—We save one third in tonnage.

295. *Chairman.*] But before a fat beast gets to the consumer, there are a great many movements to be made?—No doubt.

296. To the extent of making those movements, that you avail yourself of the motive power of the live animal, you save the expense of supplying that motive power by other means, by carts and drovers and all the rest of it. It appears, therefore, that there must be some gain in using as long as possible the motive power of the animal, less of course the expense of directing that motive power, because the animal wants people to drive it and look after it?—Yes.

297. But you think the difference is not appreciable to the consumer?—I do. So far as the railway authorities are concerned, I have found by long experience that whatever reduction you give to the public the consumer, as a rule, never participates in it.

298. Then what becomes of the theory of competition?—Combination.

299. Mr. *Hunt.*] The Chairman has put a question to you about the motive power of the ox. Is it not the case when the ox uses his own motive power it loses weight. Is there not considerable loss of weight where an animal is driven for a long distance?—That is true; but I understood the Chairman's question to apply simply to the walking of the live animal to the landing-stage in the market. In the olden times when they walked an animal from Norfolk the loss was considerable.

300. Is there not a loss when the animals are driven to the railway and market, and spend a number of hours in considerable excitement and trepidation?—I have held this opinion for a long time, that when you take into consideration the walking of cattle from the homestead, say to Norwich station, forwarded thence by railway, subject to a journey of six or seven hours, and on arrival at Tottenham landed from the trucks, then driven into lairs, from the lairs to the market, from the market through the crowded streets of London to the slaughter-house, I have no hesitation in saying there is considerable loss by going through those processes; but if the animal was walked from the homestead in Norfolk to the slaughter-house there, and sent to London as dead meat, I say the public and the grazing interests would profit to a very large extent.

301. *Chairman.*] Does not the power of sending cattle by road on their legs act as a competition against your carriage by railway for short distances, at least so as to compel you to make more moderate charges than you otherwise would?—Yes, that is so for short distances. I think for 30 or 40 miles the road competes with us, adopting that distance as the maximum.

302. Is it not a beneficial thing to the public that there should be a competition, so that they should get the cattle at a more moderate rate?—It

Mr. *R. Moscley.*

30 April 1866.

—It is an instalment of benefit; but looking at the larger question, I certainly would recommend as strongly as language can convey it to this Committee, that the interests of the public would be best consulted by making them slaughter the cattle in the districts, and not having them carried to London alive.

303. If it were compulsory that the cattle should be carried only in the form of dead meat, the railway would have the entire monopoly of the carriage?—That would be so, and if the Government of the country found that the railways were abusing the power delegated to them, they would have the opportunity of correcting it.

304. No carts or vans could compete with the railways in carrying dead meat along the roads?—As I said just now, for 40 miles the road carrier can compete with you, and does at this moment. We have a meat carriage in our district at Kelvedon, though Chelmsford and Brentwood to London; and the carrier has this advantage, he collects at the butchers' shops as the waggon passes; he takes it straight to Newgate market, avoiding the collection by railway at Kelvedon, and the delivery by the railway company at Newgate market on arrival.

304.* They do in fact compete with you on the road with carts and waggons?—Yes.

305. For moderate distances?—Yes, from 30 to 40 miles. It is not so extensive as it was years ago; but there is a certain amount of traffic 30 or 40 miles off London, which will be carried by road so long as the old stage waggons continue. When they are worn out, I do not think it will be for the interest of the owners to replace them; but at this moment there is considerable traffic carried on by road, east, west, north, and south, in connexion with London.

306. Is the competition of the road such as you describe calculated to prevent your charges being raised unduly to the public?—No, I think not; and for this reason. If the carrier is driven off the road, we find in practice that three or four of the larger tradesmen in the district having large quantities of goods combine and start an establishment of their own.

307. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Then your answer to the question would be "Yes?"—My answer to the question is in the affirmative; and I say this, that within so short a distance of London, we find that if the carrier is drawn off for want of means to compete with the railway, there are men of the district, large traders, brewers, and others, who put on a conveyance to compete with the railway. The public have always the alternative either to submit to the railway company's prices, or to put on a conveyance of their own.

308. *Chairman.*] The competition of the drover with his live beasts walking along the road has a greater power over you than the competition of carts and vans carrying dead meat would have?—Yes, that is so for the distance I have described; but if a longer distance, the animal loses weight.

309. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Most of the cattle from South Wales still come up by road, from Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, do they not?—I am not aware that is so.

310. Sir *James Fergusson.*] The competition of the various companies interested in the cattle traffic would in itself constitute a check upon the charges of anyone?—Yes, and will continue so.

311. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] In the event of the dead meat traffic becoming a rule, the larger railway companies would at once set themselves to economise the working?—You may take it from me as a rule, that wherever railway companies can economise the expenditure without impairing the source, it is carried out.

312. But if a change in the law should lead you to expect a great increase of dead meat traffic and a comparative cessation of the live, you would then be able to make arrangements on a large scale, which probably would tend to a reduction in the rate?—Yes, that would be so.

313. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do I understand, from your evidence, that you have practically no competition by road from the port of Harwich?—There is no competition between Harwich and London by road. My remarks have reference to the general system of 30 or 40 miles.

314. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Your remarks have reference to the country within 40 miles of London?—Yes, Harwich is 70 miles from London; but we have the General Steam Navigation Company running direct to London. There is also the Netherlands Company.

315. Is that another line of boats?—Yes, boats; likewise Phillips, Graves, & Co.; also Robinson & Co., all in competition for the foreign stock.

316. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] As the competition rests between yourselves and these other companies, is it not likely, in your opinion, that a system could be devised for the conveyance of dead meat such as would be likely to reduce, on all lines of railway, or upon your own, the amount of charge now made. You say there is a very considerable difference between the dead meat price and the price of the live ox. Do you think that arrangements could not be made, or facilities given, for embarking, as it were, or boxing this dead meat, so as to reduce the price materially?—The present price between Rotterdam and London direct by steamboat, and *viâ* Harwich, and thence by railway, are alike; but the rates, at the present moment, are something like 50 per cent. below what they were three years ago. There is no doubt that this is the result of competition between the several companies; but it is a competition which, unless it subsides at a very early date, I think the companies cannot really maintain their ground. Railway companies, as well as steamboat companies, must be paid, of course, a fair remuneration for the expenditure and risk they incur.

317. Then, as far as you see, you would be inclined to say that the reduction of price is about a minimum of 3 *s.*?—Yes; I put it so.

318. It is down to zero?—Yes.

319. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the objection in your mind to killing the animals on the Dutch side?—I think, particularly in warm weather, you would find that the carriage of the meat by sea, and then unloading at Harwich, and sent thence by a railway to London, and carting, would have such a damaging effect that it could not come into competition with English meat in the same market.

320. Mr. *Hunt.*] What is the nearest point to the London market on your line?—By using the North London line of railway, I may say that we are within 500 yards of the Metropolitan Cattle Market, by utilising the North London.

321. That is by Islington?—Yes.

322. Do the cattle conveyed on your line use the North London Railway to go to the market?—Yes;

—Yes; there are some exceptions. There are some of the consignees who have lairs near Tottenham, and on the arrival of cattle from Holland they order delivery at Tottenham; but as a rule we take the bulk of the live stock to the market direct.

323. What I want to know is this: how near are you now to old Smithfield market?—Our goods station is perhaps about a mile.

324. It is intended to convert the old Smithfield market into a dead meat market; it has been intended for some years to do so?—Yes.

325. Are there any railways now laid out which would connect your line with that market?—No, not for goods traffic.

326. Supposing that that plan was carried out, and that there was a dead meat market for London established at Smithfield, and a line was laid from the Great Eastern Railway, right into the Smithfield market, that would get rid of all this conveyance from your station to the dead meat market, and run your train into the market itself?—That would be so, and it would be attended with very large saving to the public. I was going to add, there would be a very considerable saving, not only as far as the cartage is concerned, but in utilizing another company's railway also, a short distance.

327. What will be the nearest point to Smithfield on your line?—Our present Bishopsgate-street station is to be converted into a goods station, and that would be our nearest point; a mile from old Smithfield market.

328. It will be in your power to apply for an extension to Smithfield?—We are now making a line of railway into Liverpool-street, for passenger traffic, which will entail upon the Company two-and a-half millions expenditure.

329. Without reference to your own particular line, what I want to know is, supposing the principal lines of London could either by the use of their own future lines, which they could get, or by the use of other Company's lines, run right into the central dead meat market, that would do away with a great deal of the objection that now is felt of having animals slaughtered where they are at the ports of landing, or their respective farms?—It would be attended with very satistory results. Take the markets in London, Newgate, and Leadenhall; our waggons are there in the morning at three or four o'clock; but in consequence of the large increase of traffic, all the railways converging there, the meat is in the waggons for hours. Everybody loses money, and all arising from the want of elbow-room, which this new market will promote.

330. In consequence of the inconveniences of the present dead meat market for the supply of the metropolis?—Yes.

331. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is it not the fact, that the City of London did give a promise that they would convert that live-meat market into a dead-meat market, seven years ago?—Yes; I believe they have begun it now.

332. They have only begun it, I believe, for the last few weeks?—Yes, I think so.

333. Can you give us the exact date when that Smithfield Bill passed?—I appeared before the Commission; the late Sir George Lewis was the Chairman, and I think it was eight years ago.

334. Not one single step has been taken during eight years, by the Corporation of London, to carry that out?—No; I think it is a reflection on those who have had the superintendence of it, so valuable a property not bringing in one iota for years.

335. Is there any accommodation for a dead-meat market in Islington?—There is the present cattle market.

336. But that is entirely a live market?—There are cattle slaughtered there, and taken to various parts of London. Foreign cattle, before the last prohibition, were allowed to be landed at the London wharves, and to walk through the Metropolitan Board of Works jurisdiction; the Cattle Market is within that jurisdiction, and it was incumbent on the consignees to slaughter the foreign cattle in the market, and then to distribute the meat about London.

337. Is there any other live market besides the Islington market?—No, there is no other in London of any importance.

338. Mr. *Hunt.*] At the present time they walk from Blackwall to the London market?—Yes.

339. That is only under the recent Order?—Yes.

340. Do you see any possibility of running trains into the Smithfield market?—We are above the level (*pointing on the map*); that would entail upon us mechanical contrivances, hoists, &c.; it never could be done.

341. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Smithfield market is at a much lower level than Bishopsgate-street?—The Honourable Member asked if we could form a physical junction with our new passenger line and the Metropolitan line. Inasmuch as the Metropolitan will be something like 20 feet below the level, it would entail upon us very considerable difficulties and expense to secure a junction.

342. Sir *James Fergusson.*] But it would be very convenient for the trade that there should be dead-meat markets in the various parts of London; and supposing your dead meat delivery was at Bishopsgate-street, the Great Western at Paddington, and the other companies in their own districts, that would be quite as convenient as having one central one?—I think you would find objections by the senders of meat and fish. Fish is a very important article.

343. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is a question rather for the trade, is it not?—Yes.

344. What is contemplating is this: a central meat market, such as Smithfield, to which there might be access by rail brought into the market?—No doubt that would be a great public advantage.

345. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] But you do not see your way to connect your line?—I do not see my way.

346. Or any other line in England?—The Great Northern will be there.

347. Not at Smithfield?—Yes, out of the Metropolitan. The Great Northern have powers. There is to be a large goods depôt; if we can connect ourselves with the Great Northern, and very likely we may by means of the North London. The North London line and the Great Northern are connected near St. Pancras, and we might possibly get to the meat market; there is this to be borne in mind, that we should have to pay the North London Railway for the use of the line, the Great Northern and the Metropolitan; and putting those charges together we should be no better off. My own impression is that there will be a connection between the two companies in the course of a very few years. —(*The Witness described the map to the Committee.*)

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

30 April 1866.

348. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Supposing it to be made compulsory that all meat should be slaughtered, do not you think that some large slaughtering place out in this direction (*pointing on the map*) would be the best, and then they would convey it all over different parts of London in carts. There is no advantage in having it in the heart of the City?—I think not.

349. Mr. *Hunt.*] That we must inquire of the butchers?—Yes, of the trade.

350. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do not you see great inconvenience in having a large market in the heart of the City?—Yes, I think it is very objectionable.

351. You get rid of that, supposing it is a railway traffic and not a street traffic?—Yes.

352. Do you think it possible to have a great traffic in such a crowded place as that in the neighbourhood of Smithfield?—I think myself that when the new market is made in Smithfield, certainly the bulk of the business will be conducted there. At the present time the Newgate market is quite insufficient.

353. Mr. *Hunt.*] It is quite a disgrace to the metropolis?—Yes; and you cannot acquire more property there.

354. Supposing the Smithfield market were completed, it would naturally be the object of your company to run your line into that market?—There would be every inducement.

355. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It is a very valuable property beyond Smithfield, is it not?—Yes, through Barbican and Finsbury.

356. And Little Britain, and all that crowded neighbourhood?—Yes.

357. At Antwerp there is very little traffic, is there not?—Five or six months ago the Belgium Government prohibited the exportation of cattle from Antwerp.

Thursday, 3rd May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Cogan.
Viscount Cranborne.
Mr. Dent.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Sir James Fergusson.
Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Graham.
Mr. Graves.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Leader.
Mr. Norwood.
The O'Conor Don.
Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. WILLIAM STEWART TRENCH, called in; and Examined.

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

358. Mr. *Hunt.*] YOU are a Medical Officer of the Borough of Liverpool?—Yes.

359. How long have you held that office?—For three years.

360. You have a map there which shows the existing slaughter-houses in the borough of Liverpool?—Yes (*producing it*); those marked red are the private slaughter-houses under license; I may say the whole of them are under license, but there are exceptions of four which had a prescriptive right before the Act of Geo. III. was passed.

361. The Local Act?—No, the general Act. They have a right of license under some previous Act, and they retain it. There are four of them, and we should have to pay to remove them; but as to these private licenses we can with three months' notice abrogate them, and stop them from slaughtering. This place marked on the map is the public abattoir. The history of the public abattoir is this: in the year 1785 the corporation of Liverpool obtained an Act of Parliament to build this abattoir, and in consideration that they did that for the slaughter of animals in the borough, they have the full power to abrogate all, except the three or four above-mentioned slaughter-houses. They were either not able to do it, or unwilling to do it, and instead of building the abattoir they allowed the slaughter-houses to continue, and merely put them under regulations; but in 1835 the corporation entered into an agreement with a private person of the name of Etches, who represented the butchers' company, and, on a certain consideration given to Mr. Etches, Mr. Etches undertook to build this public abattoir, the council granting them a lease of the place and all the rights for 75 years, insuring them a return equal to 6½ per cent., in consideration of their doing that. That is the position in which we stand, and we cannot remove this public abattoir without satisfying the covenants which were then entered into, which are simply money covenants, and would not be any very great consideration on the part of so rich a corporation as the corporation of Liverpool.

362. You are assuming by that answer that it is desirable to remove this abattoir?—The best answer to it is this: I put before you my map of our unfortunate position. Each of those yellow marks, marks a fever district, and each of those red marks is a death from typhus fever. There is our abattoir, which is in the best ward of the town; each of those red marks is a death simply from typhus.

363. In what time?—In one year.

364. Mr. *Dent.*] Your mortality is excessive?—It is excessive.

365. Mr. *Hunt.*] Can you give us the mortality in proportion to the population?—Last year it was 36·4 in the 1,000.

366. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are there not an enormous number of cellars in Liverpool in which people reside?—Yes.

367. Do not you think that mortality arises from the cellars as well as from the abattoir?—I do not say it all comes from the abattoir; we have returns of sickness, and this part of the map represents where we find the largest number of sick people.

368. In what part of Liverpool is this abattoir?—In Abercrombie Ward.

369. That is one of the best situations in Liverpool?—Yes.

370. Mr. *Hunt.*] What do you trace this mortality to?—I can have no hesitation in saying that I trace it to moral and physical causes, the chief of which is want.

371. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It is a large Irish population?—It is a large Irish population of unskilled labourers.

372. And a great many of them live down below in the cellars?—That has not so much to do with it. As regards all sanitary conditions, they were the same in 1860 as in 1865; indeed, in 1860 the overcrowding was probably greater, and the cellars and cesspools worse than in 1865; but in the former year the population was prosperous, and the mortality of the borough was reduced to 26· in the 1,000. The heavens and the earth were both the same as respects Liverpool in the two years. Then came the American cotton famine. We were the receptacle of a great deal of the unskilled labour of the country, and from that we began in 1861 with the typhus fever, which still exists.

373. That typhus fever is very much owing to two dry hot summers, is it not?—No; typhus is worse in winter.

374. Mr. *Hunt.*] The people were in a great state of destitution, and were consequently more liable to sink under the attacks of fever?—Typhus is a disease of poverty and a disease of want. Typhoid is a disease consequent on bad

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

emanations and stinks. We have very little typhoid; it is a purely typhus epidemic.

375. Mr. *Dent.*] Are not the returns of last week worse as regards Liverpool?—No, we are improving. The disease which attracted so much attention in the country a few months since was not typhus but bronchial affections. People caught colds, and being in such a weak state they died. What I want to show is this, that we are here in an overcrowded town.

376. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] As you have put it here, these red marks seem to be all over the town?—Yes, they are.

377. Now you have come here to tell us that you think the illness arises principally from the situation of this abattoir, have you not?—No; what I want to state is this, we wish the whole of the abattoirs of the town removed out of it.

378. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you think that the existence of these different slaughter-houses about the town at all contributes to the ill health of the people?—No doubt of it.

379. In what way?—From the emanations from sewers. However cleanly they are kept, the blood that runs into the sewers immediately decomposes. Then you have the emanations from these sewers, which affect and weaken the people. Everything that weakens conduces to ill health.

380. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where is the outlet of the sewers in Liverpool?—In the north, and in the south.

381. Running into the water?—Yes.

382. Mr. *Hunt.*] In walking past these places do you not perceive foul emanations coming from the sewers?—You can, near the abattoir, from a large sewer that runs in this direction.

383. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Is not the offal, or rather manure from these slaughter-houses, daily removed and purchased under contract by people in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

384. Is it not daily carried off from these slaughter-houses?—Yes, and the slaughter-houses are kept very clean, notwithstanding which a great quantity of blood finds its way into the sewers.

385. Mr. *Hunt.*] You think in a sanitary point of view it is desirable to get rid of all these slaughter-houses out of the limits of the borough?—Yes; in this map is represented the situation of the Stanley Cattle Market; we should like to be able to remove the abattoir from the town, and build slaughter-houses near this cattle market on the land which belongs to the corporation, which is marked yellow on the map, in immediate vicinity to a branch railway, and to the London and North Western Railway.

386. Mr. *Graham.*] Is that up the river?—No.

387. Mr. *Hunt.*] The Stanley Market, coloured red here, is beyond the limits of the borough, is it not?—Yes, it is beyond the limits of the borough.

388. The borough have no power to erect slaughter-houses adjacent to that market?—No.

389. Will you show us on the map how far outside the borough the Stanley Market is?—This is the Stanley Market, and the Parliamentary boundary is marked here (*describing it by the map*).

390. Is the Parliamentary boundary the same as the municipal?—Yes; the municipal and Parliamentary are the same.

391. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there no cattle market within the borough jurisdiction?—None.

392. Mr. *Hunt.*] Tell us what you propose, if you please?—What I should like would be, first, the power of removing all these slaughter-houses in the town, and secondly, having the power of erecting a slaughter-house upon our own land, near the present cattle market at Stanley.

393. Is there any borough land immediately adjacent to the Stanley Market?—Yes, the yellow shows that.

394. That you have acquired outside the limits of the borough?—Yes, that belongs to the corporation.

395. Have they acquired it under an Act of Parliament?—Yes.

396. You have land immediately contiguous to the market where you could erect slaughter-houses?—Yes.

397. You propose to avail yourselves of that land for that purpose?—Yes.

398. Would you want any statutory powers to enable you to do so?—Yes; we have no power now. On the contrary, it was settled when the rinderpest first came in, that the committee who had the direction of this Stanley Market should erect a slaughter-house for diseased cattle. It is so convenient that, under present restrictions, they can use it for the slaughter of ordinary cattle. The health body of this sub-district, in which is the slaughter-house, have stopped them by an application to the magistrates, and had them fined.

399. That is, the West Derby Districts?—Yes; then I would also wish to call the Committee's attention to the position, that we have no possibility of erecting lairs for cattle, consistently with health and property in the borough of Liverpool. We are now oppressed with large numbers of cattle in the borough in unfit and improper places.

400. When cattle and sheep are bought in this market for consumption in the town, what becomes of them at the present time?—The sheep and oxen that are brought to this market must be brought back again to the different places in the borough, and killed within four days.

401. What is done with them between the time of leaving the Stanley Market and the time of slaughter?—They go principally to the yards attached, either to the present slaughter-houses, or they have found places under the railway arches down in the town, or yards which were employed by builders have been converted for their reception. For instance, in the railway arches there are between 400 and 600 cattle stored, that is, in the town. In yards, in Nelson-street, surrounded by houses, in a very populous district of the town, there are 100 cattle, which are just turned into the yards. There are different slaughter-houses in different parts, I need not repeat them, where the different cattle are kept.

402. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are they driven there by drovers?—Yes.

403. Mr. *Hunt.*] Did they have to stand in the streets on some occasions?—I have never seen them; I do not know that they have; I have not remarked it.

404. Here is the statement, a true statement, "That under the present arrangements now in Liverpool some of the men have to stand in the streets adjacent to the slaughter-house, with their cattle, a whole day and night"?—I should think that is an exaggeration; it has not come under my notice, and I think if it had been done, the inspectors would have reported upon the fact.

405. Mr. *Dent.*] Is the four days' restriction for

for slaughtering only consequent upon the cattle disease, or is it usual?—It is a temporary regulation.

406. Mr. *Hunt.*] You have not experienced that inconvenience before?—Before that time they never came back again to the borough. In the olden time, when they had been at Stanley market, they only came in as they were required to be slaughtered. The largest butcher in the town will tell you that when he bought his cattle there he moved them to his own farm, and brought them in just as he required them. We had none of the inconveniences we suffer from now, of thousands of cattle being in the borough, and thousands of sheep, which we do not know what to do with.

407. Mr. *Dent.*] This has particular application to the present case, then?—Yes. The only lairs for cattle under the old regulations were two or three just on the high road in the borough, but not near any houses. Those marked blue are the different fields let by gentlemen to the dealers. Some of the butchers had their own fields.

408. Then they conveyed them to Manchester alive, and now they are slaughtered?—They were until lately, but now the Irish cattle have been allowed to go on to Manchester.

409. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Did the old inspectors see as to these cattle standing under the railway arches, that those arches and the yards were regularly cleansed and the manure regularly carried off?—Yes, we see to that.

410. Therefore there was nothing of a character dangerous to health from the animals standing there?—It did not amount to danger to health, or else we should have stopped it; I may say prejudicial to health, that would be the better term.

411. Every protection was taken that could reasonably be taken?—Yes.

412. Mr. *Hunt.*] You have not explained what these patches coloured blue on the map are?—These patches coloured blue are the fields let by gentlemen to the cattle dealers; not to the butchers, but to the cattle dealers, and they are of no use now.

413. *Chairman.*] They are not allowed to take the cattle from the market to their fields now?—No.

414. If a man buys more cattle than he wants they kill immediately, and then he is obliged to keep them for two or three days in the town?—Yes. There is only one market at Stanley, on the Monday. He must kill them by Thursday, and must supply his customers and the shipping. This is a very important thing; he must supply with the meat killed on the Thursday, the ships having to go away on the next Monday, and that in the summer months. If this regulation continues, it will be a most perplexing thing to the trade. There is only one market. They might by-and-by have two markets or three markets.

415. How used they to do before?—They only required one market then; they took the cattle to their farms. All the large butchers had farms, and they bought from the Irish dealers.

416. Enough for the week?—They bought enough for the week and sent them up to their farms. We never knew what it was to have cattle stowed as they are now in Liverpool.

417. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is merely the result of these regulations; if these regulations cease the evil will cease?—Yes.

418. Mr. *Dent.*] They always kill at the slaughter-houses in the town of Liverpool at ordinary times, do they not?—Yes, the amount of slaughtering is important. Take the month of March; I have just calculated what it would be, and here is the return of the slaughtering in last year as compared with this, and there are the corresponding weeks as far as the 1st of April. (*The return was handed in, and is as follows:*—)

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

THE following is a RETURN of the CATTLE Slaughtered in the Borough of *Liverpool*, in each Week during the Year 1865, together with the corresponding Week, to the Week ending 31st March 1866.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Calves.	Pigs.
1865:					
7 January -	814	3,081	5	125	1,174
14 – -	849	2,928	3	135	1,281
21 – -	897	3,525	10	138	1,150
28 – -	842	3,533	11	158	1,090
4 February -	920	2,843	11	146	1,143
11 – -	910	2,909	12	144	1,157
18 – -	853	3,206	16	270	1,191
25 – -	839	2,772	14	260	1,255
4 March -	773	2,231	22	332	1,173
11 – -	795	2,641	25	564	1,123
18 – -	836	3,251	21	645	1,157
15 – -	754	2,917	36	772	1,030
1 April -	757	2,924	52	801	921
8 – -	718	2,906	39	1,007	857
15 – -	724	2,781	84	913	931
22 – -	682	2,759	54	1,001	900
29 – -	736	2,739	141	1,072	867
6 May -	780	3,450	183	882	697
13 – -	801	3,015	294	706	692
20 – -	787	3,676	388	570	556
27 – -	723	3,411	484	404	711
3 June -	762	3,855	649	341	599
10 – -	754	3,742	889	322	654
17 – -	609	4,020	951	287	653
24 – -	619	3,870	1,183	247	601
1 July -	731	4,177	1,233	280	509
8 – -	678	4,117	1,166	228	500
15 – -	634	4,276	1,143	262	571
22 – -	722	4,241	1,032	163	475
29 – -	733	4,073	1,159	228	462
5 August -	786	4,326	1,053	218	488
12 – -	802	4,228	812	200	492
19 – -	860	4,383	764	222	546
26 – -	853	3,936	650	183	630
2 September -	933	4,134	592	175	610
9 – -	946	4,318	200	149	621
16 – -	943	3,908	155	143	526
23 – -	892	3,954	87	171	587
30 – -	936	4,167	38	137	580
7 October -	928	4,021	41	166	715
14 – -	1,000	4,284	23	118	731
21 – -	907	4,022	7	100	795
28 – -	1,072	4,310	2	111	816
4 November -	959	3,491	2	109	1,105
11 – -	1,095	3,903	–	90	1,047
18 – -	939	3,331	–	96	1,147
25 – -	1,093	3,800	–	85	1,181
2 December -	1,150	3,413	–	88	1,233
9 – -	1,010	3,456	–	116	1,303
16 – -	1,058	3,592	–	100	1,234
23 – -	1,456	4,563	3	97	1,418
30 – -	813	1,937	–	65	885
TOTAL - -	44,535	185,659	15,757	16,236	44,379
1866:					
7 January -	1,113	3,769	–	40	1,113
14 – -	1,009	3,422	–	81	1,218
21 – -	1,032	3,183	6	51	1,389
28 – -	1,294	3,884	5	68	1,145
4 February -	1,284	3,436	3	56	1,152
11 – -	1,134	3,380	4	64	1,222
18 – -	892	3,912	9	70	1,312
25 – -	1,009	3,682	12	112	1,009
4 March -	2,171	3,848	22	84	1,032
11 – -	2,503	4,074	21	76	1,145
18 – -	2,350	3,541	22	102	1,225
25 – -	2,235	3,822	25	240	1,155
1 April -	2,127	3,865	50	222	1,189
	20,198	47,678	179	1,266	15,396

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

RETURN of CATTLE killed at the Abattoir for Three Months.

	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
1865:				
7 January	394	1,984	50	359
14 - -	431	1,874	49	478
21 - -	450	2,189	59	352
28 - -	433	2,354	67	330
4 February	460	1,781	55	338
11 - -	439	1,924	102	423
18 - -	423	1,967	162	416
25 - -	411	1,605	122	358
4 March -	363	1,264	180	371
11 - -	354	1,581	390	365
18 - -	397	2,096	510	372
25 - -	350	1,834	639	283
1 April -	353	1,894	683	295
1866:				
6 January	622	2,559	17	255
13 - -	593	2,159	44	325
20 - -	532	1,962	25	357
27 - -	779	2,463	30	265
3 February	774	2,182	13	258
10 - -	611	2,001	33	352
17 - -	371	2,355	41	430
24 - -	450	2,175	82	290
3 March -	1,198	2,187	57	273
10 - -	1,325	2,545	35	293
17 - -	1,262	2,011	57	266
24 - -	1,264	2,537	185	322
31 - -	1,148	2,121	169	259

We have now nearly three times the amount of cattle in the abattoir, taken in round numbers, that we had this time last year, so that we are suffering from these badly placed abattoirs doing three times the work.

419. *Chairman.*] Why should they do three times the work?—It has been virtually made a dead-meat market for the manufacturing districts.

420. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You supply Manchester and Salford?—Yes.

421. Mr. *Hunt.*] While the railway traffic was suspended?—Yes.

422. *Chairman.*] But in ordinary times there would be a considerable amount of slaughtering; all that was required for supplying the wants of the town and the shipping, all which is carried on in these abattoirs?—Yes.

423. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You said there was one market; do you mean one market and one market-day only?—One market and one market-day.

424. You want more than one market-day in the week?—I do not understand the management of the trade; it depends upon Ireland so much. I said I fancied they might do with that.

425. Mr. *Hunt.*] In the event of its being thought desirable to place stock in quarantine which is disembarked at Liverpool, is there any place that would be suitable for that purpose?—No, not in the borough of Liverpool.

426. You would want an Act of Parliament to enable the parties to acquire land for that purpose?—Yes; and I cannot now tell where such land is to be found.

427. *Chairman.*] Has there been any marked increase in typhus fever since the additional amount of cattle in the town of Liverpool and the slaughtering there?—That I am not able to say; I have no data upon which I could venture to give an opinion upon that. The typhus fever is always worse in the cold weather. We have had this in the winter months, and therefore I might be attributing to one cause what was due to another, or attributing to an accidental cause what was due to a natural cause.

428. Should you say, from your professional experience, it is probable that the increased keep of cattle in Liverpool and slaughtering in Liverpool has increased the mortality of the town, and has increased the typhus fever?—I am perfectly certain that it would increase the sickness. What I should look for as being increased would not be typhus, but when the warm months came, and emanations are abundant, and diseases springing from emanations are prevalent, such as diarrhœa, we should then have an increase in sickness. We should have what the physicians call the pythogenic disease.

429. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You said a good deal of disease arises from the blood going into the sewers; are the sewers trapped in Liverpool?—Yes; but owing to the great population and extent of it, you would probably find one in every sixth or seventh house with its trap out of order, and in London probably more so.

430. *Chairman.*] What do they do with the manure in Liverpool?—They sell it to the farmers.

431. I mean now, since the cattle plague restrictions?—We send it out under certificate.

432. Where to?—To the farmers; the farmers send in for it, and the inspectors give a certificate for all manure where there has been no rinderpest; they certify that the manure is from a healthy cow-house, and it is allowed to pass by the county magistrate upon that certificate into the country.

433. Then you have no great accumulations of manure in the town?—As few as we can help; our contractors are bound to take it out; but I am sorry to say that the increased extent of the borough leaves us a little more than we want.

434. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do not your bye-laws compel you to have it removed within a day?—The slaughter-house manure is, but not the general manure of the town; the cow-house manure is not bound to be removed every day.

435. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is Stanley Market a private speculation?—Yes.

436. Mr. *Hunt.*] And belongs to a company?—It belongs to a company.

437. Is there any ground in that neighbourhood where animals could be placed in quarantine; I mean supposing there were powers to acquire ground?—I think not.

438. Mr. *Dent.*] Is the Stanley Market much of a store-stock market?—No, it is for fat stock; we have no store-stock market that I am aware of to any extent.

439. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is the land contiguous to the road which abuts on this property of the corporation built over, or in what state is it?—It is very free from buildings; where the council proposes to erect slaughter-houses would be at least a quarter of a mile from any present building.

440. Is there no land in a state of cultivation near there that could be acquired for the purpose?—No; it is all very valuable building land, except what is marked yellow, which cost a large sum of money to the corporation.

441. What is the rent of the land per acre on that map coloured blue?—That I do not know; the rental of that Mr. Cullen will give.

442. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You might have land on the other side of the water, at Birkenhead?

Birkenhead?—I think that is probable, but I cannot speak to it.

443. Mr. *Hunt.*] It is merely a question of price with regard to this land near the part coloured yellow?—It would be a very heavy price; I should not think you would get land there under between 500*l.* to 1,000*l.* an acre.

444. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you had an opportunity of judging of the condition of the health of animals imported on their arrival?—I have not.

445. There is a Government officer who inspects all animals on their landing?—Yes; he inspects all foreign cattle, and there are inspectors under me, who are specially acquainted with the different sorts of Irish and Scotch cattle.

446. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are you appointed by the corporation?—Yes.

447. Mr. *Hunt.*] There is a different inspector for the Irish, and Scotch, and foreign cattle?—Yes; the Government takes charge of what is called foreign stock.

448. Mr. *Dent.*] Is there a large importation of foreign cattle to Liverpool, as well as Irish and Scotch?—There are a great number of Spanish cattle; long-horned Spanish cattle.

449. There are not many cattle from the northern parts of Europe?—I think not.

450. Mr. *Dent.*] In ordinary times, and not merely now, under the cattle plague, you would like to have all the slaughter-houses removed out of the borough, and public slaughter-houses erected near Stanley Market?—Yes; another arrangement I should like the Committee to bear in mind is this: we have, speaking in round numbers, I should say between 400 and 500 small cow-houses; they are under no direction at all in ordinary times, and we have no power over them. We have no power to compel the parties even to keep them clean, to provide for their cattle, or to remove the manure. It is removed about every fortnight. What I think necessary, not only for the health of animals but for the health of the inhabitants is, that in future these cow-houses should be put under something like the regulation which exists in London, namely, that they should all be licensed, and that we should declare the number of cows that can be kept, and where it is improper to keep them at all. Without that I see a great difficulty in any regulation of the Government for preventing an accumulation of disease being maintained in a town like Liverpool. It is almost impossible to keep off disease from the cattle if the cow-houses are without any regulation, and are allowed to be overcrowded and bad in their other arrangements.

451. *Chairman.*] If the corporation of Liverpool thought fit to bring in a Bill to give effect to your recommendation, they could do so?—They might bring in a private Bill; they never have; it never attracted attention until the rinderpest.

452. The compensations and other expenses would be very large, I suppose, to get rid of all these private interests out of the town?—That I could not say; there are places that one would find it difficult to value, they are so bad.

453. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Has the health officer never reported on this state of things?—It never attracted my attention until the rinderpest came.

454. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The evil you have mentioned, namely, the blood, must have existed just the same for some time?—I have reported upon slaughter-houses certainly, and urged forward the recommendation of their removal.

455. Mr. *Hunt.*] In the event of your erecting a public slaughter-house in the neighbourhood of Stanley Market, should you propose that the use of such a slaughter-house should be given to the butchers and slaughtermen?—What I speak of is, of course, only my own impression, namely, that it should not be managed by corporation officials, but let off to a company, such as the Abattoir, or some company established by the butchers themselves, the corporation not building for a profitable investment, but simply for the public good.

456. You would allow individual persons in the trade to rent parts of it?—Yes; I do not think corporate officials could manage it as effectually as the butchers themselves would.

457. What are the arrangements now at the abattoirs that you speak of. I suppose the butchers pay so much for the use of them?—The butchers will mention what they do. I understand about 50 butchers in the town use it. I may mention that they were tied by our covenants to certain charges; when the corporation gave them the privileges belonging to the abattoir for so many years, and guaranteed them the 6½ per cent., they tied them to a certain charge, which they cannot exceed.

458. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are you aware whether there have been many seizures of unwholesome meat for human food by the authorities of Liverpool. There is an inspector, naturally, of the markets to see whether the meat is diseased or not. Have there been many instances of individuals exposing meat unfit for human food in Liverpool of late?—Without a single exception, I may say every week, there is a very large quantity of unsound meat, but this is distinguished from seizure, for the butchers seldom require it to be seized. They generally give it up as soon as they find it out. The expression "seizure" will give a wrong impression to the operation of it in Liverpool; but there is a very vast quantity of unsound meat in ordinary times as well as in the rinderpest time.

459. Has there been any increase in the case of condemned meat since these cattle were removed to these railway arches, where they have stood, as has been asserted, for a considerable time waiting before they were slaughtered. Has there been a greater increase of cases of condemned meat latterly?—No, there has not; whether from jealousy on the part of the traders or not, the quantity of condemned meat as unfit for human food has been less since the time of the rinderpest than before it.

460. Would you ascribe that at all to these animals having remained a certain time before being slaughtered, so that their blood cooled, and they were in consequence fitter for slaughter?—No; the reason of it is this. The condemned meat is generally found to be sent in by land to the butchers of the town from a distance. A cow, for instance, dying of the milk fever. That is meat that *ab initio* should never have come, and it is not meat that has gone bad. Therefore, there has been more observation and more scrutiny, and therefore less condemned meat, for the butchers are just as quick as the inspectors. If they find it out they call on the inspector, and it is condemned. You do not find the local butchers are in fault. We seldom seize anything except

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

pigs. I may say, as a general rule, we never require to seize from the killing butchers.

461. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Who is this bad meat consigned to?—Consigned to the selling butchers, from people in the different districts round. Our friends at Bolton sometimes send us some, and they come from Manchester sometimes.

462. Mr. *Hunt.*] And all over the country, a man who has a cow likely to die, of course wants to get as much as he can for it?—Yes; in fact, it is killed to prevent its dying.

463. *Chairman.*] Would there be a greater liability, do you think, to have bad meat sent into a town if all slaughtering in the town were stopped, and nothing but dead-meat supply allowed?—I am quite convinced that if all the slaughter-houses were centred in one common abattoir, as in France and as in Edinburgh, the supervision, if required, would be more perfect.

464. There would be a less chance of bad meat coming in?—Of course. Instead of having 41 places day by day to be looked after, we should have our officers constantly at the public slaughter-houses.

465. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are you acquainted with the public slaughter-houses of Paris?—Only by reading.

466. Of Edinburgh?—Very slightly. Merely just walking through them.

467. Mr. *Goschen.*] Are they all in one spot in Edinburgh?—Yes.

468. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you think that a town like Liverpool could be supplied during all seasons of the year by meat coming there ready killed?—No, I do not think that Liverpool could be supplied at all. Talking as a physiologist, I should think that most of the meat killed in Ireland in July and August would not bear the sea voyage without becoming bad, and that we should seize plenty of it.

469. For a large town, you think it is necessary to have an abattoir?—Yes, I think so. You see in Liverpool there is an immense amount of shipping to be supplied, and I do not think it would be possible to supply it with dead meat brought from Ireland.

470. Mr. *Goschen.*] You have to supply the ships now with live beasts?—Yes, with beasts killed fresh and fresh.

471. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Have you any knowledge of diseases caused by over-kept meat?—No; I have never seen any disease following from over-kept meat, either game or otherwise.

472. It is an opinion now prevailing among physiologists and physicians, that disease as a general rule, does not arise from over-kept meat?—I do not think it does. It is very nasty, but I do not know that I have ever traced any disease from it.

473. Therefore any difficulties arising on that head would simply arise out of the question of impediment to the trade, and could not be dealt with from a sanitary point of view?—It would be a sanitary point of view, because if you will allow me to say so, I do not think the people would eat it. The natural alchemy, or chemistry of the stomach, would counteract the putrifaction.

474. Some people think that decomposition assists the digestion?—It probably does to a certain extent. I have not seen it myself; but in the case of a person fed upon meat which was decomposed, I should expect that after a time, nature would not take up everything. I mean that in what is called the secondary assimilation there would be irregularities. The stomach would do its work pretty well as to the digestive part. Then comes the secondary assimilations, when it is turned into blood, in the different parts of the body, and I should expect to find boils and skin eruptions, showing disease of the blood. But I merely speak theoretically upon that. I have never tested it; for I have never known a person live constantly, or for any length of time, on putrid meat.

475. Decomposition, or putridity, are terms which are too strong to apply to anything that is likely to appear in the market at all?—I think we shall see a good deal of it coming from Ireland, caused by the sheep. I think so.

476. You cannot give any formula by which you could determine the length of time, with reference to the time of year and state of the animal approximately, during which meat is likely to keep?—No, I do not think there is any formula of the kind. It is not a question of temperature; much will depend on electricity, and no doubt a great deal also on the new form of gas, the ozone, and the amount of it.

477. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think that the Manchester and Salford Market could be supplied by animals slaughtered in Liverpool throughout the summer?—If we had a proper slaughter-house. If we had six months to prepare for it, and if the London and North Western Company were to build such waggons as could be appropriated for carrying the meat, I think it could be done. I think the inland trade might be done from a place like Liverpool to Manchester and Salford.

478. Are you aware whether the slaughter-houses in Manchester and Salford are better or more numerous than those in Liverpool?—I do not know; I have always understood they are very bad; I think they are worse than ours. Considering that they are numerous, and belong to private people, ours are very well managed.

479. *Chairman.*] According to that proposal, you would have one great slaughter-house, or collection of slaughter-houses, for Manchester and Liverpool, and the district?—I think it is quite capable of doing it. If we had a slaughter-house near the Stanley Market, such as is proposed, with the railway running up past it, we could send to Salford and Manchester just as easily as we could send it to West Derby by the cart, and easier.

480. Mr. *Norwood.*] With reference to the question put by Lord Cranborne, when cholera is prevalent, is not over-kept meat supposed to be disposing to disease?—No doubt it is supposed to be so, but I do not think we have any facts to go upon. I think that as science advances upon the question of cholera, it will be found that the diet has very little to do with it. I think that is one of the errors that frightened us at first. We put it down that fruit was the cause of diarrhœa, because it came in the fruit season, and so on, but I think that is not the general opinion of the profession now. Of course, any indigestible stuff will produce diarrhœa, but I do not think over-kept meat will; for instance, I never saw it follow the eating of game.

481. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I think the answer you gave the noble Lord with regard to over-kept meat was, that although it might not produce very serious illness, it was likely to produce boils, and so on?—Yes, I expect it would be

be so, although I have no facts; it amounts merely to theory.

482. You consider it is unwholesome and indigestible?—Yes, decidedly.

483. Mr. *Goschen.*] Do you seize diseased meat that has been kept too long?—Yes; if mutton or beef is at all gamey, it is seized as unfit for human food.

484. But it is not your view of it, that it is really unfit?—I have no data from which to trace disease to that; for instance, we have no facts to prove that rinderpest meat has produced disease. We seize it, and leave the onus of proof to the parties from whom we seize it.

485. You think that is the proper course?—It is the course we are obliged to adopt. As to proof of being unfit for human food, if you come to an example, it would be almost impossible. I am quite convinced that I saw rinderpest meat, at the first commencement of the outbreak, sold in Newgate Market.

486. Mr. *Graham.*] Are you aware that there is a preserved meat trade in Liverpool?—Yes; I have understood that it is a very good trade.

487. Is not that preserved meat an outlet for any that would not be saleable in open market?—Yes; and it was sold to a very large extent lately; when the gentlemen of Cheshire were suffering so much, and stamping out the disease, it met an outlet there.

Dr. *W. S. Trench.*

3 May 1866.

488. Mr. *Hunt.*] They were diseased cows, were they not?—No, they were not diseased, they were stamped out.

489. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] They were killed before they were taken ill; that is what you mean?—Yes.

490. Mr. *Graham.*] I meant to inquire whether you were not aware that it was an outlet for positively diseased meat?—No, I do not believe it; one of the duties of my office is to learn everything of that kind by inspectors; and I have never been able to trace it. Of course we hear rumours of every kind; we hear of diseased horses being put into such meat; I have had watchers, and was never able to trace anything of it.

491. Mr. *Goschen.*] What check have you to prevent diseased meat being potted and preserved?—Merely this: that every carcase that comes into the borough must pass in some way or other under the inspectors' hands. The great meat markets are the butchers' shops and the abattoir, which are constantly being visited daily, and all the slaughter-houses.

492. Mr. *Hunt.*] If it comes already potted, I suppose you have no control over it?—No.

Mr. Hugh Cullen, called in; and Examined.

493. *Chairman.*] What is your calling?—I am a Cattle Salesman, and I am also the Treasurer of the Cattle Market at Stanley, and deeply interested in the cattle trading in Ireland, as well.

494. Are you also a grazier?—Yes.

495. When you use the term "cattle salesman," you sell by commission cattle consigned to Liverpool?—Yes, precisely; we sell by commission cattle consigned to our care for sale; the cattle that we sell are principally Irish, nearly all the foreign cattle that come to Liverpool, a few Scotch, and very few English. It is nearly all the Irish and the foreign trade we are entrusted with; we have almost the entire foreign trade in our hands, and a large proportion of the Irish trade.

496. From whence come the consignments of foreign cattle that you have to sell?—Almost entirely from Oporto. We have had this year consignments of cattle from Buenos Ayres, but nearly all come from Oporto. The annual number for the last few years has been about 6,000.

497. What sort of cattle are those?—The best quality of cattle, almost as good cattle as come from any part of the world.

498. Fat cattle or store cattle?—Fat cattle; speaking as a cattle salesman I only refer to fat cattle. We have no interest in the store business except so far as our customers in Ireland are interested in the purchasing of cattle for them, and the grazing of cattle there.

499. As to these cattle that come from Oporto, are they brought in steamers?—They are brought in steamers from Oporto. Liverpool is exceptional in its circumstances. It is the great terminus for the trade with the East. Large steamers sailing up the Mediterranean, and returning with a short cargo, call at Gibraltar coming round, and are frequently directed by telegraph to drop in at Oporto and take a cargo of cattle home.

Mr. *H. Cullen.*

500. In what condition do the cattle generally arrive from Oporto?—They generally arrive at Liverpool in a very fine condition, because the importers of cattle from Oporto are both the owners of the vessels and the owners of the cattle, and consequently it is their interest to bring the cattle over in the best possible condition. The steamers that carry the cattle are very large steamers, and are better adapted for carrying cattle than smaller steamers, though built specially for the cattle trade. These vessels are all very large, and bring the cattle in excellent condition. Our best butchers give the highest prices for those cattle.

501. As a rule, what proportion of the arrivals do you condemn as unsaleable?—I should say practically none. The Oporto trade has come into existence within the last 10 years in Liverpool, and I should think one per cent. would be a great deal too high to set the actual loss; except on one occasion when there was a total loss—cargo and ship altogether went to the bottom.

502. Do the cattle sometimes suffer injury from bad weather at sea, and come in with broken limbs and so forth?—Seldom, if ever; I do not think we have had half a dozen broken limbed cattle from Oporto altogether the last few years.

503. Mr. *Hunt.*] What is the average passage?—A good deal depends on the wind, and a good deal depends upon the steamer. I should say four and a-half days is the average passage.

504. *Chairman.*] Have you heard any complaint of the treatment of those cattle during the transit of those cattle on shipboard from Oporto to Liverpool?—No.

505. You do not think it could be improved?—The greatest improvement that could be made would be the increase in the size of the steamers, but many of those steamers have already arrived at a length that it is almost impossible to increase them; some of them are nearly 300 feet long.

Mr. *H. Cullen.*

3 May 1866.

506. Do they carry the cattle on deck as well as below?—In the winter season they never do; in the summer season they do.

507. Mr. *Hunt.*] They are properly fed and watered?—They are properly fed and watered. They get compressed food on board the steamers, and cattle care-takers go out with the steamers and feed and water them on the voyage.

508. *Chairman.*] Have you ever heard of any cases of cattle plague or pleuro pneumonia, or anything breaking out among the cattle so imported?—No; the cattle coming from Spain and Portugal are singularly healthy; and with the exception of the foot and mouth disease, from being kept at Liverpool for a week, which almost all cattle are subject to, when the foot and mouth disease is prevalent, we have had scarcely any disease.

509. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you think that they arrive with the foot and mouth disease, or do they contract it after landing?—They contract it after landing; occasionally, the steamer does not arrive in time for either the Liverpool or Manchester Market; this was before the regulations came into vogue.

510. *Chairman.*] Where have you to keep them till market day?—We have lairs prepared for the purpose.

511. Mr. *Dent.*] In ordinary times, I suppose?—Yes; our lairs are situated where this blue mark is (*pointing on the map*).

512. *Chairman.*] You are not allowed to use those lairs now, are you?—Yes, we have got a license from the county magistrates; the entrance to those lairs is within the borough, but we did not like exactly to test our position as regards the right of driving the cattle from the borough through our own land into our own lairs, because these latter are out of the borough.

513. Mr. *Goschen.*] You are on the confines, are you?—We are; there is a portion within, and a portion without.

514. Mr. *Hunt.*] Has anything happened with regard to the other spots marked blue?—Those spots marked blue represent folds and parks that we rent, for the purpose of keeping Irish cattle prior to the market.

515. Have you been able to use those since these regulations have been in force?—This last week we have been able to use them, but they are practically useless now, because the bulk of the cattle coming to market now are stall-fed cattle, which would perish in the open air; they are obliged to be housed and put in proper lairs. We have accommodation here for 600 or 700 cattle.

516. *Chairman.*] You do not keep any of them in the town of Liverpool?—No, we do not now; we were forced to do it until last week. For a couple of weeks, we got liberty to keep them close to the cattle market, at the sheds of the London and North Western Railway Company, which run into the market. This is the plan of Liverpool Cattle Market (*producing a plan*). On this side is the great high road running into Liverpool, and on the other is a branch of the London and North Western, adapted specially for the Cattle Market, and brought right up into the market; and along here, are extensive cattle pens, for the convenience of the trade.

517. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is that by Edge Hill?—Yes; it is a branch that is connected with Edge Hill, and also with the docks on the other side, *here.*

518. Show us the terminus of the railway at the docks?—Here is the railway (*pointing on the map*); it goes round here, and comes to the Huskisson Dock, about that point.

519. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What is the distance?—I should think that the distance by railway is from three and a-half to four miles.

520. What is the scale of the map?—Six miles to an inch, but the new railway does not appear to be marked.

521. *Chairman.*] Before you were allowed to use that merely by license, and were obliged to keep them in the town, did the cattle deteriorate?—No, we requested our customers not to send their cattle till the Sunday, and the consequence was we only had them in the town during the Sunday; and tried to remedy the inconvenience as far as practicable in that way.

522. Mr. *Dent.*] Those were the Irish cattle?—Yes. With regard to the foreign cattle our correspondents would not attempt to bring cattle in the face of the orders in Council, and because we are obliged to sell all the foreign cattle at the present moment in Liverpool. If we got a surplus supply, we could get no means of disposing of them except at a ruinous loss.

523. How is that; cannot you keep them in that lair?—The present position of the law is this. Suppose the cattle arrive on the Saturday, they are inspected by the Government inspector and passed on their route, having been inspected by the local authority, the corporation of Liverpool; and thus, having passed two examinations, then they go to our lairs and afterwards to Stanley Market. When they come to Stanley Market there is an "S" put upon them, and all those cattle are obliged to be slaughtered within four days. I say, practically, this season of the year cattle will not be furnished in a dead state to the manufacturing districts except at a very enhanced price.

524. Do you mean at this time of the year a carcase is injured by travelling to a great extent?—Decidedly. There are plenty of gentlemen from Manchester whom I see here who will corroborate this statement.

525. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] If it were packed in hampers would that be so?—Decidedly; I should say so. The increased cost of that is very great, and would tend to increase the price of meat.

526. *Chairman.*] Have those restrictions lessened considerably the importation of foreign cattle from Spain and Portugal?—Yes, and I believe at the present moment our employers would be most anxious almost to double their trade if they could get encouragement from us.

527. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is owing to the peculiar circumstances of Liverpool, is it not; that is not the experience in London?—I am only speaking of Liverpool.

528. Mr. *Dent.*] Is it a fact that your importations of cattle from Oporto have fallen off?—It is a decided fact.

529. Could you give us any comparison of this time last year as to the importations from Oporto?—I could upon reference to figures, but I have not the figures here.

530. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are these animals from Oporto always for immediate consumption?—Yes. No others are brought in. They are not adapted for store cattle at all. Not being acclimatised

matised they are not suitable for this country, and any few of them that have been kept for store cattle have turned out very badly.

531. You are obliged to kill them immediately?—Yes, within four days.

532. In consequence of their physical state?—We are not obliged to kill them in consequence of that, but we are compelled by law to kill them within four days.

533. I am asking after a voyage of four days; on an average, if it were a rough voyage, would these fat animals be so much injured on the voyage as to require them to be slaughtered immediately?—Not at all, we have had them for three or four days.

534. Without much deterioration?—The first day or two they would look rather better; their blood would cool, and they would take some food and water.

535. *Chairman.*] Then the impediment to the trade arises from your being obliged to slaughter them in Liverpool?—Yes; we want to sell, we want competition, and as the competition is restricted to Liverpool, it is very easy to glut the market with a certain specific description of stock. The consumption is 800 a week. If we get 100 beasts more than that, we are compelled to kill within four days, and sell them at a reduced price.

536. You cannot forward the meat so killed within the four days advantageously to other parts?—Certainly not.

537. Why not?—Because we cannot get customers to purchase it on the same terms as we could sell it; no country butcher would buy meat in Liverpool except at a reduced price compared with the live animal.

538. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] If they arrive in that good condition by the steamer, I do not see how the meat can deteriorate very much?—There is a variety of ways; the animal is first slaughtered; in order to render the animal in a proper state to be sent into the country, in ordinary weather it should remain for 24 hours in order that it should set; when it had set, then it should be shipped; in anything like muggy weather, or soft weather, or when the temperature is hot, it would never set at all.

539. What is the objection to these foreign cattle being kept in these sheds, which you say you have been using of late; why not keep them for two or three days in those sheds, and then slaughter them as they are wanted?—The objection to that is this, that we should not get competition to sell them at the proper price.

540. Is it not the fact that Liverpool supplies Manchester and the neighbouring towns?—Yes.

541. Then there is the competition with the town of Manchester, and the large towns in the neighbourhood of Manchester?—Yes; but it would be too expensive for a Manchester butcher to come to Liverpool to purchase one or two beasts on the chance.

542. It is well known to the buyers in Manchester that you have a large trade with these Spanish cattle. If they knew you were receiving 60, or 80, or 100 a week, certainly they would give you orders, and you could keep them in these sheds and sell them as they wanted them?—Perhaps so; but we could certainly not sell them except at greatly reduced prices.

543. *Chairman.*] As a matter of fact, you have stopped the consignments of cattle from Spain and Portugal to the extent that used to be carried on before?—I could not go so far as to say that we have stopped them, but we have not advised our friends to continue them in the same numbers that they would be disposed to do, or in the same numbers that they did formerly.

544. I do not mean that you have stopped them, but you have not advised the trade to the same extent as it was carried on before?—No.

545. Mr. *Goschen.*] You receive a commission of so much per cent., I suppose?—So much per cent.

546. On the value?—On the value; the cattle are sold in the market, and we receive a commission of so much per cent. on the sale of the cattle.

547. Mr. *Hunt.*] As you are interested in the cattle market, you like all animals landed at the port of Liverpool to go through the market; is that so?—It is to a certain extent; but the cattle market was built 30 years ago, mainly by the trade, for the special accommodation of the trade, and the charge in the cattle market is very small. It is all an honorary business throughout. The officers are honorary, and there are no paid managers in it.

548. I suppose certain dues are paid with respect to all cattle that come into the market?—Yes, 2*d.* a head for cattle.

549. Why does it not serve your purpose to send the cattle away to Salford and other places by rail without ever coming to Stanley Market?—The difficulty is this: if we have a large market with a varying supply, we have a large number of customers. We do not always have special descriptions of stock to suit every customer; some of them are very good, and some very bad; and we might not be able to sell all in Liverpool.

550. You say you are now practically limited to the Liverpool custom?—Yes.

551. That is because your animals go into Stanley Market?—Yes.

552. Supposing you send them by steam or by rail to Manchester and other places, you would be able to get the Manchester custom in that way, would you not?—To a certain extent, but we might overdo the thing if we sent to Manchester 60 or 100 beasts more than the market would take; we should have to sell them at a reduced price.

553. Do you send the whole of your animals into the Stanley Market?—Most of them.

554. What was the case when the railway traffic was stopped. Did the Liverpool buyers buy more largely of you for the purpose of supplying other towns?—They did; the wholesale buyers purchased much more largely.

555. Then there was a great impetus given to the butchering trade at Liverpool?—Yes.

556. Do you hear any complaints of the condition of the meat on its arrival at Salford or Manchester, or other towns?—Yes; eternal complaints from every part.

557. On the part of whom?—From the butchers.

558. How is it sent?—Nearly always by railway.

559. Was it packed?—In some cases it was packed. Sometimes it was packed in hampers to Manchester; in consequence of the railway accommodation there, there were great facilities afforded for sending it; it went packed in cloths, packed in straw, and so on.

560. What was the condition of the meat generally?

Mr. *H. Cullen.*

3 May 1866.

generally?—Generally it was soft, and never properly set, and very often dirty too.

561. It was not properly set because it was sent out before the proper time?—Yes, that is one reason.

562. That was the fault of those who sent it off, was it not. If it had been kept in Liverpool a sufficient time for the meat to have got set, it would not have been in that state on its arrival at Manchester?—It would depend a good deal on the weather. If the weather was soft or muggy weather, you could not get it to set. There is another thing; the Manchester market days are Friday and Saturday. Some the butchers would like to have a portion of their meat kept over till Monday. They could not come into Liverpool till the Wednesday or Thursday, and the consequence was it had scarcely time to set for the Friday or Saturday's market; it would not pay the Manchester butchers to have to come down two or three times a week.

563. Was it the practice of the Manchester butchers to come to Liverpool to kill?—Yes, to a certain extent.

564. Where did they kill?—In the abattoirs. The Cattle Market Company erected a slaughter-house here, but the local authorities and the county magistrates prevented it being used.

565. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Until the Act of Parliament prohibiting the transit of animals by railway they bought the beasts alive, and sent them down to Manchester alive, did they not?—Yes.

566. That is what is wanted now?—That is what we want to do.

567. They do not like this dead meat being sent to Manchester by rail, because they say the meat is not sent to the markets in good order?—Yes; and not fit for consumption.

568. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is that a complaint from the butchers or from the people of Manchester?—We do not come in contact with the people of Manchester; we only come in contact with the butchers.

569. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you know there is a large deputation of all the butchers in Lancashire and Cheshire who have waited upon the Chairman upon the subject of this dead meat?—I did not know it until I came into this Committee.

570. But is it the fact?—Yes.

571. Their complaint is that the meat they have had during the time the transit of the live animals has been stopped has been very bad, and that great complaints have been made by their customers in consequence?—Yes.

572. And they want a removal of the power to send the live animals from Liverpool to Manchester?—Yes.

573. *Chairman.*] But they can do that now, can they not?—No; from the borough but not from the market; foreign cattle are confined to the port of Liverpool.

574. Mr. *Dent.*] Cannot you forward these cattle from Oporto where there is no disease?—No.

575. That is under the Order in Council?—Yes.

576. Have you any importations of foreign cattle to Liverpool except from Oporto; have you any from Germany?—No; a great number of sheep come from Germany, but they do not come direct; they come through Hull.

577. I am speaking of their being imported into the port of Liverpool?—No, we are badly situated for that; a few years ago we got some, but now we have none.

578. The whole of the stock comes from Oporto, I believe?—Yes.

579. Mr. *Goschen.*] You mentioned Buenos Ayres, did you not?—Yes; I mentioned there were two cattle in the spring from Buenos Ayres.

580. Only two in the year?—Yes.

581. Were they fine animals or not?—No, very inferior; they were very much reduced by the length of the voyage; they were tall, and only fit for stores.

582. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you any lean stock from Ireland coming to Liverpool?—A great number of lean stock used to come in.

583. I mean before the recent regulations?—Yes, thousands of them.

584. Those were not sold at the Stanley Market?—No, they never went into the Stanley Market; we have not a market for lean stock at Liverpool.

585. They were sent inland at once?—Yes; there is no market for them in Lancashire, as a rule; they must go into the feeding districts, Yorkshire and Leicestershire, &c.

586. *Chairman.*] Are the Irish fat cattle sent to Manchester?—To Manchester, Leeds, Huddersfield, Wakefield, and Birmingham; Liverpool is the great centre of supply for all these towns.

587. Mr. *Goschen.*] You said you were a large grazier at Liverpool yourself?—No, in Ireland.

588. Is it your habit to supply fat cattle or store cattle?—Entirely fat cattle; we have nothing to do with store cattle, except so far as purchasing them and putting them on the land in Ireland to fat them for our correspondents.

589. Mr. *Hunt.*] Store cattle are purchased under license from Liverpool?—Yes, but none have come in that way latterly.

590. Mr. *Goschen.*] What is the cost of keeping the cattle at Liverpool per day?—From 8*d.* to 1*s.*, according to their keep; 8*d.* I think is about the minimum, and 1*s.* the maximum.

591. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You do not put them into the sheds?—Yes, we house and water them, and supply them with hay for 8*d.*

592. Mr. *Goschen.*] What is the average price of these cattle; are they high or low priced cattle?—There is a butcher from my town here; last week he purchased 30 of these Portuguese cattle; he is one of the leading butchers of the place, and they sold at 26 *l.* 5 *s.* a piece.

593. Mr. *Dent.*] They are quite first-class animals, are they?—Quite first-class animals.

594. Mr. *Goschen.*] Would a quarantine interfere with the foreign trade with you?—It would extinguish it; put it out.

595. Mr. *Norwood.*] The state in which the cattle arrive from Oporto is good?—Yes.

596. You attribute that to the large size of the steamers?—Yes.

597. In what respect is a large steamer better for the conveyance of cattle than a small one?—There is not the motion in a large steamer that there is in a small one.

598. You said something about these large steamers calling at Oporto trading from Alexandria. These large ships, as you are quite correct in stating, trade to Alexandria and call at Oporto sometimes to complete their loading?—Yes.

599. Have they any space below hatches?—Frequently,

Frequently, and sometimes they take them in the summer months on deck.

600. In the winter these steamers avoid taking cattle on the deck?—Yes, because they are then exposed to cold weather and a rough sea.

601. Have they any arrangements of stalls on deck?—Not stalls, but they have got what they call shifting boards, which are a description of stalls.

602. Is there not a shifting board between each of the cattle?—No, but between every four of five.

603. That supports them on their legs, in point of fact?—Precisely.

604. Mr. *Goschen.*] I understand you to say that the owners of the steamers had an interest in the cattle?—Yes, owners of the cattle as well.

605. Are they Liverpool owners?—Yes, they have agents to purchase them, and those cattle are purchased and sent to a place of rendezvous, and the steamers call for them, according to circumstances.

606. They are bought for the account of the owner of the steamer?—Yes; the cattle are bought in couples, and then a number of them are brought to a place of rendezvous and then shipped.

607. Mr. *Norwood.*] Are there trading steamers from Oporto too?—Yes.

608. Those are small boats?—They are smaller boats.

609. Your experience is that the large ships that come from Alexandria bring their cattle in better order than the small draught steamers?—I do not mean to say that there is any steamer that does not bring them in good order, excepting one or two small steamers from Oporto.

610. What do you call a small steamer?—A vessel of 500 tons or 400 tons or under that. Some of these vessels are 2,000 tons and 2,500 tons, and 300 feet long.

611. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Would not they bring sometimes beasts from Corunna?—They did, but latterly they have not brought many. Their cattle are not in so good a condition, and they do not suit our trade so well.

612. The great majority of the cattle killed in Liverpool are Irish cattle?—Yes.

613. Are you satisfied with the condition and facilities afforded by the steamboat companies in Ireland for the traffic of cattle?—I think they might be improved, they might have a larger class of steamers.

614. Do any cattle arrive by Holyhead?—Comparatively few.

615. The cattle sent direct from Dublin to Liverpool, are in a better condition than those sent *viâ* Holyhead?—Sent direct from Dublin to Liverpool, decidedly; cattle suffer more abuse in the transhipment from the boat at Holyhead into the railway trucks, than they do on the whole voyage. The cattle are down in the hold; they are driven up, and the cattle are very much abused in that way: they are then forced into the trucks, coming out of a heated hold, they do not see very well, and altogether, the cattle come very much better the other way.

616. Do you think that better facilities might be afforded than are at present afforded for the transport of cattle from the middle and southern parts of Ireland to Liverpool?—No, I think not; the voyage from Cork is rather too long, and paddle steamers would not pay. There is direct communication by railway up to Dublin, so that cattle come up in a very short time to Dublin, and are then sent direct to Liverpool.

617. *Chairman.*] What has been the effect in price from the regulations connected with the cattle plague?—The prices have been most irregular.

618. I mean when the railway carrying was first stopped?—The prices were most irregular, and we could not calculate upon anything like a fixed price; for instance, on Monday last, in our market, we had a surplus supply of sheep; all these sheep were marked for slaughter, and they were obliged to be slaughtered within four days after the market. There was a surplus supply for the borough, and these sheep could not be sent out of the borough, but had to be slaughtered in it. A great many of those sheep were left unsold, and I do not know what will become of them; they must be killed to-day.

619. Sir *James Fergusson.*] I suppose the fact was, the new system required some time to be matured; it was the novelty of the system that interfered with the process?—I do not think it was the novelty of the system; I think that as long as the system should continue, the surplus supply would always be affected in the same way.

620. As long as the obligation remained to slaughter in a very short time?—Precisely.

621. But the same difficulty would not occur if they were slaughtered when required, and there were the means of keeping them at that place?—Not to the same extent.

622. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] As a matter of fact, do you think it would be possible that Manchester, and all those large towns in the neighbourhood, could be supplied by meat killed in Liverpool?—I do not think it practicable.

623. For the reason you have given, that the meat cannot always be depended upon to keep?—Yes.

624. Mr. *Hunt.*] What is the time it takes for a goods train to run from Liverpool to Manchester?—They send special and cattle trains sometimes under an hour.

625. Do you think that meat killed at Liverpool, and transported to Manchester in an hour, would get so bad that the people at Manchester could not eat it?—No; I do not think it would do that, but I think the putting in and the handling of the meat would damage it considerably. It is the loading and unloading and handling that damages the meat so much.

626. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is it not a fact that you have to wait for many hours, sometimes days, before you can get a special cattle train?—I think not.

627. Mr. *Hunt.*] I put the question, what is the time a goods train takes to go from Liverpool to Manchester?—I think an ordinary goods train takes about two hours or two hours and a half.

628. Do you think if the animals were killed when their blood was cold, and the meat was kept and properly set and properly packed, it would cause the slightest harm going from Liverpool to Manchester?—I think if all the conditions were as you mentioned, if the meat was properly set, and the weather all right——

629. I say nothing about the weather if the animal was killed when it was cool, and the meat was not packed until it was properly set, would there be the slightest risk in any weather of its becoming unfit for human food, or be prejudiced by the two hours or two hours and a half of the

Mr. *H. Cullen.*

3 May 1866.

journey to Manchester?—I do not say that it would become unfit for food, but it would be deteriorated in quality.

630. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you not know, on the other hand, that there have been great complaints that the meat has come very bad?—Yes.

631. Mr. *Hunt.*] From its being done in a bungling manner?—Yes.

632. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Would not the expense be greater coming that way from Manchester to Liverpool?—About three times greater expense dead than alive.

633. I mean would not the expense of carriage enhance the expense very much?—It costs the buyer three times more to send it dead than alive.

634. Mr. *Hunt.*] Supposing there was a slaughter-house adjacent to the Stanley Market, and a line of railway was laid right into the slaughter-house, and the meat killed, and conveyed at once from the slaughter-house to the trucks, and so conveyed to Manchester; how would it cost three times the amount it would if the animals were yet alive?—We have all those conditions; we had erected a slaughter-house.

635. Which you did not use?—We were prohibited only yesterday; of course we cannot use it now.

636. Supposing you are using the slaughter-house; do the rails run into the slaughter-house?—No, they run alongside it. There is a map of it; there is nothing between it except the road.

637. You want manual labour to transfer the carcase from the slaughter-house to the railway?—Yes; but we have trucks close to.

638. The trucks do not run into the slaughter-houses?—No.

639. Then you want manual labour to transfer the meat to the truck, and that might be avoided, might it not?—I think not.

640. Might it not be so arranged that the trucks might run at once into the slaughter-houses?—It might, but I do not think there would be any particular advantage.

641. How do you make out three times the cost by going to Liverpool?—The first thing is, the rate for meat from Liverpool to Manchester is 1 *s.* 3 *d.* per cwt.

642. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is that delivered?—No; only delivered at the Central Station in Manchester.

643. Not delivered to the parties to whom it is sold?—I think not.

644. Does that 1 *s.* 3 *d.* include the cost for packing?—It includes nothing, except the mere carriage; the cost of the truck for live cattle to Manchester is 14 *s.* 6 *d.*, and that truck contains eight or nine beasts; in dead meat, the offal, and the hide is left behind.

645. You get rid of one-third of the weight by leaving the offal behind?—Yes.

646. Then you gain that much?—Yes, certainly.

647. What do you put the weight of the carcass without the offal, on the average?—I suppose from five to six cwt.

648. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Then you have to pay, besides, for the cloths and hamper?—Yes; it is quite exclusive of that.

649. You know what they do charge?—No, I do not know what they charge for that. The Manchester people look upon it as a great inconvenience to get the meat from the Central Station to their own places; they have to wait the arrival of the trains.

650. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is in consequence of a higher rate of the carriage by rail?—Yes.

651. Suppose they come alive; I suppose you have to employ some one to truck them?—Yes; of course there must be a man to load them, but that is generally done by the railway porters.

652. If that is done by porters, you save the expense of the man?—No, because the carcasses have to be put upon the trucks.

653. I am supposing that the trucks run into the slaughter-house?—The railway companies supply porters to load the cattle.

654. You generally send a man in charge?—Yes.

655. When you get to Manchester, it is necessary to send some one in charge of the animals through the streets, to the butchers?—Yes; but there are not more than one or two drovers to a large number of cattle; it is not necessary.

656. Still you have one expense that would be saved?—Yes.

657. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is there not a trade profit to the butcher by his buying the animal alive, instead of buying dead meat?—More than a trade profit, I should say; a trade profit to the man not buying the animal alive, rather than in buying it dead by wholesale, and selling it retail.

658. Mr. *Goschen.*] The carcasses, without the offal, is from five to six cwt.?—Yes.

659. The cost would be about 6 *s.* a carcass?—Yes.

660. If there were eight carcasses it would be 2 *l.* 8 *s.*?—Yes.

661. What is the expense of the truck?—14 *s.* 6 *d.*

662. Therefore the difference between the two is enormous?—Yes. I may be 3 *d.* or 6 *d.* out in the price of the truck, but, as far as I recollect, I think it is about that. Mr. Salmon will be able to give you that.

663. You get there the difference between the 5 *s.* and the 2 *l.* 8 *s.*?—Yes.

664. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Can you tell us what was the actual difference in the selling prices of beasts to the public in Manchester when carried dead from Liverpool, as compared with meat carried alive, and slaughtered after arrival?—I could not say that.

665. Do you know whether the wholesale price of beasts in Manchester was materially raised by being carried dead, as compared with the price when carried alive and slaughtered on arrival?—I could not say; there are some Manchester butchers here who could tell you.

666. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Have you any doubt whatever, that instead of the Manchester butcher buying his dead meat that was slaughtered at Liverpool, having it alive at Manchester, that would enhance the price of meat very much, because the profit that he would get on the live animal would be lost to him, and he would only be able to remunerate himself by the profit on the wholesale and retail prices of the dead meat?—Certainly.

667. Sir *James Fergusson.*] But that is an assumption. It is not within your knowledge that the prices were actually raised by the one class over the other?—No, I know that positively.

668. Mr. *Hunt.*] I wish to ask one question about the relative prices of the Irish and foreign cattle

cattle under the present regulation. Irish traffic can be sent inland by rail?—Yes.

669. But foreign cattle cannot?—But foreign cattle cannot.

670. Has the price of Irish cattle risen in comparison with the price of foreign cattle since that has been the state of the law?—No. The number of foreign cattle that has come this year up to this time has been very small in consequence of the fear of these regulations.

671. Has the price of Irish cattle risen in comparison with the price of foreign cattle?—I think not much.

672. Supposing that it is allowable to send Irish cattle by rail and not foreign cattle, would you not expect the price of Irish cattle to rise?—Certainly.

673. How do you account for its not having done so?—Because a large number of home fed cattle have come to interfere with them. No number of foreign cattle came to interfere materially with the prices this season.

674. You would expect the price to rise if there was no competition?—No.

675. Then why has it not done so?—I cannot say that.

676. Is not that a curious state of things that the Irish cattle have almost a monopoly according to your evidence, and yet the price has not risen?—I do not understand you very well.

677. You stated that Irish cattle can be moved by railway inland, but foreign cattle cannot?—Yes.

678. One would naturally suppose that that would give the Irish cattle an advantage as to price, but you also said that you are not aware that the price of Irish cattle has risen in comparison with foreign cattle; is not that rather a remarkable thing?—I suppose it is.

679. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is it not the fact, that the price of Irish cattle is kept down by the number of animals slaughtered in Lancashire and Cheshire and sent to Liverpool and Manchester?—Yes, there is no doubt that is one reason.

680. Mr. *Hunt.*] But still those animals could not travel by rail till recently?—The Irish cattle could not.

681. Cattle killed in Cheshire and Lancashire could not be sent to Liverpool by rail till very recently?—No; but they might have supplied the out towns which would have interfered with prices in Liverpool.

682. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Did you state that the importation of cattle from Oporto ceased in consequence of the regulations against carrying cattle alive inland?—Yes, almost; not entirely.

683. Do you mean that orders went out to Oporto, not to ship any?—Yes.

684. Mr. *Hunt.*] That is at Liverpool only?—I only refer to Liverpool.

685. You are aware that the foreign trade in cattle largely increased at other ports?—I believe so; but I do not speak of any particular knowledge of that.

686. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Do you know when the order went out to cease despatching foreign cattle from Oporto?—The importers of the foreign cattle from Liverpool were continually advised as to the state of the orders in Council, and as those orders in Council came out they restricted the orders according to circumstances. At the present time, I have no doubt the number of foreign cattle coming to Liverpool at this season of the year would be double what it is if it were not for these orders.

687. When did the importation of cattle from Portugal cease?—I cannot say the particular date, but all this spring the number of cattle coming from Oporto has been a mere bagatelle compared with what it would have been if we had an open trade for them.

688. Do any fat cattle come to Liverpool from Scotland?—Yes, a great number latterly.

689. That is to say, this spring?—This spring.

690. They were not allowed to be carried alive inland until the last order in Council?—I think not.

691. But their importation was not checked by the operation of "The Cattle Diseases Act"?—No, I think not.

692. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Perhaps you can give the Committee the proportion of foreign cattle imported from foreign ports to those imported from Ireland?—I can give the proportion as far as regards Liverpool; the total number of cattle sold in the Liverpool market is 140,000 annually, of which 120,000 are Irish, 14,000 Scotch, and 6,000 foreign.

693. Mr. *Leader.*] There was some evidence given before the Commission on Railways, and Mr. Cawkwell, the manager of the London and North Western, states this, referring to the dead meat market: "You have stated that, in your opinion, the resources of Ireland have been very imperfectly developed; do you mean that the articles of which the traffic at present consists might be largely increased, or that new sources of traffic might be opened up if they were properly looked after. Take the cattle traffic, for example, at the present time, that is carried on entirely by local rates; each company charges its own local rates, and there is no reason why that traffic should not be carried on in the same way as it is from Scotland, from which country we have a very large traffic, both in cattle and in dead meat. With proper arrangements, I have no doubt that from Ireland there might be a very large traffic created in dead meat." That is the evidence of Mr. Cawkwell, which seems to be opposed to your opinion?—Decidedly. If his opinion was correct he could simply create a dead-meat market in Ireland, and commence carrying the dead meat at once; and if it was an advantage to the public the public would see it. What difficulty would there be in it?

694. In what state do the cattle arrive in steamboats, through the winter months of the year, in Ireland; are you satisfied with the condition in which they are landed?—From the eastern ports, yes; not generally from the western ports; we get a good many cattle from Sligo and the western ports. The steamers are small, and they do not come in good condition from the western ports; from the eastern ports they do. Still, I think the steamers might be improved in size.

695. Mr. *Norwood.*] The distance is much greater from the western coasts?—Yes.

696. Mr. *Leader.*] Are there proper facilities at the port of Liverpool for landing these Irish cattle?—Yes.

697. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] To revert for a time to the question of these boats; you have spoken of the comparative fitness of certain boats, and compared one with the other, that is, the larger and the smaller; have you an acquaintance with the various classes of vessels, both the larger and the

Mr. *H. Cullen.*

3 May 1865.

the smaller, that are engaged in bringing these cattle to Liverpool?—Yes.

698. Have you much acquaintance with the smaller vessels (taking them to be such) that bring the Scotch and Irish cattle into Liverpool?—Yes.

699. I should like to know what the arrangements are in these smaller boats that bring the cattle into Liverpool?—The great bulk of the cattle come to Liverpool from Dublin and Drogheda; and the construction of the vessels from Dublin and Drogheda is simply this, the vessels are made with a light draught of water, in order that they can enter Dublin Harbour and Drogheda, and that they can sail without ballast; they have two decks; the cattle stand on the bottom of the vessel. Then there is a 'tween deck, and then the cattle are above, so that they have three tiers of cattle, one above the other. There are very efficient means of ventilation, but the vessels are rather short, and in rough weather pitch and roll.

700. Is it your opinion that the ventilation of those small vessels engaged in the import of the Irish cattle from Dublin is sufficient for the health of those animals?—I think it might be greatly improved; still I think it is sufficient: the new vessels that are coming out are greatly improved.

701. Are these cattle equally placed on deck in addition to those three tiers of cattle, that you tell us are below?—No, there is one tier on deck, one between decks, and one on the bottom of the vessel.

702. That is three altogether?—Yes.

703. Are these cattle fed on board with this compressed food, or any other food?—They have no food whatever from Ireland.

704. What is the ordinary length of passage from Dublin?—Twelve hours.

705. What is the length of the passage from Cork, for you have spoken of that in your evidence?—Twenty-four to 28 hours; 48 hours from Limerick.

706. Are you acquainted with the mode in which they are put on board these vessels at Dublin?—Yes.

707. Are they slung into the hold or driven into the hold; how is it done?—They are put on long stages and forced into the hold by goads; properly speaking, they should have goads; but it is almost impossible to get the drovers to use their goads, and instead of that they use heavy sticks.

708. Then the cattle are driven down a slope into the hold of the vessel?—Yes.

709. You have seen that done frequently?—Yes.

710. Has it appeared to you that the cattle have suffered from the process?—Yes.

711. Have you actually seen them taken out when they have arrived at Liverpool?—Yes.

712. How are they taken out there?—In the same way; they are driven out from the bottom of the hold up to the deck on stages; but they do not suffer so much coming out, because they are anxious to get out into the air; but sometimes there is considerable suffering.

713. Have you known instances of fractured limbs either by putting them into the holds of vessels in Dublin, or taking them out of the holds in Liverpool?—Not to any extent; I have known of instances, but they are so few compared with the number of cattle carried, that they are not worth mentioning.

714. Does it appear to you that the cattle are a good deal agitated and heated in their system by these two processes, one on one side of the Channel and the other on the other?—I do not think they suffer much in Liverpool, because the cattle are anxious to come out into the fresh air, and they come out pretty freely; going down and being put on shipboard they do suffer, to a certain extent.

715. Do you consider to such an extent that it is prejudicial to the health of the animal that is to come over, when it comes to be slaughtered, and sold as a fat beast?—I do not look upon it as of much importance.

716. You have told us that these cargoes come as deck cargoes. Have you known cases in which the whole of the deck cargo, or any portion of it, has been thrown overboard to lighten the boat in very severe weather?—No, the number of times it has been done is very rare indeed; scarcely worth mentioning.

717. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you know anything of the lean cattle trade from Ireland?—Not as far as the importation to England is concerned. I know a good deal of it in Ireland.

718. You never keep these fat cattle sufficiently long to see whether there are the seeds of disease developed in them; pleuro-pneumonia, for instance?—Do you mean in ordinary times?

719. In ordinary times?—In ordinary times we keep them three days, and in case of pleuro-pneumonia we see it.

720. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] How many hours do you say these Irish beasts are on board the boats, from the time they are put on till the time they are landed?—From the east coast of Ireland about 12 hours.

721. How long do you suppose they are on board the boat from the time they are put on board, till they are taken off?—I should say 18 hours, as a maximum.

722. Sir *James Fergusson.*] I think you stated that one great want of the large cattle market at Manchester was, to supply other towns round about with meat?—That is so; small towns in the neighbourhood.

723. Is that meat supplied alive, or are the cattle driven from the fat meat market at Manchester to those towns, and to Salford?—They were usually driven from the market to the small towns; that is, before the recent regulations.

724. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is it not a fact that a great many cattle are sent from Manchester to Macclesfield by rail?—Yes; I know as a fact that some were sent. I do not know what number.

725. Practically, there are very few small towns there. Round Manchester there are towns from 20,000 to 30,000 inhabitants?—Practically so.

726. They would be connected with Manchester by rail?—Yes.

727. Mr. *Graves.*] You have stated, the steamers that are practically engaged in the Irish cattle trade are paddle steamers; do you mean to infer that paddle steamers are superior to screws?—Yes, there is great preference given to paddle steamers, especially in small steamers, because they do not roll so much.

728. You find the cattle come in better condition than by screw steamers?—Yes.

729. Sir *James Fergusson.*] The greater proportion

portion of the steamers that come from Oporto, and trade in the Mediterranean are screw steamers?—Yes.

730. Mr. *Graves.*] With regard to the mode of carrying the cattle in three tiers, are you able to draw any distinction as to which tier they come in better condition in, either on the deck, in the middle tier, or in the lower tier?—We generally think they come in better condition in the middle tier, but in any new boats that have come out, they have a cover on deck, and since any of these new and improved steamers they have come equally well on deck; in fact almost better, because there has been better ventilation.

731. Do you consider the protection that you speak of enables you to bring the cattle over in more comfort and in greater safety?—Decidedly.

732. And in better condition?—Yes.

733. Would you think it objectionable if all the steamers were obliged to have such coverings; would you see any advantage or disadvantage in such a thing?—I think it would be a very great advantage if all the steamers had that covering.

734. Do you think the steamers occasionally come over crowded with cattle?—I think they do occasionally, but it is not the rule.

735. Would you consider it an advantage or disadvantage if each steamer was licensed to carry a particular number of cattle, and not allowed to exceed that number?—No, I think not; I think private interest would prevent them being overcrowded to any extent.

736. I am speaking now of the Channel trade?—Yes.

737. In summer or winter do the cattle come in better condition?—In summer.

738. Do the cattle in winter suffer much by being on deck?—When the weather is bad the cattle always suffer, more or less.

739. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] As I understand, the principal result of your evidence as regards the trade of Liverpool is this; you want increased ground for your cattle market, and want the jurisdiction of your borough justices extended to that particular part of Liverpool?—Yes; and we want also to be at liberty to move sound cattle coming from uninfected districts to our market into the manufacturing districts for immediate slaughter and for sale.

740. And in those three sentences you sum up most of the evidence you have given us to day?—Yes.

741. Mr. *Goschen.*] Before the time of the cattle plague, how was the trade carried on between Manchester and Liverpool; did you consign to Manchester, or did the Manchester people give orders?—Our course of business was this; we sold a certain number of cattle in Liverpool, and kept another certain lot in Manchester; those that we missed selling in Liverpool we brought on to Manchester, and brought the fresh ones, and sold all we had left as well in Manchester.

742. You sent them on your own account to Manchester?—Yes; for the account of our principal.

743. They were not brought by the Manchester people, you sent them to Manchester; the Manchester people did not come to you, but you went to Manchester?—Precisely.

Mr. *H. Cullen.*
3 May 1866.

Mr. Richard Hall, called in; and Examined.

744. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are a wholesale Butcher at Liverpool?—Yes.

745. About how many thousand cattle do you kill in the course of the year?—Fifty or 60 per week; I am not so much wholesale as I am in a large shipping trade.

746. What is your opinion of the present system of slaughter-houses in Liverpool?—The Manchester people who have come down have had some little difficulty at first in consequence of there being a great deficiency of lairs. There has been more deficiency of lairs than of slaughter-houses, but the Council have proposed to build a place, if this continues, out at Kensington; and they have got at the present time estimates for that. They would not go to the expense of building unless the cattle trade re-opened through the country.

747. What are the animals that you principally kill, Irish or foreign?—Irish, Scotch, and foreign.

748. They are nearly all animals that are imported?—Yes.

749. You do not buy anything from the country?—In our part of the country there is nothing; there is no feeding scarcely.

750. When animals are landed at Liverpool, what do you do with them?—When animals are landed at Liverpool they are consigned to salesmen, or else bought by them. They are brought up to the lairs, and driven to the Stanley Market. At other seasons of the year they are driven to fields within a radius of four miles round in the grass seasons.

751. Do you buy them at the market or at the lairs?—In the market.

752. Invariably?—Not always. Sometimes a dealer may come on the Saturday, and want to go away, and ask me to buy 30 or 40.

753. The market is held once a week?—Yes.

754. When you buy a quantity of beasts in the market what do you do with them?—Before these regulations I used to send, perhaps, 10, 15, or 20 to kill. The others I sent on to my farm, and brought them in as I desired to kill them.

755. Whereabouts is your farm?—About four miles from the market; perhaps it is about one mile out of the borough.

756. You have not been able to do that lately?—No.

757. Can you now?—No; the salesmen at the present time, according to these regulations, cannot do so; and the consequence is that they have to bring them into Liverpool, into very inconvenient places where they are overcrowded, and it deteriorates the quality of meat, and keeps the beasts in a state of fever.

758. The meat does not keep so long as if the animals were cool when killed?—No.

759. Should you approve of all the slaughter-houses in Liverpool being done away with, and a slaughter-house being substituted near Stanley market?—It would be very inconvenient for us in the shipping business, very indeed, because the principal market is out of Liverpool, and some of the steamers take 10,000 or 11,000 lbs. weight of beef. It has all to be done by five in the morning, and if it is killed at a distance I do not know how we should arrange it.

760. Mr. *Dent.*] How far is Stanley Market from

Mr. *R. Hall.*

Mr. *R. Hall.*

3 May 1866.

from the place?—Four or five miles, perhaps five or six.

761. Is there a railway communication down to the Docks from Stanley Market?—Yes; it has just been adopted because the railways are so excessively crowded in Liverpool. I know people who have taken things to be shipped to Manchester have frequently to wait for two or three hours with their trucks, and we could not do that.

762. Mr. *Hunt.*] Suppose there was an extra line of rails devoted to the purpose of carrying goods, or carrying meat; I suppose then that difficulty would be at an end?—I think the Liverpool trade would prefer carting it. They would cart their own in preference to the rail.

763. They would prefer carting it four or five miles to sending it by train?—Yes.

764. How does your meat get from the slaughtering-houses to the train?—It goes in large quantities by lorries; we weigh it off in quarters and put it on to the lorries.

765. What are lorries?—A sort of truck.

766. Are they the trucks you see in the Liverpool Docks?—Yes; we should load it off the mens' shoulders, and put it on to these lorries, and take it off again, and put it into the ship.

767. How many slaughter-houses have you?—Only one.

768. How near is that to the quay where you have to put it on board ship?—Mine is not central, but very near the centre of the town.

769. How far is it from the water's side?—To the extreme of the docks it would be two and a half miles, and to the other perhaps two miles.

770. Do they go down in lorries now?—Yes; but the notice they frequently give us is a very short notice. For instance, an order might come in late on Saturday evening to supply a steamer that was not sailing till Wednesday, but to send it off early on Monday morning if the vessel was going into the river, or else she might be neaped.

771. Mr. *Goschen.*] The difference would only be that it would be half an hour or an hour longer by the lorry?—It makes a difference where you have to send the men from your place; in fact, it is almost impracticable. Pilot boats in hot weather start on the Sundays and Mondays.

772. Mr. *Hunt.*] You say that under the present regulations you have to keep the animals in very inconvenient places, that the meat is deteriorated, and that you are very much inconvenienced?—It tends to deteriorate the meat, because if the animals are crowded up they cannot do so well.

773. That is merely the result of these temporary regulations?—Yes.

774. You have not found this inconvenience before?—Not at all. I have found the inconvenience on my own farm.

775. Do you buy many of these Spanish cattle of which we have heard?—Yes, I bought 30 last Monday week.

776. I suppose it is a chance what day they come in; do they sometimes come in five or six days before the market, and sometimes the night before?—Yes; sometimes the morning of the market.

777. In what condition do they generally come?—Usually in a better condition than the Irish cattle.

778. To what do you attribute that?—They are a much quieter and more placid animal than the Irish. They are tractable, and can be taken on board easier. The Irish grass cattle are very wild, and I am sorry to say the men who drive them are very wild. They do not use ordinary care; they abuse them very much in loading them in Ireland. That is the great complaint as to the bruises on the animals and the like. We have a great deal more bruises on the cattle, and they come in a worse condition from Ireland than from Oporto.

779. The Spanish animal has a great deal of bone in proportion to the meat?—No, less bone.

780. Less bone than in the Irish?—There is less bone in a good Spanish bullock than almost anything. I do not mean an old worn-out bullock, but the prime ones. They are very small in the bone.

781. How is the hide?—Very good.

782. Is it more valuable in the hide than English beasts?—Yes, considerably more.

783. Does the meat fetch as high a price as that of the other beasts you kill?—Not quite.

784. To what do you attribute that?—In the first place there is a little prejudice to commence with, or else the young Spanish bullocks are equally good to any other, except it be the primest Scotch.

785. What is your opinion of the desirability of supplying populous places like Manchester and Salford, with dead meat from Liverpool?—It could be done, but if there is no danger of bringing in rinderpest again, I would rather have open markets. It is practicable, and it can be done. I would quite as soon have open markets, if it does not bring in the disease.

786. Do you think there would be any deterioration of the meat by reason of its being carried to Liverpool and sent off by rail?—If they use proper care, there is not; I have tried it. I sent some up myself to Manchester a few weeks ago on purpose for the experiment. It left Liverpool at a quarter to 12, and was at Manchester at a quarter to one, and arrived there in beautiful condition.

787. You heard no complaints?—No, I consigned it to a person of the name of Heskell, a salesman there, and he was very much pleased with its condition. The week following I sold for a person of the name of Winterbottom at Holyhead, and they arrived in very good condition, but I am sure there have been very great complaints, because I have seen animals myself dragged and mauled in a most shameful state at Liverpool.

788. That is the fault of the way in which they are treated?—Yes.

789. You take care to have the meat properly set before you pack it?—Yes, I have had sheep down from London; they have been very much better in London than ours. I have had them down in the carcass in capital condition. They leave London at night, and are delivered per luggage train at half-past ten the next morning.

790. The expense of sending dead meat is much greater than the expense of sending live animals?—Yes, it is more. It costs about 18 *s.* a ton when it is dead meat to go to Manchester; 15 *s.* for carriage, and 1 *s.* 6 *d.* at each end; one for collecting it at Liverpool, and one for distributing it at Manchester, and there are about three carcasses to the ton.

791. That you reckoned at 6 *s.* a head?—That is 6 *s.* a head.

792. Supposing you take the live animals, what would

would they come to per head?—Considerably less; about 1 *s.* 10 *d.*

793. There would be some extra expense in trucking and untrucking the animals, and driving them to their destination on each side?—Very trifling.

794. There would be a saving of the carriage of the offal, would there not, if you sent it as dead meat?—Yes.

795. That you reckon at 1 *s.* 3 *d.*?—The whole of the offal would not be saved, because many of the parts would come down to Liverpool; they would take the heads and the liver, and the part which is saleable, with them. All the offal they have left in Liverpool is the fat and the hide.

796. That is owing to the regulations being only temporary, and no regulations being made in Liverpool to dispose of the hide?—The hide and fat have been left in Liverpool, but many would take the small offal, such as the head, the tripes, the kidneys, and the tails.

797. Is there any loss on any animal when he is taken a long way by railway; does the driving them into the trucks and confining them there cause any loss in the animals?—I should think it certainly must deteriorate them, because Mr. Cullen has told you, in his evidence, that an animal coming by Holyhead to Liverpool comes in a much worse condition than they do direct.

798. As to the state of the blood, are they as fit for killing when they come out of a railway truck as when they come off a ship?—I should think not so fit to kill; we should keep them 24 hours before we did kill them.

799. After they come off the truck, for the purpose of getting cool?—Yes.

800. Do you consider that an animal that is killed without being driven far, or without being carried in a railway, is more likely to keep in the shape of meat than an animal that has been otherwise treated?—Yes, it must keep better.

801. Have you had experience on that point?—Yes; I have had experience so far, that even driving them from my own farm, which is only a distance of 3½ miles, in the summer time, if they have been driven very fast, and they were with full bellies, and they killed them, they would be very unfit indeed; whereas, if they remained 12 hours before killing you would get them cool.

802. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are you a retail as well as a wholesale dealer?—Yes.

803. There are two distinct trades with a butcher, are there not; there is what they call the higher class trade and the lower class trade?—Yes.

804. And therefore the man who buys the whole animal has a better opportunity of meeting the demands of his customers than if he could only go and buy wholesale in the market?—Certainly; he has an advantage, the same as the wholesale purchaser, of buying it himself.

805. Then the man who slaughters the animals himself has a better chance of making a profit than the man who merely buys in the wholesale market?—Yes, if he is a good judge.

806. If he is not a judge?—If he is not a judge he had better buy it dead.

807. He must either buy it cheaper wholesale, or sell it to his customers dearer, to make the same profit as the man who bought the entire animal?—Yes. There are many small butchers in Liverpool that want only one piece at a time; they only get a quarter or two, and they go to the wholesale slaughter-houses and purchase of the wholesale butcher two or three sheep, and three-quarters of a beast, or a side of beef, just as they may require.

808. If the law requires them only to buy in this way they would either have to buy it cheaper, or sell it dearer to their customers?—The law of supply and demand will rule that; it would depend on whether there was a large or small quantity offered.

809. Would not the man who slaughters the animal have a chance of making more profit than he who only sold it after it was killed?—I do not think there is a great deal made by either.

810. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you know anything of the trade in Irish lean cattle?—No, I do not.

811. You say the Irish fat cattle which come to you do not generally come in so good a condition as foreign cattle?—They are fully as good, but they get dreadfully bruised. They are crammed on board the steamers, and the beasts are not so good for that purpose. It is either that the boats are insufficient, or it is the clumsiness in loading on the other side, I do not know which.

812. They come out of these Irish boats very much heated, as a rule?—I think they carry beasts sufficient in many of the boats; quite as many as they ought to.

813. Mr. *Leader.*] You heard Mr. Cullen's evidence in reply to a question put to him. He said every facility you could expect was afforded for the transport of Irish cattle. You do not seem to agree with that?—I only know as to the fact. We complained, and the people of Manchester complained, of the bruises. I have sent hundreds of cattle to London myself years gone by, and we had a difficulty in disposing of them. Butchers are afraid of bruises, for if choice meat is bruised you cannot send it to a first-class customer.

814. You have had the opportunity of judging of cattle brought from Scotland. Do the Irish cattle come in worse condition than the Scotch cattle?—Yes, generally so.

815. What per-centage do you think is taken off the value of the Irish cattle from the condition in which they arrive, how much a-head?—If the beast is badly bruised it may lose 3 *l.* or 4 *l.*; if it is only a slight bruise, you may trim it off, but certainly it is an eyesore and a deterioration.

816. Mr. *Norwood.*] I believe it is the case that owing to a late Order in Council foreign cattle must be slaughtered at the place to which they are imported?—Yes.

817. As you are a large buyer of cattle for slaughtering, have you found it has been a better market for you as a buyer since the Order?—There have no foreign cattle come since the Order until last week.

818. Supposing the prohibition as to the movement of foreign cattle alive was to be continued, do not you think it would be rather an advantage to the buyer that the foreign cattle were not able to be removed from Liverpool; there would then be a glut at Liverpool occasionally?—Yes.

819. Then you would buy it all the cheaper?—We should certainly buy it cheaper at Liverpool.

820. That would be against the seller?—Only slightly, because the fact is, that if they have to be sold at Liverpool, if I have to sell them at 10 *s.* per piece I should sell them. The parties who import them there were very much alarmed and stopped the importation. I offered to give them

Mr. *R. Hall.*

3 May 1866.

them 3 *l.* a head for 200 a week freight, and let them go in the present channel.

821. The substance of the present prohibition would not affect the import to a very great extent?—I think they will still send to Liverpool, because there is a very good market at Liverpool now. The few cattle on Monday week brought the highest price of anything in the market; they were all sold at the highest price.

822. You say you have to send to London sometimes to get dead meat there?—Yes.

823. Do you consider that has arisen in consequence of the prohibition as to the traffic of live cattle?—No, it has not perhaps arisen from that; we have had very short supplies of sheep from Scotland this spring; they have sent very few indeed from Ireland; there have been a great many in London; 2*d.* a pound cheaper in London in many instances than in Liverpool.

824. Have you had any occasion to send to London for live cattle before this prohibition?—Yes, I have gone myself and bought large quantities.

825. Both oxen and sheep?—Yes.

826. To what do you attribute that, if you say Liverpool is such a good port for cattle coming into it?—Because there are very few foreign cattle can come to Liverpool, it is so situated; the principal portion of the foreign cattle goes to Hull, and the coast, and then again to London. Liverpool is only open for foreign cattle from Corunna and Oporto; but the Corunna beasts which come to us are very poor, and do not pay the importers; the Oporto beasts do.

827. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Have you been getting any dead meat from Scotland since the cattle plague?—Yes.

828. What was the comparative cost to you compared to live cattle?—What I bought of it was very fine meat; it was consigned to Mr. Gibbon, a salesman of Liverpool; it probably cost me 1 *s.* 4 *d.* a pound less than my own did.

829. Less than the live did?—Yes.

830. That made no difference to the public?—Very little.

831. What do you estimate as the difference in the wholesale price of meat arriving dead, from that which arrives alive, and is slaughtered on the spot?—I can hardly tell; in Liverpool we have very little slaughtered meat come. You will arrive at that much better from any of the London salesmen. There is nothing comes to us, only the first week or two, they come from Scotland; but the beasts were stopped there and killed at Dumfries.

832. And dressed there?—Yes.

833. Then, perhaps, you think that the loss falls upon the consigner?—Yes, what little loss there will be; it is very trivial.

834. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] How many bullocks can you slaughter in your slaughter-house?—From 50 to 60 a day, if I require it.

835. Supposing every animal that had to be supplied to Liverpool and Manchester were slaughtered at Liverpool, do you think that butchers in the towns that are dependent on Manchester, such as Macclesfield and Stockport, and other towns round about, could go into the Manchester market and buy the meat as they do now?—I do not think they could. I think that if that was so, they would establish dead meat markets through the different towns, and would go at once from Liverpool. For instance, many of the Manchester and other dealers have purchased their cattle in our cattle markets, and have them killed in Liverpool, and send them on. They have turned dead meat dealers instead of live meat dealers?—I suppose it would be very desirable that the manufacturing towns should have the small offal that you speak of?—Quite so.

837. There is a large number of the consumers of that part of the meat in the manufacturing towns?—I should very much like to see the trade open if there is no danger of bringing the plague.

838. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I should like a little more clearly to understand your opinion upon a point that arises from a question put to you. It relates to the relative condition of the Irish cattle as compared with the foreign cattle in your Liverpool market. I wish to know whether it is your evidence that the Irish cattle are diminished in value as compared with the foreign cattle, from the condition in which they arrive in the smaller boats?—I do not know. There is one part of them, the Spanish cattle, which are particularly quiet.

839. I think I understood you to say that the Irish cattle did not meet the wants of the highest class of customers; is that the case?—Only those that are bruised do not, because you dare not send them to a first-class customer, and you must sell them at a low price.

840. Are they much bruised?—Sometimes they are; we have had great complaints; more than those that come in the large vessels, and more than those that come from any other place.

841. Apart from the question of the bruises, would they be in other respects fit for the higher class of customers; as fit as foreign?—Yes, fitter than foreign. I do not know that they would get as high a price as the Scotch, but they are better than foreign, no doubt.

842. As regards the Scotch cattle that come to Liverpool, what is their condition as compared with the foreign cattle?—The Scotch come very well.

843. Do the Scotch come free from bruises?—Yes, generally.

844. What is the class of boats which bring the Scotch cattle?—I am sure I do not know, for I never go down to these boats.

845. Whence do these Scotch cattle come?—They are shipped from Wigton, Galloway, and Dumfries. At this season of the year the Irish cattle do not come so much bruised as they do in the grass season. As to the grass cattle, the heifers and the bullocks are very wild, and they get huddled together, and get very much bruised.

846. Has it ever occurred to you that the persons engaged in the cattle trade should be under special regulations as to space and ventilation and watering?—I do not think they could water them conveniently.

847. But certainly Scotch cattle do come by boat to Liverpool?—Yes.

848. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Had it been the practice to send dead meat from Liverpool to Manchester, and these large towns, before the prohibition of animals being sent by railway?—No.

849. Do you think it would be possible to carry on that system when the weather gets hotter?—I think it would be a great inconvenience.

850. Do not you think a great deal of meat will be spoilt in the hot weather?—They will have to build their trucks the same as they do in Scotland

Scotland; it would be a great hardship on the butchers, but still it could be done.

851. Do you see any objection to opening the market now?—No, not if it will not bring back the disease; you need not have any objection.

852. It must be very difficult at the present moment to know what demand there is for meat at the different towns; as to dead meat for instance?—I think not; I think each person knows pretty well what he kills every week, and what he will consume.

853. A Manchester butcher, you think, knows exactly within a ton a-week?—Yes; there is not one man in Manchester that does not know the amount to a ton.

854. Does he know the demand that is likely to be made upon him from other towns?—If the dead meat trade was an established fact, they would have dead meat markets in all the towns, and they would write for all they wanted; the live dealers would turn to dealers in dead meat.

855. Do you not think there would be a loss at times in consequence of change in the weather and hot days?—There is, no doubt, there would be a loss if the meat was not sold readily.

856. Do you not think it would be a great hardship on all the poorer class of population of these towns if they were deprived of this offal?—Yes, most of them sell it.

857. But the larger amount of offal is kept at Liverpool?—No; the fat and the hides are kept at Liverpool.

858. Have you any trade in pigs?—No.

859. That is a distinct trade, is it?—Quite a distinct trade.

860. Mr. *Graves.*] Can you give the Committee any idea what the effect would be of keeping foreign cattle for a limited period before being placed upon the market, with a view of ascertaining whether disease existed among them or not. Supposing they were put for a week or fortnight into lairs, and kept there in a kind of quarantine, what would be the effect of that?—Very injurious, because, in the first place, when they come here you can seldom get them to eat anything, sometimes they eat a little green meat in the way of vetches and oats, and if they are kept wasting away for a time, any animal that is worth 25 *l.* would soon not be worth 14 *l.*

861. You are speaking of fat animals; I am speaking of stores?—I think the foreign stores brought the plague into Cheshire and Lancashire. They never had it in the neighbourhood of Highton and Owself till some were sold to a Mr. Speed, the butcher, and he lost his cows, and his neighbours besides.

862. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Where did they come from?—They were sent from some part of Germany to Edinburgh, and from Edinburgh to Liverpool.

863. Mr. *Graves.*] What would be the effect, in your opinion, of keeping them for a fortnight in quarantine, would they improve or not?—I do not know; I should think that they would not improve. It is the stores in most instances that have been so predisposed to disease, and not the fat cattle.

864. Mr. *Goschen.*] These store cattle were sent from Germany to Edinburgh, and from Edinburgh to Liverpool?—Yes, I can tell you the date they were sold in our market, and the parties who bought them.

865. They must have passed through two inspections?—Yes, they were inspected in Edinburgh, no doubt, and then sent to Liverpool.

866. What time would elapse from their leaving Germany until they arrived in Cheshire, under these circumstances?—I cannot tell you that; they came into our market on the Monday.

867. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Can you give the date?—September 14th or 16th. Mr. Speed bought a quantity, buying them cheap.

868. Mr. *Goschen.*] Where did you buy them?—In the Liverpool market, of Mr. John Gibbon, a cattle salesman.

869. Who did Mr. Gibbon buy them of?—They were sent to him for sale from Edinburgh, because they could not be sold in Edinburgh.

870. Why could they not be sold in Edinburgh?—I do not know.

871. Was not that a suspicious circumstance of itself?—I should think so, very suspicious; they came there, and Mr. Fraser bought one lot, Mr. Speed bought another, Mr. Wright bought another, Mr. Speed sent his own to his farm at Highton.

872. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Near Liverpool?—Yes, close to Knowesley.

873. Mr. *Goschen.*] Then they went by rail from Edinburgh to Liverpool;—Yes.

874. Was it known at the time they were sold at the Liverpool market that they came from Edinburgh?—Yes.

875. They were not bought for stores?—They were bought by the wholesale buyers. Some of them don't care how they are if they can get a pound or two out of them.

876. There was imprudence at several different points as to these cattle?—There was no imprudence in the case of the wholesale butcher if he could get a pound out of them; he would not care.

877. He might have suspected that there was something wrong with the cattle?—I do not think he did, because if he had he would not have sent them to his own farm where there were a large number of cows. It hovered out about Highton, and then got to Knowesley, to Lord Derby's.

878. Is there any trade in cattle from Edinburgh to Liverpool?—Yes, in some years there are a great many dealers go and buy them, and bring them to Manchester and Liverpool.

879. Was there much trade at the time these cattle came?—No, at that season there seldom is.

880. Are they foreign beasts that come in that direction?—No, they are generally beasts out of Fifeshire, and in that direction.

881. The fact of foreign cattle coming from Edinburgh to Liverpool was rather an extraordinary circumstance?—Yes.

882. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] A lot of these animals went to Cheshire?—Yes.

883. Can you tell me what happened to them?—They were sent to Cheshire, and Mr. Fraser sold them for stores, and they were returned to Mr. Fraser in the course of three or four days after; they were seized by the inspector of meat in Liverpool as having the rinderpest.

884. Who is the person they were sold to?—I do not recollect, but I can get the information for The House. They were sold at Chester fair, I think.

885. Mr. *Goschen.*] What time should you say had elapsed from the period when the animals left Germany and got to Liverpool?—I cannot tell; they were shown in the Edinburgh market

Mr. *R. Hall.*

3 May 1866.

on Wednesday or Thursday, and sold in Liverpool market on Monday.

886. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you know when the disease broke out?—They had no disease in Cheshire up to that time.

887. How soon after they were bought by Mr. Speed and Mr. Fraser did the disease show itself among the beasts?—In the course of three or four days.

888. Therefore, if they had been in quarantine for a fortnight, it would have broken out in quarantine?—Yes.

889. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What quantity were there?—I should not think there were more than 50 altogether.

890. Mr. *Goschen.*] As a butcher, is there more risk in your buying dead meat than live meat; more risk of not making a profit?—If we did so.

891. A Manchester butcher, for instance, buying dead meat, would he have more or less chance of profit than if he bought a beast alive?—He would like to buy the beast alive probably, but that depends on circumstances. In nine cases out of 10 men like to exercise their own judgment and buy them alive.

892. Does he run more risk of not being able to dispose of the meat if he buys it in the dead state?—Do you mean at the present time?

893. Yes?—Certainly, because it will not keep as long if it is killed here and sent a distance by carriage as if it was killed at home.

894. Therefore there is more risk of the meat being left on his hands?—Yes.

895. Would that make him raise the price to his customers to cover himself that risk?—Of course he would want a profit.

896. Do you think that in the case of a dead meat market being established all over the country there would be any large amount of meat destroyed?—No, I think there would be if there were ordinary care used in packing it and sending it away.

897. The meat would not remain over, in fact, but it might be adjusted?—Yes.

898. Is there any prejudice now against dead meat?—There is not in London because they are used to it, but there is a great prejudice in the country, and I think butchers in Liverpool and Manchester have great difficulty with their customers, because the meat does not look so well to the eye. The eyes is the organ to all the senses, and if it does not please the eye it very often does not please the palate.

899. Would the live beasts deteriorate much in being sent the short distance between Liverpool and Manchester?—No, not much. The cramming them into the railway carriage would deteriorate them somewhat.

900. What is the furthest point to which you send from Liverpool?—We send from Liverpool to London; that was in the live trade before this Act came into operation.

901. Would the beasts deteriorate between Liverpool and Oldham?—Not much, but they would deteriorate a little between Liverpool to London. I have often seen mine in London and did not know them when they got there from Liverpool, they did not look so well.

902. Supposing they had not got to change their truck, it would not matter how far they went?—It does not do to change the truck.

903. Mr. *Hunt.*] Whenever an animal is driven forcibly into a truck there is more chance of its being bruised?—Yes; loading from Liverpool they do not bruise them, but in the other cases they bruise them at various parts of the journey.

904. You would rather buy an animal that had not been in a truck than one who had?—Yes.

905. You say there is a prejudice against dead meat; is it not the case that the meat you have now dead is very often badly dressed?—Very badly dressed, indeed.

906. A good deal depends on the dressing?—Yes.

907. An animal that is killed cool and the meat properly dressed and sent away, will come in as good condition as if it had been killed at home?—Yes, if properly packed. A great deal of it is dressed very badly, indeed, and does not please the eye; badly dressed and badly packed.

908. As to the meat which you say you have from Scotland, from Dumfries, does that come in good condition?—Middling; you could hardly call it good, and it was not bad. If it had come in good condition it would have been worth as much as our own.

909. Are you aware that a great deal of the meat that is consumed in the best houses in London comes from Aberdeen?—Yes.

910. Often in the heat of the summer?—I am not aware of it in the heat of the summer.

911. With regard to butchers buying in the carcase, or buying the live animal, you think if you are a good judge of an animal, you would prefer buying it alive?—Yes.

912. But if you are a bad judge, you are less liable to loss by buying the carcase?—Yes.

913. When the Act of Parliament was passed prohibiting traffic for a certain time, did that at all affect the price of meat in Liverpool?—Only the first week, never afterwards. The first week the cattle were sold in a field; there was no convenience.

914. The first week there was an alteration of price, and the price rose?—No, it was lower; the prices were irregular. Our members visited the field and saw it; some they sold dear, and others they sold cheap; the trade was unsettled, and the people did not conform to it. After the magistrates gave us our market back, our prices have been regular in Liverpool.

915. Have they been higher or lower before the Act of Parliament?—I do not think that has had the slightest effect as far as price is concerned; other things have made a little difference, but that has had nothing to do with it.

916. You say you slaughtered some beasts, and sent the meat to Oldham, and other places?—I sent some to Manchester and some to Oldham.

917. Are you aware from your customers there whether the price of meat was raised in those towns by reason of the legislation?—I do not think it was raised; I think it rather deteriorated for two or three weeks, and then afterwards they got settled, and made fair prices.

918. Since that prohibition has ceased for moving cattle by railway, have prices fallen or risen in Liverpool?—They are about the same; I do not think it has made the slightest difference myself.

919. Has it made any difference in Manchester and Oldham?—I fancy they would give more to have the meat alive than to have the meat dead.

920. I mean as to the price to the customers?—

I am

I am not aware it was predicted that we should have things very dear indeed this spring, and it has not come yet.

921. Mr. *Goschen.*] On the whole, your pecuniary interest would be to have a dead meat market?—No, it would not; it would create inconvenience to others in the trade, and I am quite satisfied, and do not want it; I would rather that things remained through the country as they were, but still I am only speaking of the practical way in which it could be done; I had much rather the trade was thrown open.

922. You would prefer the trade to be thrown open, but your pecuniary interests would be a little in the way?—No; it does not make any difference to me.

923. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You say you have had some beasts from London?—Yes.

924. Was it under somewhat peculiar circumstances?—One year, when there was great shortness of stock in Scotland and in the North, I bought many beasts and sheep, and sent sheep to Manchester.

925. Was that when pleuro-pneumonia so much prevailed, four or five years ago?—Yes; and then supposing sheep had come from London, they made 10 *s.* a-piece profit.

926. Yours is not a sheep country?—No.

927. Mr. *Hunt.*] With regard to the inspection at Liverpool, when these beasts came from Edinburgh, which you say took the disease into Cheshire, was there any inspection at the Stanley Market?—No; it was before the inspector was appointed.

928. After that, in consequence of the recommendation of the Mayor of Liverpool, there was an inspector appointed?—Yes; two or three.

929. Do you know anything of the inspection of the imported animals in the port?—Yes.

930. There is an inspector of animals who inspects the foreign cattle?—Yes.

931. Do you know whether it is an efficient inspection?—Yes; because when he has done his inspection, the borough inspector inspects them, then the county inspector, and then the magistrates; so that after the three inspections it is hardly possible they could get away with the four, if they knew their business.

932. With regard to Irish cattle, are they efficiently inspected?—Yes; they are inspected by the borough inspectors appointed by the Health Committee, and then again by the market and county inspectors, the veterinary surgeons.

933. Mr. *Dent.*] Are the Irish cattle inspected when there is no cattle plague?—No.

934. Before the existence of the cattle plague, the Irish cattle were not inspected?—They were not.

935. Foreign cattle always were, I think?—Yes; there is one thing I omitted to mention to you, and that is about having to kill all our stock in four days. It is a very great hardship on those who have a large shipping business; there is a great deal of meat, for steamers cannot be sent till Monday. There is only one market a-week, and if cattle are killed on Thursday, if the meat is packed, and they cannot take it to sea with them when they want it.

936. Is that under the last Order in Council?—Yes; we may want to keep some of them alive till the Saturday; we shall keep as few alive as possible.

937. Mr. *Hunt.*] If you were allowed to put these in lairs or in fields outside the borough, you you would be quite satisfied then?—Yes.

Mr. *R. Hall.*

3 May 1866.

938. You would be satisfied with the four days?—No, we want both; we want a radius; we do not care so much about that now as we do in the grass season, but we are supplied in the grass season almost solely from Ireland; I may say almost entirely from August to Christmas, we depend on Irish cattle in Liverpool, or nearly so; they are all grass-fed, and if they have to be tied up in confined places in the town, instead of getting to grass, they will deteriorate.

939. How many days do you want?—We want up to the Saturday.

940. From Monday to Saturday; you want the limit of a week?—Yes; you allow the salesmen, when they come here, to put them to grass or in lairs, and we are not allowed to do so. Then, again, with sheep, we are very awkwardly situated, and send a great many sheep in steamers; for instance, the "Great Britain," which sailed for Australia lately, took out 140 live sheep. If we were to take them in the town, they are wasting the whole of the time; we do not know what to do with them.

941. Mr. *Dent.*] If the cattle market were separated from the sheep you would get over that?—There is an inconsistency in one portion of the Order. You allow foreign sheep, which have been landed and mixed with other cattle, to come and mix with other sheep where there is an infection, and you will not allow them to go to grass between three and four miles, because there is nothing grazed in the neighbourhood of Liverpool, the land is too valuable.

942. Mr. *Goschen.*] What is the nearest grazing land?—All round there we graze four or eight miles; but it is not a feeding country at all.

943. It is accommodation land?—Yes; some of it is let as high as 20 *l.* per Cheshire acre.

944. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It is all building land?—Yes.

945. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] But there is very good arable land also?—The arable land is all required for potatoes, and other produce.

946. Mr. *Goschen.*] You would be quite satisfied; you could do with a week if you had seven miles instead of four?—Yes, certainly; with the small radius of four or five miles.

947. Mr. *Graves.*] Four miles from the Exchange?—Four miles from the Exchange would suit every one in the trade.

948. Mr. *Goschen.*]. Are you able to purchase meat more cheaply by the regulation of the four days, or does it operate against your trade; I should have thought the importers would be compelled to sell within four days?—The importers sell them alive in the market, and the wholesale butcher buys them and kills them.

949. If you were to wait till the end of the four days then they would be obliged to sell them, otherwise they would be obliged to slaughter them themselves?—Yes; but persons do not care to run such a risk as that.

950. If the butchers do not choose to buy them immediately they would be obliged to slaughter them at the end of the four days?—Yes; but the competition is too great for it to be in the hands of the butchers, they want so large a quantity.

951. Mr. *Norwood.*] As to these foreign sheep coming by Hull; are they in good condition?—Some are bad, and some are good; they come in a sound condition, some of them.

952. Do they come free from disease?—I think so.

Mr. *R. Hall.*

3 May 1866.

953. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I suppose the sheep do not suffer so much from bruises?—No, they do not suffer at all.

954. Mr. *Cogan.*] You stated that the Irish cattle that came were a good deal injured?—Yes, a great deal injured.

955. Does that injury occur in the sea passage, or before?—I think it occurs in both ways; when we find that cattle have come a distance from Ireland to the railway, before they are shipped, we generally find them worse.

Mr. WILLIAM BRADBURY, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Bradbury.*

956. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are a Butcher, living at Oldham;—Yes.

957. Were you put to any inconvenience at the time when the railway movement of cattle was prohibited?—Very serious inconvenience.

958. How did you supply your customers at that time?—We were obliged to go to Liverpool or Manchester, and into the farming districts where the cattle are fed, slaughter them there, and bring them dead, just as we could.

959. How were you principally supplied at that time, out of Liverpool or by the farms, between the time the Act passed and the 16th of April?—From Manchester and Liverpool principally, to Oldham.

960. Did you buy of wholesale butchers at Manchester?—We bought them alive up to that date, and from wholesale butchers when the movement was stopped.

961. How far is Manchester from Oldham?—Six miles, in a direct line.

962. And they came by road?—By the rail after the orders; by rail and road previous to the orders.

963. At the time when all the railway movement was stopped?—Then we had to go to Manchester and Liverpool for our carcasses, and buy them there.

964. You bought no live animals then?—No, retail butchers did not buy live cattle.

965. Did you buy your carcasses of wholesale butchers at Manchester and Liverpool?—Yes, mostly.

966. At that time did you charge your customers a higher price than you did before?—Undoubtedly we did charge a higher price; the regulations caused additional expense in slaughtering, &c., and carriage.

967. You raised the price of meat at that time?—Yes.

968. How much in the retail price?—From ½ *d.* to 1 *d.* per pound.

969. Did you continue that price the whole time, when the restriction was upon the moving by railway?—Yes, and it is the same price at present; higher prices are prevailing generally.

970. And the prohibition of railway movement ceased on the 16th April with respect to cattle?—Yes; although some relaxation was made on the 16th April.

971. Give us what the retail price is?—We are selling it at 9 *d.* in Oldham.

972. All round?—No, for the choice parts 9 *d.* and 10 *d.*; the other is sold at 7 *d.*, and some inferior cuts less.

973. Is that for beef and mutton?—That is for beef; but we charge about the same price for mutton. Mutton, having less inferior cuts, maintains a higher average.

974. Is it the same price now as it was before the 16th of April?—Yes, perhaps ½ *d.* a-pound more; the markets are rising generally for first-class meat.

975. If you were obliged to raise the price in consequence of the railway movement in cattle being prohibited, how was it you did not lower the price when that restriction was taken off on the 16th of April?—The restriction on cattle is still in force as regards markets.

976. You can now move cattle by railway since the 16th of April?—Not from a market.

977. You can have Irish cattle from Liverpool to Oldham by railway?—Not from a market.

978. You can from the ships?—We are not prepared to take them from the ships in that way; they must not change hands in the port of Liverpool, as I understand the trade.

979. As I understand the law at present, you can have animals taken in ships to Liverpool, and consigned to Oldham?—We cannot buy them on the quay and send them forward to Oldham.

980. I know nothing to prevent it?—We have been prevented from doing it repeatedly; we cannot do it. The local authorities at Liverpool and Manchester both prevent it; and Manchester, I believe, is taking legal proceedings against parties for their contravening the Orders in Council.

981. Have you had no live cattle since the 16th of April to Oldham?—No; not from the markets of Liverpool or Manchester.

982. The restriction was taken off at that date?—There was a great mistake made with regard to some which Mr. Robertson Gladstone sanctioned the forwarding of from Liverpool to Oldham; as a magistrate he signed for some purchased on the quay at Liverpool, and afterwards the orders were withdrawn, and he declined to sign for any more such removals.

983. Were not you aware that by Act of Parliament the prohibition only extends to the 25th March, and then the Government, under the power given to them by the Act, extended it to the 16th April, and since that period cattle could be moved by railway?—I was not aware of that, as you put it getting them from the quays at Liverpool; we did not get them to Oldham. If they had landed at Liverpool, or any other port, if they have landed in the borough, having a licensed cattle market, you cannot get fat cattle thence.

984. Have you a cattle market at Oldham?—We have.

985. Is it open now?—It is.

986. Do not cattle come in here?—They do a few.

987. Do they come by road or railway?—They come by railway from various places in Scotland and England.

988. They have been coming into your Oldham market since the 16th of April?—Two weeks; our market has only been in existence two weeks.

989. Since you have got cattle into your Oldham market, have you been able to reduce your prices to your customers?—We have not reduced them yet; we do not rise and fall every day like cotton and flour, and those things; it is not the rule of the trade, and beef has had, this last month or so, an upward tendency.

990. If the prohibition of railway movement

obliged

obliged you to raise your prices, one would have thought, when the prohibition was taken off, you would be able to lower them again?—In reference to the price of meat, of course, the meat is generally dearer now than it would be if these cattle plague restrictions were not upon it. That is what I want to enforce upon the Committee, the necessity of being, by the regulations, compelled to slaughter our cattle in Liverpool or Manchester, enhances the price to the consumer when it gets into our shops; and, as I beg to say again, as spring and summer advances, prices usually rise.

991. Mr. *Goschen.*] You do have live beasts now come to you?—Not properly yet; the new system is not developed; we have only had our market two weeks in Oldham; we cannot bring any beasts from Liverpool to Oldham, or from Manchester to Oldham, if they have been once in the market within those boroughs.

992. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are quite right; but you can purchase them on the quay and bring them?—I think they will not let us bring them even yet, although we have asserted we had the right to do so.

993. Mr. *Goschen.*] You have beasts there now, have you not?—Yes, at Oldham.

994. Where do those come from that you have now?—They come from Scotland and other places; we go right into Scotland and to the north of England to the homestead, and get them under certificates, to Oldham; and then they must be slaughtered in three or four days.

995. Mr. *Hunt.*] At the time the prohibition was still existing, you were obliged to purchase dead meat in Liverpool and other places?—Yes.

996. Was there any limitation of supply at that time in Oldham; were you ever obliged to refuse a customer?—No; we have always had a sufficient supply. It is a singular feature and has astonished the trade.

997. Can you give me the date when you raised the price of meat 1*d.* per pound?—I cannot particularly.

998. Can you give me the month?—I cannot tell the month.

999. Was it before Christmas?—Yes, through Christmas; upon the appearance of the plague meat took a rise, and throughout has maintained higher prices.

1000. The price has not been raised since Christmas?—Not practically or particularly except the approaching seasons general risk and the rise before mentioned, and the temporary rise about the 20th of February.

1001. The Act of Parliament prohibiting railway traffic was passed a good while this side of Christmas, was it not?—Yes.

1002. You did not raise the price in consequence of that Act of Parliament?—Not practically or particularly. There was a general rise in the price of meat in the country, as before stated.

1003. Then it seems that the prohibition of movement by railway had no effect in Oldham on the price of meat?—I do not think it has directly or immediately; that is to say, that the dead meat markets being plentifully supplied has regulated and checked the rise imposed when the restrictions came into operation as far as Oldham is concerned, and as Manchester became a dead meat depôt, supply and demand fluctuated in our locality, and we have no doubt been better supplied than many of our neighbours, the rivalry in the trade causing much opposition in second-class meat. First-class meat still maintaining a higher price.

1004. When you had dead meat sent from Liverpool and other places during that railway prohibition did you find the meat come in good condition?—Occasionally it was in good condition; but generally it was in bad condition.

1005. What was the reason of the bad condition?—It is an article that will not bear the treatment that some provisions will; it cannot stand it. It is not like many things; you cannot pack it up so closely; and every time it is moved it sustains great injury.

1006. Had the meat suffered from bad packing or bad dressing?—Perhaps neither directly; but from the fact of having to move it from the slaughter-house into the cart, then from the cart into the lorry, and then upon the railway, then from the railway into the butcher's cart, then from the butcher's cart into the shops, is enough to injure it; that is where the meat suffers. It is not so much during its passage on the railway. Occasionally it is knocked about, and shunted backwards and forwards. I heard Mr. Hall say that he sent meat to Oldham or Manchester, and that it was only an hour and a-half on the road. That is not so with us; we have to pack it overnight, and it is forwarded by goods trains only as a general rule, and is 10 or 12 hours arriving at Oldham, a distance of 40 odd miles.

1007. Did you go down to Liverpool and make arrangements?—Not myself, but others went down from Oldham.

1008. Was the meat kept a sufficiently long time to set?—No; the confusion is very great at Liverpool. Liverpool is provided with very bad accommodation; during the extraordinary circumstances that have taken place, we can scarcely get accommodation. We have to take some meat or carcasses down for the purpose of hanging other meat up sometimes.

1009. In consequence of the want of proper accommodation they send off the carcases before the meat has time to set?—Yes, in some cases.

1010. That is owing to the great pressure on the butchers at the time?—Yes, for want of space.

1011. I suppose if there were more ample accommodation the evil would not be much complained of?—No; this particular evil would not be complained of.

1012. If the animal is in a proper condition when killed, that is to say, if his blood is cooled and the carcase hangs long enough for the meat to set, the meat takes very little harm from being moved about?—Less harm. Certainly, than if disturbed too soon after being slaughtered.

1013. Mr. *Goschen.*] Do you think if there were proper accommodation at Liverpool for the sale of meat and so on, you would have a dead meat trade between Oldham and Liverpool?—It never would be satisfactory to the trade under any circumstances.

1014. Will you explain why?—Because it is almost impracticable; as I said before, the meat is of that peculiar nature that it is not able to sustain the great abuse that it is subjected to by such regulations.

1015. Then you do not think that if you had the best arrangements at Liverpool you would be able to supply the great towns in the centre of England with dead meat as well as with live meat?—I do not say we could not supply them; we could supply them certainly, but not satisfactorily;

Mr. *W. Bradbury.*

3 May 1866.

factorily; that is to say, that, as Englishmen, we think we can do anything we determine to do. I heard Dr. French's evidence about what the corporation of Liverpool and the railway company can, and will, and could do, if they had the power, &c., to supply the Lancashire towns with dead meat, and was astonished at his assertions, and emphatically protest against the assumption of the great towns in the centre of England being supplied with dead meat from Liverpool or elsewhere, as well as with live meat. The idea is utterly impracticable in the summer months; that our beef, and mutton, and lamb, which would in such a case have to travel 30, 50, or 100 miles on the rail after its being slaughtered before it can be sold in retail: and I assert that it would be green and stinking, and unfit for human food in many cases before arriving at its destination. Whereas the live animals, being on the butcher's premises, he is enabled to slaughter them daily, and in some cases hourly and present his meat fresh, and clean, and sweet, to his customers and in a satisfactory manner.

1016. What do you mean by not satisfactorily? — Not advantageously to the purchasers or butchers, to the consumers in proper condition.

1017. As regards the quality or as regards the price?—As regards the price, and the quality as well.

1018. You would have to charge more for dead meat than for live meat?—If you confine yourself to one market, I do not see that it really could be done in the way it ought to be done.

1019. What do you mean by one market?—I am confining myself to Liverpool.

1020. Supposing you had the choice of any market for dead meat, would you be able then to supply your customers satisfactorily with dead meat?—I believe not, especially in the summer months.

1021. Do you think that a good deal of meat would be lost before it came into the butchers' hands?—It might be lost almost before it came into the butchers' hands, and certainly it would be lost before it could get into the consumers' hands, for factory operatives and other in-door workers want their meat fresh, whatever may be said in favour of over kept meat being easy to digest and not causing any disease.

1022. Do not you think there is more risk in a dead-meat market than a live-meat market?—Yes; many times more risk.

1023. The butchers would have to do what the fishmongers have to do, viz.: put on a price to indemnify themselves for the risk they run?—Yes.

1024. Do you think that the meat deteriorates in quality, or is it only in appearance?—With respect to a day or two, it perhaps does not deteriorate in quality, but in appearance it certainly suffers very much indeed. It accumulates a deal of dirt upon it, and really it is objectionable to have it on your tables or in the shop; it cannot be kept clean or fresh, and the way the railway servants, carters, and others, maul and handle the meat has only to be witnessed to condemn the system as the permanent one as thoroughly disgusting.

1025. You are speaking of the disadvantages to your customers, how would it operate on the butchers themselves; would their profits be lessened?—I can scarcely answer the question directly; the peculiarities of a dead-meat market are so different from a live-meat market; of course, it all depends on the supply and demand, and the supply and demand will regulate itself. I fancy we should be worse supplied eventually by a dead-meat market than we are by a live-meat market; certainly, we should not have the same choice, and the consumer would not be as well served; in addition to which the retail butchers would get into the hands of the middle man or meat salesman of whom I am sure they desire to keep clear as much as possible, as a general rule.

1026. On which side do you suppose your interest lies, on the side of the live-meat market or dead-meat market?—The live-meat market, undoubtedly; not so much as regards profit or loss, but from what I know to be the peculiarities and requirements of the trade.

1027. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] When you go into a dead-meat market, are you able to tell how long it is since an animal has been killed?—Certainly; we can tell to a day.

1028. You can?—We think so.

1029. Supposing you saw the quarter of an animal exposed for sale in the dead-meat market, you could tell whether the animal has been killed one day, two days, or three days?—I think I could to a day.

1030. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you any live-meat market at Oldham?—Yes; under the present Order of the Council.

1031. A new established market there?—Yes; what we call a local market.

1032. There is nothing to prevent Irish cattle coming in the market?—Not at all; if they come direct, consigned by Liverpool or Holyhead.

1033. No order to prevent any cattle coming in from the farmers?—None whatever.

1034. Do you think the rise in price has been occasioned from the regulations as to the cattle plague; I mean the increasing price which has been going on for some time?—I do not quite follow you.

1035. Meat has been increasing in value for the last four or five years; do you think that the increase in price in beef and mutton, during the present year, has arisen merely from the regulations connected with the cattle plague?—The cattle plague has enhanced the price; undoubtedly, the regulations under which we are compelled to buy and sell have raised the price of meat also, but the regulations have not caused all the fluctuations or variations of the trade, other influences have been and are at work.

1036. It ought to have lowered it, because the price up to a recent period has been against the farmers who sold, and farmers have not been selling their stock at an enhanced price?—I think they have; the farmers do not complain.

1037. I think up to the last month or so the price the farmers obtained for their beasts was not so high as the price they obtained last year; they do not get so much per stone as they did last year?—You may attribute that to the extraordinary state of the trade. They are afraid; the markets have been better supplied, and a vast quantity of stock has been thrown upon the market from farms where the plague has broken out and they have been compelled to slaugter them whilst sound to save them from the plague.

1038. The butchers' price to the consumer has gone on increasing, and is higher than it was last year?—There were a few weeks when the plague increased the price of meat, at the outbreak of the plague for example; and in the month of February a temporary rise took place.

1039. And you have kept up the price since?—Certainly,

Certainly, we must candidly admit that. But more particularly for the choice quality, as really choice animals are scarce and dear. Middling quality of beef is not so extraordinary dear even in the retail markets from the causes enumerated.

1040. Was there not an antipication that meat would be dearer at this period than it is now?—There was. The anticipation is very strong now that it will be very dear indeed.

1041. As it has been for the last six months?—We anticipate it will be extremely dear before the summer is over, because we think, so soon as the idea comes in that the cattle plague has somewhat abated, people will begin to hold their stock.

1042. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] I believe you represent the sentiments of a large number of butchers who have come up from Oldham?—Yes, but not upon this inquiry.

1043. But you have come up with a deputation to Sir George Grey to represent the feeling of the butchers and inhabitants of all the large towns of Lancashire and Cheshire about the effect of these Orders in Council?—Yes.

1044. And I suppose you are authorised to support their sentiments before this Committee?—Yes; we are in this room almost by accident, feeling an interest in this inquiry.

1045. You have tendered yourself as spokesman on behalf of that deputation?—I have volunteered at the request of some of my fellow deputies to give evidence, in consequence of having heard what we think is very prejudicial to the best interests and requirements of the butchering trade of Lancashire, from Dr. French of Liverpool.

1046. Is it the unanimous opinion of the deputation that there are great evils in the existence of the dead-meat market?—It is; it is very objectionable to the trade in all respects.

1047. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You say that is the feeling of the butchers in the towns of Cheshire and Lancashire, similarly situated to that of Oldham, that is to say, Macclesfield, Stockport, and Ashton?—Undoubtedly that is the feeling of the butchers, and it is the opinion of the majority of jobbers, and of cattle dealers as well.

1048. Was not mutton dearer than before the establishment of dead-meat markets?—Yes, in our districts.

1049. In the Manchester district?—In our district. I mean by that the Manchester districts.

1050. If you had a permanent dead meat market, where would you get your mutton from; you would not get it from Liverpool to any extent?—Oh, no, only at certain seasons of the year.

1051. Where do you get it from?—From Scotland and English counties; from the Wakefield district, and Lincolnshire to Oldham in particular.

1052. Do you think it would be practicable to supply the Manchester markets to any extent, if you had entirely dead-meat markets, and no traffic in live sheep throughout the kingdom?—I do not think it would be supplied in a proper manner, or in the way it ought to be, or as the necessities and peculiarities of the meat trade requires.

1053. Not without some increased price?—I do not say it would not be supplied with dead meat. The price I can scarcely speak to, or whether farmers would be disposed to consign their sheep in that sort of way, under the restrictions of a dead meat market; but I say that farmers, as a general rule, will not send anything to a dead meat market. They object, as a general rule, strongly, to send dead meat, there is too much risk for the farmer to run; such an arrangement for permanent operation would completely alter the trade in animals.

1054. Mr. *Leader.*] I suppose you are aware of the condition of Irish cattle, compared with cattle purchased in England and Scotland?—Yes.

1055. In what condition do the Irish cattle come to you?—In fair condition.

1056. You heard Mr. Hall say that the Irish cattle come more damaged and injured even than cattle from Spain?—That is so. We are very much surprised at the state Spanish beasts come in. It is a remarkable feature among cattle; they seem to sustain much less injury by coming from Spain than they do from Ireland.

1057. Do many of the Irish cattle fetch the highest price in the market, or are they generally inferior in price?—They are inferior to Scotch.

1058. But not to English?—They are inferior to English as well. We prefer a Scotch beast to an Irish beast, but there is not much difference between the Irish beast and the English beast. The Scotch beast has the preference over the Irish beast. A little preference is given to the Scotch and English, but Scotch first.

1059. But not considerable?—It is not very considerable; certainly not, when all are well fed and choice.

1060. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I think you said that when the live-meat markets were stopped in Oldham you raised your price; was the price to the customer higher in Oldham than it was in Manchester and Liverpool?—No, I do not think it was. They make a better price, I fancy, in Manchester than they do in Oldham.

1061. Mr. *Goschen.*] Is the price of meat generally higher in Oldham than it is at Liverpool?—I cannot speak to that. We go to the nearest or other market than Liverpool, and get it direct to Oldham.

1062. Where do you get the chief supply to Oldham from at present?—There are a few of what we may call cattle dealers, who go to the Liverpool market, and they undertake to purchase 10, 12, or 14 beasts for their various customers, which are there slaughtered and brought dead meat. Then other gentlemen go into Scotland, and bring a few in in that way alive now, and we get a few from other parts of the country as well.

1063. Mr. *Hunt.*] I suppose the demand for meat at Oldham is pretty regular week by week?—Yes, very.

1064. Unless there is a strike, or something of that sort, the consumption of meat is pretty much the same?—Yes.

1065. Mr. *Goschen.*] How many beasts do you consume per week?—I am not prepared to answer that question.

1066. What is the proportion of trade in dead meat and live meat since the last fortnight, when the regulations have been changed?—Last week there was, I think, more dead meat brought into the market than there was live meat.

1067. Although you can get the live meat?—Yes, but that power has only been recently given to us. I anticipate that Oldham has been better supplied this week than it was last, but these local markets, so near our central market of Manchester,

Mr. *W. Bradbury.*

3 May 1866.

chester, do not answer the requirements of the trade, as they are not supplied with variety, and are only serving, I hope, to tide over our present difficulties of the cattle plague.

FREDERICK SALMON, Esq., called in; and Examined.

F. Salmon, Esq.

1068. Mr. *Goschen.*] You are connected with the North Western Railway?—I am.

1069. What is your particular department?—I am Manager of the Cattle Traffic; I have the whole arrangement of the cattle traffic over the whole system of the London and North Western.

1070. Your head quarters are in Liverpool?—My office is in Liverpool.

1071. We wish you to give us your opinion upon the feasibility of having a supply to the dead-meat market as far as railway traffic is concerned; would you be able to carry the dead meat more cheaply than you can at present if the system were organised?—No; I think we could never carry the dead meat so reasonably as we could the live meat for one very simple reason. The dead meat requires a vast deal of porterage and attention, whereas live stock, being locomotive, loads and unloads itself.

1072. What is your charge for carcases; for dead meat?—I am not fully acquainted with the dead meat charges, that not being my department, but I believe the rate from Liverpool to Manchester is about 15 *s.* per ton, and I think 3 *s.* for collection and delivery. Our charge for a waggon for about seven beasts would be something like 15 *s.* 6 *d.*

1073. How is it you are obliged to charge so much for the dead meat?—There is more labour and very much more porterage.

1074. As far as the railway itself is concerned I suppose you can carry the dead meat as cheaply as you can the live beasts?—As far as that is concerned, and the working of the permanent way, there would not be much difference.

1075. Then it is only at the two ends there is an increase of charge?—It is at the two ends, which, of course, takes a considerable deal of trouble and a considerable number more trucks.

1076. Then the greater the distance over the same line the less would be the proportion of labour?—Certainly; there would be simply the two labours of loading and discharging.

1077. So that you can carry dead meat proportionately cheaper, as compared with live beasts, from Liverpool to London, than you could from Liverpool to Manchester?—Yes, it would be proportionately cheaper, I dare say.

1078. Could no improvements be made for the loading and unloading of the trucks with the dead meat, if the trade were reorganised?—I do not think it would rest so much in the way in which it is done; I think it is the article itself that gets damaged; we use as much caution as possible in removing it; but still, in removing carcasses of meat, it must deteriorate in value a little by the simple fact of being moved.

1079. That does not concern the railway, does it?—No; but as far as the meat is concerned the effect is there.

1080. As far as your charges are concerned, you have no kind of responsibility, have you?—There is responsibility if there should be any more than a trifling delay to the meat; it would be a very serious matter, especially for the party receiving it, and for the public.

1081. Do you know whether any claims have been made for railway compensation in connection with the transit of dead meat?—Yes.

1082. Have there been instances in which the railway companies have had to pay?—Very numerous instances.

1083. What have they had to pay for?—For detention, and what they call loss of market; in fact, a London salesman will tell you, that without his meat is at the place of destination within three or four hours of the time appointed, it is an utter loss to him of a 1 *d.* to 2 *d.* per pound.

1084. Is it the same with regard to live cattle?—No, live cattle cannot deteriorate to that extent.

1085. Mr. *Hunt.*] Not if they miss a market?—No.

1086. Did you never know an action brought for the delay of live cattle, so that they have missed a market?—Yes, numbers.

1087. Mr. *Goschen.*] Now, do not speak of opinions, but confine yourself to facts; do you say the railway has had to pay money for loss of market, and detention of dead meat?—Yes.

1088. And proportionately more than in the case of live beasts?—Considerably more, I should imagine; in fact, I am nearly certain that has occurred, although, as I said before, the dead meat is out of my department; I am sure that heavy compensation has been paid in London and elsewhere.

1089. Then the fear of having to pay such compensation, in the case of dead meat, would compel the railway to charge higher prices?—I should imagine so, that would be one reason.

1090. I suppose you would not be able to tell us whether better arrangements could be made for the conveyance of dead meat?—Probably there might be a little better arrangement, but I think to no very great extent.

1091. Have you heard that it suffers a good deal from dust?—I have not; but I have seen many a score, in fact, I may say, hundreds come in, and there have been great complaints of the state in which the meat has been received; the meat becomes soft; it will not keep as well, and they are compelled to take so much, instead of killing what they just want.

1092. You have told us of the disadvantages of carrying the dead meat; what are the disadvantages of carrying the live stock; do they deteriorate much in quality?—A very long journey will probably deteriorate them to some extent: we find we have more trouble with the Irish cattle than with any other. That is very easily explained; they are more restive and more difficult of management to get on board the boat, or to get into the trucks; other beasts are more tractable.

1093. Have you had complaints with regard to the deterioration suffered by beasts travelling between Liverpool and Manchester?—Not within that distance; that distance is too short.

1094. Or between Liverpool and London?—We have not had much complaint of that, as it is a head rate; it being a head rate they load them thinly, and they allow room for them to lay down, if they happen to get exhausted.

1095. Who determines how many beasts are to be put into one truck?—It is optional with the sender. We ourselves occasionally should like to put

put as few as possible, so that they will not damage each other.

1096. It would cost you more if you sent many trucks than if you sent few?—Certainly.

1097. You do not charge more if a person packs his beasts into a truck than if you put them into it?—Owners may and do superintend the loading, but we expect them to load fairly, and not occupy more wagons than are necessary. It is our interest to get as many as we can, but to load them reasonably; if we load them to excess we have to suffer, and to pay compensation.

1098. They would claim compensation in such a case?—Provided we loaded them too thickly.

1099. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you make any arrangement for watering the cattle on these long journeys?—No.

1100. Would it not be proper to do so?—Yes; but they would be much more injured by being unloaded and re-loaded.

1101. Mr. *Dent.*] You could water them in the trucks?—I do not think one out of 20 would drink, and it would be dangerous in some cases to attempt to go amongst them; we do not tie them; they are loaded without being tied.

1102. You know the condition in which they arrive from Ireland in the boats?—Yes.

1103. You must have a good deal to do with the lean cattle as well as the fat cattle?—Yes, I have; I have had to do with some thousands.

1104. Do not they come over from Ireland in a most horrible state in the boats?—No, I have never seen them in such a state.

1105. Not heated and knocked about most horribly; I mean the low class of Irish cattle, at 3 *l.* or 4 *l.* a-piece?—You are speaking of yearlings, I think; there are very few of those at 3 *l.* or 4 *l.* a-piece that have come over for two or three years; they would not come in that state, for the simple reason, that the owners who travel will not allow it; and if they did so, we should be obliged to lose the whole amount of freight in compensation.

1106. Do they not come from your trucks in a heated state after being in the holds of these boats?—Probably they may get warm from being in the hold for six or seven hours; we run them in that time from Holyhead.

1107. Mr. *Goschen.*] Are the steamers under your charge with regard to cattle?—Yes.

1108. Have you laid many complaints of the condition in which the Irish cattle have been landed?—Undoubtedly, we have any amount of complaints if we listen to them, but practically there is no reason to complain; as I said before, it is to the interest of the Company if they are carriers not to load these things so as to entitle the parties to compensation for loss.

1109. Is there any competition?—There is a great deal of competition. The party I succeeded has opened a new line of competition in boats between Dublin and Liverpool, and the competition is very injurious to the Company as carriers.

1110. Both carry beasts?—Yes.

1111. There is a traffic in cattle?—Yes; I should remark upon a peculiarity of the evidence of one of the gentlemen who preceded me. Mr. Cullen, I think, stated that he preferred his cattle coming to Liverpool; that is a peculiarity which I mentioned to him as he passed out; he sends his cattle to the Liverpool market from Dublin to Liverpool, but then to Manchester, he sends by us from Holyhead. It stands to reason, that the short passage is very beneficial to him.

1112. What is the difference between the two?—Six hours on an average, in the passage.

1113. How much more railway carriage would the shorter passage involve?—The shorter passage would involve something like from five and a half hours to six; it would average perhaps six hours.

1114. So that you do not gain anything in time?—Yes, I think we do; there is less trouble; when they get to Liverpool, they have to be driven three or four miles from the place to the loading stations, but in Holyhead, we have excellent quays arranged for the purpose, and they can, within an hour and a quarter discharge a boat and load a special train, and it can be got away on its journey, which advantage they have not *viâ* Liverpool.

1115. Do you generally ship those off at once, at Holyhead?—If there is no wish of the owners to detain them.

1116. Is there usually a detention?—If they are going long journeys. We have arrangements for feeding to any amount.

1117. Mr. *Dent.*] Do they ordinarily avail themselves of that?—Not with fat cattle, but with lean cattle naturally they prefer to feed them. It is not well on an average to give cattle too much food on a railway journey.

1118. Mr. *Goschen.*] When the cattle arrive at Holyhead where do they go to?—To every part of England.

1119. Does it involve more changes from one set of trucks to the other?—We never shift them from the trucks. We do not pass on to the broad gauge like the Great Western. The whole of the gauges are the same.

1120. You have heard the evidence that they come in a better state from Scotland than from Ireland?—I have heard it.

1121. How do you account for that?—I cannot. I know the boats running from Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, and away from that shore, and there can be no comparison with the way the stock arrive at Holyhead and at Liverpool.

1122. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you mean they are so much better?—Yes, because they crowd the Scotch steamers very considerably.

1123. Mr. *Goschen.*] What is the size of the large class of steamers that you generally employ?—I should think 800 tons would be the smallest, the fleet of Holyhead boats are the best cattle boats that I know. I do not think there is a boat, with the exception of one, the "St. Patrick," that can compete with that fleet.

1124. Mr. *Dent.*] Are those boats kept entirely for the cattle trade?—They are kept entirely for the cattle trade when the trade is there. They fill them up sometimes with goods.

1125. Do they carry three tiers of cattle, lower deck, between deck, and deck?—Yes, during fine weather.

1126. Have you a fleet of boats also running to Liverpool?—No; no boats to Liverpool.

1127. With regard to the embarking and disembarking of these beasts, do you think the arrangements are capable of any improvement?—I think not. We lay ourselves out to do the best we possibly can. You must always use a little force with a certain class of animals.

1128. You think the Irish cattle arrive in a worse condition than others, because they are more restive?—I am certain of it. Irish beasts

F. Salmon, Esq.

3 May 1866.

are not only generally restive, but very spiteful; you are obliged to be very cautious with them, and grass beasts especially. They take more driving, as a drover will tell you, than any class of beasts we have.

1129. Which is the greater expense, sending them by Holyhead or by Liverpool?—The rates are similar.

1130. But which costs most, and on which is there most profit?—I think there is very little difference, or nothing. If I were sending beasts a long distance, I should decidedly take the Holyhead route. We book through with some of the Irish companies, and the droverage is paid mutually between the companies who participate in the division.

1131. Where do the Irish cattle generally come from?—From the Midland parts, and from the west; occasionally the north, as the case may be, from these large fairs. They sometimes arrive in a hurry, and are driven, no doubt, hastily on board. The dealers, who in nearly all cases accompany them, are anxious to get them away to the markets. At other times they come a day before, rest a night in Dublin, get fed and watered, and then proceed.

1132. Do the greater part of the cattle have a rest at Dublin or not?—Yes, the greater part of them; that is the rule.

1133. So that, on the whole, you would say they were imported in a satisfactory condition?—Yes.

1134. And that any defects that arise from that lie in the transport by sea, and these bruises which they sustain?—There must be always some chances of that kind, both in moving by boats and in moving by rail.

Monday, 7th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Cogan.
Viscount Cranborne.
Mr. Dent.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Goschen.
Mr. Graham.
Mr. Graves.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Leader.
Lord Naas.
Mr. Norwood.
Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.

THE RIGHT HON. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. ROBERT MOSELEY, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

7 May 1866.

The *Witness*: I promised the Committee on this day week, that I would put in a Return showing the imports at Harwich. We opened that line of steamboat service in October 1863, and the quantity of cattle imported up to the 31st December 1865 were, according to this Return, cattle and calves, 64,102; sheep, 215,344; pigs, 23,965.

[*The Return was put in, and is as follows*]:

Great Eastern Railway.
General Manager's Office, 7 May 1866.

STATEMENT showing the Goods and Cattle imported from the Continent, *viâ* Harwich, from October 1863 to December 1865:

Cattle } Calves }	64,102
Sheep	215,344
Pigs	23,965

R. Moseley.

I was also asked whether I knew the comparative charges in respect to cattle, when sent to London alive, and what the charges were in respect to cattle when slaughtered in the country. I have taken the freight from Rotterdam direct to London, at 15 *s.* a head. At the present moment the charge is 10 *s.*, but that is the result of an exceptional state of things; therefore I have taken 15 *s.* per head, which was the charge some 18 months ago, and which I have reason to know will be restored before long. Therefore, I think it is better to take it at 15 *s.*

1135. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] How long has it stood at 10 *s.*?—It has been at 10 *s.* for about 18 months, and sheep proportionately lower, also pigs and calves; but I take oxen, for that is the great source of freight. Take the carriage from Rotterdam to one of the wharves on the banks of the Thames in London at 15 *s.*, and in addition to that charge, there is landing and wharfage, and lairage, commission, slaughtering and drover's charges; and those in the aggregate are 15 *s.* 3 *d.*, giving a total of 1 *l.* 10 *s.* 3 *d.* for the live animals, and the incidental charges connected with the slaughtering and commission and lairage.

1136. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is that upon an animal that is landed at the port of London, and driven to the London market?—Yes.

1137. Your line is not concerned with that?—No, but I am now giving you a comparison, what are the charges in respect to a live animal, say from Rotterdam to the port of London, and then the charges incidental to the landing.

1138. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What do you make them?—1 *l.* 10 *s.* 3 *d.* altogether; then the animal landed at Harwich, and the subsidiary charges stand thus: the freight from Rotterdam to Harwich, 7 *s.* 6 *d.* (that is half the charge from Rotterdam to London), slaughtering and all other charges at Harwich, 7 *s.* 6 *d.*; the carriage from Harwich to London, taking the carcase at eight cwt., which is a fair average for Dutch cattle, and taking it at our full rate for dead meat is 13 *s.*, giving a total of 1 *l.* 8 *s.* compared with 1 *l.* 10 *s.* 3 *d.*

1139. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you taken in every charge that would be necessary, in order to get the dead meat into the dead meat market in London?—Yes; our rate from Harwich to London is 1 *s.* 7 *d.* a cwt., that is 32 *s.* 6 *d.* a ton, and that charge includes the delivery in the market; it includes the collection of the empty hampers, and their redelivery back at Harwich.

The comparative Table was put in, and is as follows:]

CONTINENTAL LIVE STOCK and MEAT to LONDON.

Cost of Transit,
Rotterdam to London, by Sea direct.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
One ox-freight	–	15	–
Landing and wharfage in London	–	2	6
Driving, carting, and lairage	–	1	9
Commission	–	4	6
Slaughtering	–	5	–
Drover's charges on board, &c.	–	1	6
TOTAL	£. 1	10	3

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

7 May 1866.

VIÂ HARWICH.

	£.	s.	d.
One ox-freight - - - - -	–	7	6
Slaughtering and all other charges at Harwich - - - - - -	–	7	6
Conveyance when dead from Harwich to London meat markets, eight cwt., at 1 *s.* 7½ *d.* per cwt. - - -	–	13	–
TOTAL - - - £.	1	8	–

Inasmuch as the total number of oxen and bulls imported into London was in the year 1864 115,219; and supposing one-half of that number had been carried viâ Harwich, the saving, at 2 *s.* 3 *d.* per head, would have been 6,480 *l.*"

1140. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you see your way to reducing the charge for the carriage of dead meat, provided it became a main staple of your carrying trade?—I am quite sure that if dead meat was substituted for live stock, a railway company could afford to make some reduction in the present charge, and for this reason. The trucks bringing live stock to London, as a rule, three or four days a week, are returned empty; but if we had the substitution of dead meat for live stock, the waggons would be laden back into the country with miscellaneous goods traffic, and not returned empty as they now are.

1141. What is your opinion as to the dust being prejudicial to meat if it is carried as proposed by railway to London?—I think that the dust has a tendency to interfere with its appearance when placed alongside fresh meat from the country packed in hampers; and if anything were wanting to illustrate my views in respect of that, it would be this: take the locomotive burning coal; the smoke from the funnel of the engine wafted alongside the vehicles would be very injurious to the meat.

1142. Do you see any means of preventing that?—If you stop ventilation, that would be a mode of affecting it; but stopping ventilation would be detrimental to the carcases.

1143. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Supposing the meat were all packed in cloths?—Then that answer would not apply. That would be a preventitive.

1144. Or in baskets?—Or in baskets; either the one or the other.

1145. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you know any means, without packing the meat in baskets or cloths, of having meat carried without injury; for instance, by canvas curtains?—I do not think, practically, that would work.

1146. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] There would be no means of keeping the canvas curtains in their place?—No, the draught of air would interfere with that.

1147. But, as matter of fact, you do not carry any meat now out of hampers and cloths?—None; and we carry as large a tonnage of dead meat as any metropolitan company. I may state this: I was asked a question on Monday last by the Honourable Member for Northampton about the cleansing of the trucks, and my answer at that time was given under the impression that reference was made to the Privy Council Order of the 17th March 1866. I stated I saw no difficulty in carying out the Privy Council Order. That answer was given under the impression that reference was made to the Privy Council Order of the 17th March, which refers to the washing the trucks with lime water. A subsequent Order issued by the Privy Council of the 16th April 1866, imposes upon railway companies, if this becomes the law of the land, a measure of work which, I think, really could not be carried out in practice; and for this reason—the cleansing in the particular manner set forth in this Order would entail, I am sure, in practice, not less than seven minutes per truck to cleanse it thoroughly, the wood work and the iron work. Taking that time to cleanse the truck, and then bearing in mind that we employ something like 1,000 or 1,500 trucks per day of cattle during the busy season, if we had to carry out this Order strictly, it would take two or three days before we could cleanse that number of trucks, and therefore, practically, it would be inoperative.

1148. Mr. *Hunt.*] Then my suggestion the other day of asphalte in the bottoms of the trucks would be a much cheaper thing for you than carrying out this particular Order?—Decidedly.

1149. Because it would enable you to have them washed out in a short time?—A shorter time; but still there would the expense attendant on laying down the asphalte upon the truck, and removing it and keeping it in repair.

1150. That would preserve the floors of the trucks very much, would it not?—Well, I do not think so. If the trucks were employed only for the transit of live stock it would be another matter, but when you bear in mind that these cattle trucks have to be used for general purposes, and taking the nature of the articles put in these trucks, very frequently you would find the asphalte perforated in the course of two or three journeys; the water would of course leak through the perforations, and rot the wood.

1151. I am supposing the asphalte was laid down as it is in barns in many parts of the country?—There it is all plain sailing. There you are not subject to the difficulties and risks which you are when you are carrying a multiplicity of miscellaneous articles. Take hoop-iron, for example.

1152. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] These trucks would have to be used for every description of traffic?—For every description of traffic.

1153. Mr. *Graves.*] Would the effect of your having asphalte in the bottom of the truck prevent your seeing defects or flaws in the woodwork?—That would be so.

1154. Thereby adding to the danger of infection?—If the bottom of the truck was covered with asphalte, our workmen, of course, would take means of examining the other side. But our great care is for the axles and wheels; that is the great part of the machinery to be kept in order, and to be checked day by day.

1155. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] They are inspected after every journey, are they not?—Yes, and they are inspected on the road. They are tapped at the stations every 40 miles.

1156. Mr. *Hunt.*] How often have the floors of trucks to be renovated on an average?—Taking cattle trucks, about once in three years. The ordinary goods trucks from seven to eight years.

1157. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You have had experience in the use of asphalte?—Yes.

1158. Is it not the case that the class of asphalte alluded to by the Honourable Member for Northampton, is liable to be affected by the heat of the sun?—Yes, it would be so. We have it upon some of our platforms, and the action of the sun is very injurious; in fact, it becomes a nuisance to many of the travellers.

1159. Half the damage that is done to trucks is not from wear, but from collisions and shunting?—Yes, there is a great deal of shunting, practically.

1160. Mr. *Hunt.*] I suppose the urine from the animals perishes the wood, does it not?—Most seriously. I may state that, as requested by the Committee, Mr. Peters, from Rotterdam, our agent, and Mr. Huger, from Antwerp, are in attendance to afford any information the Committee may desire.

Mr. *R. Moseley.*

7 May 1866.

Mr. Godefridus Samuel Peters, called in; and Examined.

1161. *Chairman.*] What are you?—I am agent to the Great Eastern Railway Company at Rotterdam.

Mr. *G.S. Peters.*

1162. Do you superintend the shipment of cattle from Rotterdam to Harwich?—Yes.

1163. Can you give us any information as to the condition in which those cattle arrive, and are generally shipped?—They generally arrive in very good condition at Rotterdam. They are examined before they go on board, and of course must be in good condition, otherwise they are returned.

1164. Who examines them?—A veterinary surgeon.

1165. In your employ?—Yes.

1166. Do you know anything of the treatment of the cattle on their road from the interior to Rotterdam; have you any information upon the subject?—Yes; I have seen a good deal of it; they treat them very well indeed; they mostly come by rail, or in steam or sailing vessels; it is according to the place they come from.

1167. Where do most of them come from?—From Holland, they come from all parts, because Holland is a grazing country everywhere, but most of the cattle come from Guilderland and Friesland; from Guilderland it all comes either by steamboat or by rail, and takes only a few hours, because Holland is a very small country; the Friesland cattle come by sailing vessels to Amsterdam, and from Amsterdam it is brought over to Rotterdam by rail.

1168. The cattle plague has been prevailing a good deal in the south part of Holland, has it not?—Yes.

1169. As to these cattle that are shipped, is any inquiry made whether they come from farms where the cattle plague has existed?—I do not know as to that; but they are not allowed to come into the town before they are examined, and they are not allowed to come from Germany before they are examined on the frontiers.

1170. The only question you go into at Rotterdam is, whether they are in a healthy condition at that time?—Yes.

1171. You do not care where they come from, providing they are healthy at the time they are shipped?—Yes; we were prohibited sending any cattle at all from any other provinces into South Holland, until lately; they are now allowed to supply the farms and to import from places where there is no disease, that is to say, in the north part of the country.

1172. There is no disease in Friesland?—No, not in the north.

1173. Have you any rule as to the quantity of cattle that one of your boats is allowed to take?—No, there is no rule at all.

1174. Do you put as many on board as you can get on board?—Yes; that is to say, as many as can be placed conveniently on board, otherwise we do not ship them.

1175. Have the regulations with regard to foreign cattle being slaughtered at the port of arrival had any effect on the cattle trade?—Do you mean the regulations in England?

1176. Yes; previous to the prohibition there was a regulation that all foreign cattle should be slaughtered near the port of arrival, or at the port of arrival; has that had any effect in diminishing the export of cattle from Holland to England?—Yes, a good deal; they do not send so much by far.

1177. Why does that deter the exporters of cattle from sending so many?—I do not know; they seem to like to send to the Metropolitan Market; they say they have a loss if they send anywhere else.

1178. The question is, as to the slaughtering at the port of arrival. It is not sold there necessarily, I suppose?—No, but they do not want to slaughter at the port of arrival as long as they can send to the Metropolitan Market.

1179. You think that is a disadvantage to the trade?—That is a great disadvantage to the trade, of course; it must follow. They sent, of course, largely to London; they did not send anywhere else.

1180. Do you send any lean cattle from Holland?—Sometimes, young cattle, grass calves, as they call them.

1181. Milch cows?—Milch cows are sent in some quantity, but, of course, they have not been sent lately.

1182. What do you think would be the effect on the trade of a quarantine established on this side upon store cattle, that they should not be allowed to be sent into the country until they had undergone a certain quarantine to see whether they were healthy?—If it were a general measure all over the country I do not think it would have any bad effect at all; if there were no exceptions, I think trade would go on just as it used to do.

1183. You think it would be as large as it was?—I should think so. I do not think it would have any bad effect on the trade at all.

1184. Would it not increase the price of those store cattle to the buyers if they had to quarantine them?—Of course it would. There is some expense attached to it.

1185. Would it not check the trade if it increased the price?—No, because the buyers would have to pay for it.

1186. There is a limit to that, I suppose. Would they have more confidence in making their purchases?—I dare say they would. They are more certain about the health of beasts after two or three days than at the moment they arrive from the continent; so that I think they would have more confidence in buying; but, of course, it is all a matter of opinion. I cannot tell exactly what people may think fit to do.

1187. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are there any State regulations in Holland as to the treatment of cattle when travelling by railway?—No.

1188. I understand that at certain stations they were untrucked, and fed and watered?—Yes, but that is not according to regulation.

Mr. *G. S. Peters.*

7 May 1866.

1189. Whose regulation is that, the railway companies' or the State?—There is no regulation at all, it depends upon the sender.

1190. Tell us what the practice is?—It differs, according to the places they come from; for instance, the German beasts that are sent in transit by Holland come a long way, and the central point for the German cattle is Berlin or Magdeburg.

1191. Take Berlin, how many hours' transit is it from there?—It takes from two days to two days and a half, and I do not think they are untrucked.

1192. Are they watered?—I understand they are watered and fed.

1193. Tell us how they manage to water them without untrucking them?—I think by pails or buckets.

1194. Have you seen it done?—No; I have heard of it.

1195. Is it done with common buckets?—Common buckets.

1196. Are they fed?—Yes.

1197. How are they fed?—With hay.

1198. With hay put into the trucks?—Yes.

1199. Is there a rack, or anything in the truck?—No, nothing whatever; they are open trucks.

1200. Then, how is the hay given them; is it let to fall on the floor?—Why, yes, partially; I could not tell exactly.

1201. How many beasts do they put in a truck?—I think about eight, on an average; sometimes when they are smaller beasts they put more in.

1202. The hay is not left in the truck when the truck is in motion?—No, I have never seen that; I have never seen trucks arrive in that condition.

1203. Are there regular stations for feeding and watering?—There are; at Emmerich and the frontier, that is the last town in Prussia; they remain there on an average for 24 hours.

1204. Are they untrucked there?—They are untrucked there, and put in lairs.

1205. Who is responsible there, for the same animals being sent on in the same lots; is the Company responsible, or are the drovers attending to them responsible?—The drovers attending to them.

1206. Is there any regulation at the frontier, at Emmerich, as to seeing whether they are healthy?—I do not know whether there is at Emmerich, but on the frontier of Holland the animals must be examined before they are sent on, and that is upon an average seven or eight hours distant, before you arrive at Rotterdam; at Rotterdam they are put in lairs, or are turned out into the fields.

1207. How far are the lairs from the places where they are shipped to England?—From our steamers it is about 100 yards; but it is a little longer through the town to the other steamboats.

1208. What is the average detention of the animals at Rotterdam before they are shipped?—Under 24 hours, on an average.

1209. During that time a veterinary surgeon belonging to your Company examines them?—Yes; and every animal is examined before it goes on board.

1210. And all the suspicious animals are rejected?—Yes.

1211. Have you seen the animals when they arrive at Harwich?—Yes, very often.

1212. Do they arrive in good condition?—Almost always; even in very bad weather.

1213. Now, with regard to slaughtering animals at the port, you prefer, I understand, that they should go through to the London market?—I beg pardon, I do not prefer it at all; I say it would be objectionable to order the slaughter at Harwich, if you allow the cattle arriving in the port of London to go to the Metropolitan Market.

1214. You think it would be detrimental to the trade if the fat animals were obliged to be slaughtered at Harwich instead of going through to London?—I beg pardon, that is not my opinion; I think it would be detrimental as long as the port of London remained open.

1215. I understood you to say that with regard to the slaughter of animals, you see no objection if there is the same rule applied to all the ports, but that with regard to the fat animals, you wish them to go to the port of London?—I beg pardon again; what I say is, I see no objection as long as it is a general rule.

1216. Do you think, if no animals went alive to the London market, the foreign trade in animals would not suffer by a rule that they should be slaughtered at the seaports?—No, not at all; I do not think it would have any influence.

1217. At the present time no animals can be imported into England from Holland?—No.

1218. Since the prohibition has been in force, has much dead meat been sent over from Holland to Harwich?—Very little indeed.

1219. That, therefore, is one reason why there should not be a dead meat trade between Rotterdam and Harwich, and Antwerp?—I do not know what the reason is; but the fact is, it is unprofitable to do it; they cannot make the price.

1220. Is it because of the meat being injured in the transit?—It may be that.

1221. What has become of the trade in animals since this prohibition has been in force; what has become of the surplus animals in London? Have they found a market in other countries?—No; they keep them.

1222. Has that lowered the price of stock in Holland very much?—No.

1223. Do you know when the prohibition came in force as to the importing of stock from Holland into this country?—No; I could not tell exactly.

1224. It was something like a month ago, was it not?—About six weeks or two months ago.

1225. Mr. Edward *Egerton.*] Is there any officer appointed by the Dutch Government to inspect these animals?—Yes; before they guarantee them.

1226. Besides that inspection, you also have a veterinary surgeon?—Yes.

1227. Tell, us upon an average, the number of diseased animals that come into Rotterdam out of every hundred; I mean animals that are rejected?—I cannot tell.

1228. You say the veterinary surgeon had the power of rejecting a certain number. I want to know what effect that has upon the different cargoes?—I can only speak to what I have seen at the steamboats.

1229. Can you give us any figures?—Perhaps two in a hundred.

1230. Not more than two in a hundred?—No.

1231. Have you had the disease called the pleura-pneumonia, the lung disease, much in Holland?—Oh, yes; we have had it fearfully.

1232. How many of the animals have been stopped by having the lung disease, at Rotterdam?—They are never sent to the steamers when they are diseased.

1233. But can you tell me what proportion of the

the animals having the lung disease have been stopped?—There are very few sent to the steamers. I could not say more than one in a hundred.

1234. Is your knowledge confined to those that go on board the steamers?—I only see them going away by the steamer. They are rejected before they come into town. We have no statistics about it.

1235. Would the Dutch officer you have mentioned have those statistics?—No.

1236. Who would?—Nobody. The animals are simply refused.

1237. Are they not consigned to some person?—They are.

1238. The consignee must know how many of those are shipped to England, and how many are kept back; what becomes of those that are kept?—They are sent back again.

1239. Are they sent by train back to the place they came from?—Yes.

1240. Do you know that as a fact?—I know that as a fact they are sent back, and in some cases they are slaughtered at Rotterdam.

1241. You say they are kept in lairs at Rotterdam for about 24 hours?—Yes, on an average.

1242. How often do those steamers start for England?—Only twice a week now; they used to go three times a week.

1243. Do the trains come in on particular days before the steamers start?—About a day before.

1244. Do not many of those cattle come from a long way off; from Prussia and Silesia?—Yes, and even from Hungary.

1245. Are matters arranged so that they come in 24 hours before the time the steamers start?—Yes.

1246. Are the steamers made up entirely from cattle trucks?—Some of them are entirely made up from cattle trucks. On the Dutch Rhenish Railway they have got special cattle trains.

1247. Since the Order in Council, stopping animals being sent from Holland, there has been no dead meat at all?—Yes, there has, but not much.

1248. Have the same amount of animals come into Rotterdam, or has it stopped the trade?—The trade is entirely stopped.

1249. Does the same Order in Council stop the sheep?—Yes.

1250. Was there much of a trade in sheep before?—Yes; we had a large trade in sheep, especially from the north of Holland, and German sheep.

1251. Are there any means of feeding these animals in fields at Rotterdam?—Yes.

1252. Every convenience?—There is every convenience.

1253. Close to the town?—Yes, almost up to the town.

1254. Have you any idea what the charges are?—No; I cannot tell that. I think about 1 *s.* a day for an ox.

1255. Is that regulated by the authorities of the town of Rotterdam, or is it a private speculation?—It is all private speculation.

1256. What is the largest cargo of beasts that you have sent over in any of your vessels?—We never took more than 240.

1257. Have you had any complaints of the animals suffering on the voyage?—No, not to Harwich.

1258. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What means are taken for putting these cattle on board the boats?—They are walked on board.

1259. How are they put into the hold of the vessel?—They walk into the hold of the vessel down an incline.

1260. Do you regulate the number that you take by the tonnage of the vessel, or have you any rule?—We have no rule, but of course it is regulated according to the room we have; the animals must have proper room, and we cannot go beyond that.

1261. Have you good provision for the admission of air?—Very good, in the new ships at all events; they are all regulated by a fan that is kept going during the loading, and of course kept going on the road.

1262. Have you known accidents occur to the animals in the course of their shipment, producing broken limbs, or anything of the sort?—Very seldom.

1263. You say they were occasionally killed at Rotterdam; at what season of the year was that?—That is all through the year.

1264. Are they sent over as dead meat?—They are killed and kept at Rotterdam; and in some cases they are buried there; they are very strict as to that.

1265. You said that some of the cattle that reached you came by boat, and some by rail?—Yes.

1266. Which of those two classes came to you in the best condition?—I could not see any difference, except that the German beasts are sometimes a little chafed, because they have been so long in the trucks; but they generally arrive in very good condition, and before they go on board of course they are watered and fed.

1267. Mr. *Graves.*] I think you told the Committee that some of the cattle you sent over in your boats came from Hungary?—I have seen them from Hungary often.

1268. Do those cattle come without any break in the journey?—I do not know; they come as far as Berlin, being the central post, but from Berlin they are very seldom untrucked; the journey takes from about 2 days or 2½ days.

1269. With regard to the Dutch cattle, have you any reason to think that any portion are now diverted through Antwerp?—No, they are not allowed.

1270. Do the Hungarian cattle come through Antwerp?—No; nothing going to Antwerp. They would not allow the transit. The Belgium Government stopped it as well as the Dutch. The Dutch Government has stopped the transit; but we got permission up to six weeks ago to transmit German cattle from Holland. The Dutch cattle are still prohibited.

1271. Is that from leaving the country, or from entering the country?—Both from entering and leaving the country; if they will not allow them to enter they cannot leave.

1272. Do you mean the Dutch cattle?—No; I am speaking of the German cattle.

1273. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is there much traffic in cattle in small coasting vessels coming to Antwerp?—No; there is some from Friesland.

1274. Is there much of that?—Yes; that is rather important.

1275. Does any come from Demark or Sweden, or that way?—No, never; we never import any cattle for our own consumption.

1276. Are there any means of shipping the cattle separately from cattle which come from districts where the cattle plague is known to exist?—Certainly, they must be kept separate.

Mr. *G. S. Peters.*

7 May 1866.

1277. As to those that came from Hungary and Poland where the disease is unfortunately known to exist, are they kept at all separate from those which come from the country?—No, they are all mixed.

1278. Lord *Naas.*] Does any dead meat come from the country to be shipped at Rotterdam?—Never.

1279. I suppose the trade is quite unknown?—Quite unkown.

1280. Mr. *Holland.*] What is the size of the steamers that bring over the cattle?—I could not tell, about 800 tons.

1281. Are they built expressly for the trade?—Yes.

1282. How many do you say you generally average on board?—The largest number that we ever carried I should say is 240, that is to say, beasts as well as sheep.

1283. Are they on deck?—They are on deck.

1284. Is there any way of separating them by boards?—Yes.

1285. Each animal separated from each other?—No, not each, it is according to size, from six to eight animals in a pen.

1286. Now as to these cattle which arrive from Prussia, by rail from Rotterdam, in what position are they placed in the trucks; are they placed in any particular position as a rule, so as to be fed and watered?—Of course they can easily be fed and watered because their heads are always on the outside.

1287. Then they are in a particular position?—Yes, they are always placed that way as far as I have seen.

1288. Mr. *Dent.*] I suppose there is a very large trade from Rotterdam, both to London and Hull, as well as to Harwich?—Yes.

1289. There is a great deal of live stock sent, is there not?—Yes, more so than to London.

1290. A great many milk cows are sent to London from Harwich?—Yes, there used to be before the prohibition.

1291. Did you send milk cows at all to Harwich?—Yes, very often.

1292. But not so much as you did the lean stock or the fat stock?—No.

1293. The lean stock that you send over are Dutch animals, or do cattle partly come from Germany?—They are all Dutch.

Mr. Francois Huger, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *F. Huger.*

1294. *Chairman.*] What are you?—I am Agent for the Great Eastern Company at Antwerp, and Sworn Shipbroker at the same place.

1295. Does the Great Eastern Company run boats to Antwerp?—Yes, twice a week.

1296. From Harwich to Antwerp?—Yes.

1297. Are cattle shipped at Antwerp in these boats?—There are no cattle shipped at Antwerp, only sheep and pigs.

1298. Have you had anything to do with the superintendence of the shipment of horned cattle?—Yes; Belgian cattle is now only shipped by steamers direct to London; it cannot be imported at Harwich; that is the reason there is none shipped at Antwerp for Harwich.

1299. Is it prohibited in Belgium?—The transit of all foreign cattle is prohibited in Belgium, except from France; there are no cattle from Holland or Germany allowed to pass through Belgium.

1300. You ship Belgian cattle?—We may, but we do very seldom, because we have nearly no stock; Belgium has got little cattle to export; there are a few beasts from time to time, but it is very seldom.

1301. Does the prohibition upon the import of Dutch cattle affect cattle shipped at Antwerp?—No, not Dutch cattle; Dutch cattle are never exported from the port of Antwerp, it is merely German cattle, and German cattle are not allowed now to pass through Belgium; they are going to allow it shortly, I am informed.

1302. Previously to this prohibition in Belgium, did you ship many German cattle at Antwerp?—Yes, there were a good many shipped.

1303. In what condition did they arrive at Antwerp?—In first rate condition.

1304. They are inspected before they are put on board, I suppose?—Yes, there is a veterinary surgeon appointed by government who inspects the cattle before it is loaded, and there are none going on board before being inspected.

1305. By the Belgium Government?—Yes, as well as by the Great Eastern Company.

1306. They will not allow any cattle to be shipped at Antwerp until they are passed by a government officer?—Yes, a veterinary surgeon; there is a veterinary surgeon to inspect the sheep when they are discharged out of the trucks.

1307. So that they undergo two inspections if they are shipped?—Yes; the object of the government is to watch that there are no diseased cattle imported; the government agents are to stop the importation of cattle which might be diseased.

1308. And the exportation, too?—And the exportation, too; so that they would kill the beasts if they are diseased, immediately; if a beast was found on its arrival diseased, it would be killed immediately.

1309. Has that been a permanent regulation or only lately since the cattle plague?—That has been a permanent regulation; we have had nearly nothing of it in Belgium. There were a few cases happened, and the government immediately, when the disease broke out in England and Holland, ordered, wherever a beast was diseased, or appeared to be diseased, it should immediately be killed, as well as all the cattle in the same stable that had been in contact with it.

1310. Before there was any cattle plague, or before it attracted much attention, you say it was a permanent law in Belgium that all cattle should be inspected?—Yes; it is not a law, but it is a regulation of the town; the cattle trade has only been opened in Antwerp since the Great Eastern Company ran their steamers there. As soon as the cattle were transported through Belgium, the town authorities appointed a veterinary surgeon to inspect all the cattle, not only on account of the disease, which they did not expect, but on account of any other disease which might be imported into the country.

1311. As a rule, after this inspection, were there many cattle found to be diseased?—Not one which had the cattle plague has ever been found; it is quite natural that they have not found one, because the cattle which have been exported

exported from Antwerp have only come from countries where there wasno disease.

1312. And knowing there was this inspection, I suppose the people would not send diseased cattle?—The people would not send diseased cattle; there is another reason why they will not send diseased cattle; the cattle are sent in consignments to the London cattle market, and those cattle merchants knew perfectly well that when the cattle arrived in England they would be killed there, so that they would go at their own loss.

1313. Lord *Naas.*] Are you talking now of cattle plague?—Yes, but my remarks apply to all diseases.

1314. *Chairman.*] How long have these steamers run to Antwerp?—They began to run from the 1st of August 1864.

1315. Was the cattle trade from Antwerp considerable before the Belgian regulations prevented the import of cattle from Germany?—There was something like 400 beasts weekly exported from Antwerp.

1316. In how long a time?—In a week.

1317. What sort of cattle were they?—German cattle.

1318. Fat cattle?—Yes, all fat cattle.

1319. No store cattle?—No, it is only lately they have been sending some store sheep.

1320. I suppose you think that trade will gradually grow to be much larger than it has been?—Certainly it would.

1321. I am not speaking of these exceptional regulations, but in ordinary times?—Yes, and the reason I say so is this: before the Great Eastern Company started their steamers there was no trade at all at Antwerp; it was only in the winter of 1864 and 1865, when the navigation of the river Maas was interrupted, that some of the cattle shippers who used to ship at Rotterdam came to Antwerp; they found very good accommodation at that place, and then we made application to the Belgian States Railway to have cattle trains in connection with the sailing of the boats and the markets, which was granted, and the rates having been reduced, the German cattle and shippers continued coming to Antwerp.

1322. Mr. *Dent.*] What part of Germany did they come from?—We have had a good lot of sheep and cattle from Magdebourg, and a good lot from the South of Germany.

1323. *Chairman.*] Are there any collections, or depôts, or lairs of cattle at Antwerp where they can be kept?—Yes; when the cattle arrive they are placed in lairs, and stop there; the trains arrive at Antwerp on Monday and Thursday afternoon, and steamers start on the next day, say on Tuesday and Friday afternoon; but since the 6th of this month the German railways have started the trains in the evening, so that the cattle will have 36 hours rest at Antwerp; they used to keep some of these cattle during the whole night at Cologne, but now they forward them on immediately.

1324. Have you formed any opinion upon what would be the effect of a regulation in England, that all the cattle imported from Antwerp should be slaughtered at the port of arrival instead of being sent off to be stored at the Metropolitan market?—I think the effect might be this, that some of the cattle merchants would be afraid of sending so much cattle as they actually do, because they would say as soon as our cattle are carried there they are killed immediately on arrival, and we shall have to sell the dead meat at any price it will fetch, whereas if the cattle are sent alive, and they are authorised to stay at the sea-ports until they are sold, it would not have that effect; then they could keep it back until they could get their price for it.

1325. Are there any instances of cattle having been exported to England, and not sold, and then afterwards sent back to Antwerp and to Holland?—Not to Antwerp; not one instance.

1326. You think it would lessen the amount of the trade if they were subject to the law that the cattle were to be killed on arrival?—If they were killed immediately on arrival it would lessen the trade, but if they were authorised to stop at the sea-ports, and not to be removed from the sea-ports, it would not injure the trade at all, because you might keep them at the sea-ports as well as they were kept formerly in the stables in London.

1327. If they were kept there it would make no difference?—I do not think it would.

1328. Mr. *Graham.*] Is the trade at Antwerp kept informed of the price in England very regularly by telegram?—Yes.

1329. If low prices exist in England, is the trade at once checked?—Yes, it is generally checked; they would stop sending; they generally do so. Some days the trade may be very low on account of a great number of beasts being in the market.

1330. An over stock of live cattle in England, at Harwich, the fact being at once telegraphed to Antwerp, they could be held there until from the stoppage of shipments prices rise again?—I do not think I quite understand the question.

1331. Suppose live beasts to be overdone in the Harwich market, by telegraphing to Antwerp you can stop the supply till the price rises, which they could not do if they had the dead meat, because they could not keep it?—Just so.

1332. *Chairman.*] But if they wanted to move them from Harwich alive, and they could not be received alive, but only in the form of dead meat, it would diminish their value?—Oh no, they can keep them and feed them at Harwich.

1333. You do not understand the question. If they could only be removed from Harwich in the form of dead meat, it would diminish their value. Would a man give as much for an ox if he could only have it in the form of dead meat as he would if he could move it alive?—Yes, I think he would.

1334. Have there been any complaints made of the treatment of cattle on the steamers from Antwerp to Harwich?—No; we have had no complaints because the steamers are very nicely arranged for the transport of cattle. We have got stables and compartments made between decks, and each compartment takes a certain number of cattle; you cannot put more or less in. Each cattle, in fact, has got his place, so that it must keep upright. Of course, the treatment depends upon the accommodation the ships have; you must have places arranged in between decks, in which you put five beasts together, so that they cannot fall down.

1335. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you seen any animals watered in trucks?—No, this is not done.

1336. Do you know how it is done?—It is not done.

1337. Do you know that animals are watered without removing them from the trucks?—I do not know, but I know that they are stabled at Cologne and Neuss for watering and feeding.

Mr. *F. Huger.*

7 May 1866.

1338. For the purpose of watering and feeding them?—Yes. The sheep that are sent to Antwerp come from Magdeburgh; they are sent to Neuss, there the people who forward them have got stables, and keep them a few days in the stables, and they send them from Neuss direct to Antwerp, which takes only 14 hours. And the cattle coming from the south of Germany alongside the Rhine are stabled at Cologne, and from Colonge they are sent to Antwerp.

1339. Are they fat beasts that pass through your hands?—Chiefly fat beasts; only the last six weeks we have had sheep sent for the farms in England.

1340. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where do these sheep come from to Antwerp?—A great deal from Magdeburgh, some from France, and from the south of Germany.

1341. Do you find they suffer from the railway journey?—No, not at all; when they are not overdriven they do not suffer.

1342. Are the sheep inspected?—Yes, just the same as beasts.

1343. Have you seen what is called the foot and mouth disease?—Yes.

1344. Have many of these beasts which have come to Antwerp suffered from the foot and mouth disease?—Very little; I think altogether we have not had more than 50 or 60.

1345. Do you mean during the whole time that the trade has been made in communication?—Yes; I do not think more than 50 or 60.

1346. Would the inspector pass an animal which had the foot and mouth disease?—He would not.

1347. You look upon that as a case to keep it back?—Yes, they slaughter it at Antwerp.

1348. And sheep that are suffering from the scab?—We do not take those sheep on board the steamers.

1349. How long are these animals that are suffering from foot and mouth disease generally before they recover?—I cannot say, they are so few; they immediately send them to the butchers and have them killed.

1350. A good many of those animals come a long journey from the south of Germany?—Yes, some of them do.

1351. Can you tell me whether the foot and mouth disease is more prevalent in those that have come a long journey than in those who have come for a short distance?—No; it is more prevalent in those that have come from France; the short journey.

1352. You have found that to be the fact?—Yes, we have found that out; as to the German sheep we have only had three or four cases.

1353. *Chairman.*] The Great Eastern Railway are only interested in the cattle as regards freight?—Yes.

1354. They do not purchase cattle through agents abroad, do they?—No.

1355. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are you agent to any other firm besides the Great Eastern Railway Company?—Yes, I am agent for the Goole Steam Shipping Company, Tyne Steam Shipping Company, and for the Antwerp and Meuze steamers.

1356. Is that company interested in the cattle trade?—Lately they have taken some sheep but very few; I do not think that they had more that 3,000 or 4,000 last year to Goole and Newcastle.

1357. I think it is not much of a grazing country round Antwerp, is it?—No.

1358. You say the French cattle are allowed to come into Belgium?—It has not always been so.

1359. They were prohibited at one time, were they not?—At one time, in the beginning, the importation and transit was prohibited from all countries. Now they have authorised the importation of the cattle coming from France, and the transit from France also; and the Belgian Government has now opened an inquiry into the state of Germany to see if there is any disease there. Our Government people state that the reports have all been satisfactory; that there was no disease at all in Germany, and they were going to allow the transit from Germany to go *viâ* Belgium.

1360. Have you found any cases of pleuropneumonia among the French cattle?—No, we have not found any.

1361. Mr. *Dent.*] There is no shipping to any other port except Harwich from Antwerp; they do not ship to London?—Yes, there has been some shipped to London.

1362. Were there beasts shipped to London before the cattle plague?—No, there were nearly none shipped; there may have been a few hundreds, but not many; they were generally shipped to Harwich on account of the short sea voyage.

1363. Are those German beasts brought to market, or are they sold from the farms?—I think they are sold from the farms, and from the breweries and distilleries to cattle merchants who bring them to the London market.

1364. Do you mean that they feed them at the distilleries?—Some of them.

1365. And that you go to the farmers to collect them before they put them on the railroad?—Yes, they are collected at the farms of distilleries.

Mr. ROBERT MOSELEY, re-called; and Examined.

Mr. *R. Mosely.*

1366. COULD you get us any statement from abroad as to how the watering and feeding of cattle in trucks is carried on on the journey to the ports of shipment?—Yes, I could get every information.

1367. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It is not possible to water animals in the truck, as far as we know, in England; you could not supply them with water in the truck?—As was mentioned this morning, the simple plan is to take the ordinary pail when you arrive at the station, and to put the shepherd or drover in the truck, and give the animals water.

1368. But there is no room for the shepherd?—No.

1369. Mr. *Hunt.*] If the animals were very thirsty, and all rushed at once to get to the pail, it would not be fit for the drover to go amongst them?—Take the distance the cattle are driven on the Great Eastern. The remotest point is Norwich, 113 miles from London; the transit is about from five to six hours, and the necessity for watering the cattle within that short distance does not arise as it does on the Continent, where the beasts are a couple of days on the road.

1370. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Does it not often happen

happen that the cattle trains are shunted to allow other trains to go by?—Yes, we have to give way, of course.

1371. How do the beasts get water?—Take a train coming from Aberdeen, which is a journey of 20 hours; there is no doubt whatever that it would be a great advantage to the owners of stock if they could be watered on the road.

1372. Do not you know that they never are watered?—Yes, I know that for a fact.

1373. And some trains are two days and a half on the road; kept at York, for instance, 24 hours?—Yes, that is too long.

1374. Mr. *Hunt.*] You could give us a letter or statement from some person as to this matter?—Yes; or from various railway companies abroad.

1375. Mr. *Leader.*] You see no difficulty as to feeding and watering cattle in the trucks?—My own impression is that, looking at our own traffic and the short time it occupies on the journey, the necessity for watering does not arise.

1376. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there a possibility of giving them water in the trucks?—I should say it is possible.

1377. Do you know that it has not been done?—I know it has not been done, because the pressure has not been put on the railway companies to do it.

1378. Animals have constantly been kept on your line 24 hours, coming from Harwich to London?—No.

1379. Have they never been obliged to shunt the cattle train?—I may say that the journey of the cattle train from Harwich to London since we have commenced the trade has not exceeded four hours; as a rule it is two hours and a half.

1380. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Could a water trough be fitted into the truck?—No, it could not be done; the simple way is to take the pail, and let the drover get into the truck. Mr. *R. Moseley.* 7 May 1866.

1381. But could not you fit an iron trough into the truck?—No; the oscillation of the train would spill the water.

1382. I do not mean that; but might not a trough be put there, and might not you pour water into it in the same way as you would pour water into an engine?—That would injure the animals.

1383. It might be put outside, might it not?—It could not be put at the outside; the simple mode is the pail.

1384. Mr. *Dent.*] We had a witness here from the London and North Western at the last meeting, and I said to him, "You could water them in the trucks." He said, "I do not think one out of twenty would drink, and it would be dangerous in some cases to attempt it, because they are put into the trucks without being tied"?—That is so; they are loaded without being tied in trucks.

1385. Do you agree with the witness that probably they would not drink?—That I cannot say.

1386. Mr. *Hunt.*] That would depend on how long they had been thirsty?—Yes; I think the grazier would be able to give you a better opinion than I can.

1387. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] When you make these inquiries, will you ask also how frequently they are watered?—Yes.

1388. And what the distance is considered to be at which they could be watered?—Yes; and I will take Berlin as a common point; from Berlin to Rotterdam.

Mr. JOHN ELLIS, called in; and Examined.

1389. *Chairman.*] WHAT is your calling?—I am a Veterinary Surgeon, and Government Inspector for Her Majesty's Customs at the Port of Liverpool. Mr. *J. Ellis.*

1390. When cattle arrive from abroad, what is it your duty to do?—To inspect them, and to see that they are free from contagious diseases; such as pleuro-pneumonia, mouth and foot disease, as it is commonly called, or rinderpest.

1391. You have notice when the ship arrives, and go down forthwith?—Yes; I examine them before they come off the ship.

1392. Then, in case you find any animals with any one of those diseases, what happens?—If they have rinderpest, or pleuro-pneumonia, they are condemned and destroyed; if they have foot and mouth disease they would be put in quarantine, and put under treatment, because they would get well in a few days if they were taken care of.

1393. Where are they put in quarantine; where do they keep them?—We have not had any occasion to put them in, but they could be put in some of the dock sheds, I should think; very likely they would get dock sheds, or something of the kind; we have not had any occasion to put them in, but if any cases occur they would be put in quarantine.

1394. Do you inspect the Irish cattle?—I do not.

1395. Is there any inspector of Irish cattle?—Yes; but that is done by the inspector of the borough; the Customs do not interfere with that.

1396. I thought you might be employed also by the Corporation?—No, I am not; I am employed by the Customs.

1397. In what condition have you found the foreign cattle to arrive?—The cattle that come from Oporto are in first-rate condition; we have not many of any other sort; there are very few cattle from Hamburgh come to Liverpool; most of them come from Oporto.

1398. Have you found such cattle as come from Hamburgh not to be in so good a condition as those from Oporto?—Yes; they were poor young ones; two years old.

1399. Store cattle?—Yes.

1400. In point of disease, what has been their general condition?—They have all been very healthy, with the exception of two that were condemned, having pleuro-pneumonia, some two years ago.

1401. Do you think all the cattle that have arrived from Oporto might very well have been allowed to have been forwarded on into the country?—Yes, all of them, as far as being healthy is concerned.

1402. They were all fat cattle?—Yes.

1403. Is it easy to detect the rinderpest when it is at its first commencement?—If the disease has set in, you may detect it; but it lies dormant in the system, and it is a difficult matter to detect it then.

1404. It may be latent in beasts, and still no outward and visible sign?—Yes; that is so.

1405. There has been a great increase in slaughtering

Mr. *J. Ellis.*

7 May 1866.

slaughtering in the town of Liverpool, has there not?—There has.

1406. Do you think the storing so many more cattle than is usual in Liverpool, or slaughtering so many, has been prejudicial to the health of the cattle, in consequence of the blood, and so forth, being carried about in the gutters and sewers?—No, not for the time; of course, if they were kept in that state long it would be prejudicial, but they are killed so soon that I do not think it interferes with them at all; when they are once brought into Liverpool they are bound to be destroyed within four days afterwards, so that they do not take any harm.

1407. But a greater number of cattle have recently been kept in Liverpool than used to be the case in ordinary times?—Oh, yes; a great number more.

1408. Does not the crowding the cattle together in a town like Liverpool have a tendency to produce sickness in a town like Liverpool?—That would be so, no doubt, if they are kept long enough together.

1409. But take three days?—I do not think it would in three days bring on any disease.

1410. They are bought in the market on the Monday, and kept until Thursday?—They are obliged to be killed before Thursday, or on the Thursday; Thursday is the last day.

1411. Then from the Thursday till the following Monday, there is comparatively a fewer number?—None.

1412. All the fore part of the week?—Yes, from the Monday to the Thursday.

1413. And then the town is very full of cattle on Saturdays, in sheds?—Yes, from Saturday to Thursday.

1414. And a vast amount of slaughtering going on?—Yes, a great deal; there is a great deal for the shipping, and a great deal to be sent to Manchester and up the country.

1415. Liverpool has become more or less a slaughter-house for the adjoining districts?—Yes, that is so.

1416. Have you heard any complaints made that such a state of things may be prejudicial not only to the health of the cattle, but to the health of the public generally?—I have heard that it is prejudicial to the meat markets in the summer months; I have heard it from good authority, from men who understand it, that it will not keep long.

1417. You do not understand my question; my question is this: whether you have heard that this excessive slaughtering in Liverpool, and keeping of cattle there in greater numbers than at ordinary times, is prejudicial to the health of Liverpool?—I should think it would be, especially in the neighbourhood where the cattle are kept; there are many of them kept in the neighbourhood of the slaughter-houses; and in that neighbourhood, I think, it will be prejudicial.

1418. When the hot weather begins, is it probable the effect will be felt more strongly?—Yes, I should say so.

1419. Do you think that these foreign cattle should be permitted as a permanent arrangement to go freely from Liverpool alive to be killed were people may choose to send them?—Yes, upon conditions, I should say that all cattle sold to leave Liverpool, should be duly slaughtered after they reach their destination; if the foreign cattle, for instance, are wanted to be sent to Manchester, let them be sent there and slaughtered at once at Manchester, or in the neighbourhood to which they could go.

1420. You would have them slaughtered at the place of their destination?—Yes.

1421. But not in Liverpool, or to be sent as dead meat from Liverpool to Manchester?—No; I think if they were sent alive as far as Manchester, or further, if it was required, wherever they might want them to go, they should be slaughtered at once, and not kept.

1422. Is it your opinion that the carrying of cattle about alive in steamboats and in railways has a tendency to produce any disease amongst them?—Not by railway; it may in steamboats, where they are put in the hold down below, and do not get ventilation; then, of course, it would be prejudicial to them; but I do not see that it can do them any harm in the railways, provided the trucks are kept clean and there is every care taken that there is no diseased animals get amongst them.

1423. What is your opinion as to the ventilation of the ships which bring the cattle to Liverpool?—They are very well ventilated, and every care taken of them.

1424. You think, as far as those ships are concerned, the treatment of the cattle could not be improved?—No, it could not; the treatment is good; of course, I am speaking of the foreign cattle coming into Liverpool; I do not know anything about the Irish cattle.

1425. Does your professional knowledge as a veterinary surgeon enable you to judge of whether meat can as well be sent from Liverpool to Manchester without deterioration, the cattle being killed in Liverpool for the purpose of supplying Manchester?—I should think it could, except in very hot weather, when we know meat will not keep long; I think it will deteriorate in value.

1426. Are there not sometimes states of the atmosphere, at certain periods of the year, muggy weather, as it is called, when meat will not keep in a proper condition so as to be sent by rail anywhere?—Yes.

1427. Under those circumstances meat would deteriorate?—I think it would. I think if meat is sent the only plan is to hang it, and not to allow it to lay on one side of the meat or the other. If so it will heat, and very soon get a different colour. It will turn a bluish colour.

1428. It should have a circulation of air all round it?—Yes, all through it.

1429. You have never had any practical experience as to a quarantine?—No.

1430. You never have had any occasion for that?—No, all the cattle coming into Liverpool have been very healthy, with the exception of two that I spoke of as having had pleuro-pneumonia two years ago; they have all been very healthy with that exception.

1431. Mr. *Hunt.*] Was there much increase in the foreign trade when the railway traffic was stopped about the country by Act of Parliament?—We have not had much foreign trade in Liverpool throughout the winter at all; very little.

1432. In the month of March?—We have not had any foreign trade since October or November of last year, until within the last week, with the exception of perhaps three or four cargoes.

1433. To what do you attribute that?—I should not know to what to attribute it, unless it is a greater risk to bring them in the winter.

1434. You are not the inspector of Irish and Scotch cattle?—I am not.

1435. Did

1435. Did you ever see them land?—I did not.

1436. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Has your attention been called by Dr. Trench to the danger which he says arises to the health of Liverpool from the blood getting into the sewers of the town?—He has never said anything to me about it, but I can quite believe there is danger in it.

1437. There has been no request made to you on the part of any of the authorities?—No.

1438. You are aware there is a great deal of opposition to the dead meat coming into Liverpool and Manchester, and the other manufacturing towns?—There is.

1439. Has that been brought under the notice of the authorities of Liverpool?—I believe it has.

1440. You see no objection to the live animals going by railway, and their being slaughtered in those towns?—I do not.

1441. How long have you filled the office of inspector?—Three or four years the last time, and I was appointed before, in 1856 or 1857.

1442. All these animals you inspect are animals fit to be killed at once?—Generally speaking.

1443. Have you found many cases of pleuropneumonia in these animals?—Only two cases, two years ago.

1444. Where did they come from?—Hamburgh.

1445. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are you acquainted with the condition of the cow houses at Liverpool, as regards cleanliness and ventilation. I do not mean the houses where cows are kept for milking purposes, or new sheds used for cattle that are to be slaughtered. I mean the general condition of the houses which are used for milking purposes?—They are in very bad condition.

1446. Your profession has given you the opportunity of judging what is the condition of these houses?—Yes, I have frequently seen them.

1447. Are they very bad?—They were very bad when the plague first broke out.

1448. Is the condition of those houses such as is likely to generate or encourage disease?—Certainly.

1449. Are you aware whether the local authorities exercise any inspection whatever; the Board of Health, for instance?—I cannot speak positively, but I think the authorities see that they are kept clean at the present time; I have nothing to do with the borough of Liverpool; I do know from my own practical knowledge, having to go to them very often, that they are very badly ventilated, very badly lighted, and lie, as a rule, very low, without any drainage, and the soil is very bad.

Mr. *J. Ellis.* 7 May 1866.

1450. Is the manure and dung allowed to accumulate?—It was allowed to accumulate, but now the authorities have a strict supervision over them.

1451. And not taken away sufficiently often?—It was not; it was allowed to accumulate near the door and other places.

1452. Have many cows died at Liverpool of rinderpest?—A great many.

1453. Do you know the number?—I do not.

1454. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you found any difficulty in examining on board, in consequence of the animals being in particular positions?—No; the way I do it is this; I can easily get to see those which are on deck and tied round the sides of the ship; I look at those first, and those that are below I examine one by one as they are brought up; they put belly bands on them and pull them up with a pulley, and before they let them loose the man holds them there to be thoroughly examined, so that each one is examined carefully.

1455. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are they hoisted up from the hold?—Yes.

1456. Mr. *Holland.*] You approve of animals going alive from Liverpool to Manchester to be slaughtered immediately?—Yes.

1457. What do mean by immediately?—A day or two, not more.

1458. You would have a certain number of hours elapse, would you not?—Say two days, and I cannot think there would be any detriment or harm in any way in that.

1459. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I think you said all this was as to foreign animals; you include sheep in that?—I said foreign animals, for this reason, that I have nothing to do with others; I am merely speaking about the foreign cattle. The foreign cattle I can answer for myself; having made a thorough examination of them, and I should not be the slightest afraid of their going away as far as they are consigned, and I do not know why the Irish cattle could not do so as well.

Mr. Seymour Clarke, called in; and Examined.

1460. *Chairman.*] You are connected with the Great Northern Railway, are you not?—Yes.

1461. What position do you hold?—I am general manager of the Great Northern Railway.

1462. Then the cattle traffic comes under your management and control?—Yes, everything connected with the Great Northern Company, from small to large. I profess to have, and really have a knowledge of all the details of what goes on. My life has been spent in this sort of work. I had the management of a portion of the Great Western Railway from the year 1838, and of the Great Northern I have been general manager since the year 1850. Of course all the arrangements for the carriage of cattle, or for the carriage of anything else, or any part of the management of the Great Northern, necessarily comes to me, and then goes to be perfected at the Board of Directors.

1463. Previously to the Orders in Council suspending the carrying of cattle by railway, the cattle traffic on the Great Northern Line was very considerable I suppose?—Yes, and very considerable, especially with Scotland. We carry far more from Scotland than from Ireland, because our route from Ireland, although we have a station at Liverpool, is a more circuitous one than the North Western; but we are the most direct route to Scotland. Of course our own districts of Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Bedfordshire, and places near London have been very much served by the Great Northern.

Mr. *S. Clarke.*

1464. You carry large quantities of fat cattle for the Metropolitan markets?—Yes, and large quantities of store cattle go to Peterborough, there to be taken to the grazing districts of Norfolk. We carry both fat stock for the supply of the metropolis, and lean cattle to be fed up in Norfolk, and what come eventually to the same place.

1465. Previously to the cattle plague breaking out in England, did you cleanse or disinfect your

Mr. *S. Clarke*, 7 May 1866.

cattle trucks periodically?—We always swept them after every journey. We swept the floor, but we did not lime white them, or do anything that we have been called upon to do by the Orders in Council; since then we have adhered as rigidly as possible to the Orders, but some of the Orders have been so framed, not by the Board of Trade, but by the higher authorities, that they have been impossible to be carried out.

1466. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are not alluding to the Legislature, but to the Privy Council?—I allude to the recent Order given us, which it was really impossible to carry out. I have no doubt some modification will be made in that by the officers of the Board of Trade. I believe we have nearly come to a concurrence of opinion as to what can be done.

1467. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Did that relate to the cleansing of the trucks?—It did. Up to the recent Order, the trucks and the pens were effectually cleaned and lime whited, and deodorised, in the same way pointed out by the last Order but one.

1468. The question relates to the general practice of the Great Northern previously to the cattle plague?—The trucks are, as a rule, swept out after each journey, but I am bound to admit they were not so effectually cleaned as they are now, because the floors of cattle waggons are themselves made rough and battened, as we term it, in order to give the animals foothold, as in the stopping and starting of the trains, unless they had a rough surface to stand upon, they would lose their foothold. I am afraid the idea of asphalte to the bottom of the waggons, and the tarring of the bottoms, could not be carried out, and for this reason: if the floors are asphalted, as recommended, and the floors are made flat surfaces like this table, for the purpose of being swept out every time a train stopped or started, the cattle would soon be all down on their knees.

1469. Mere sweeping would not be calculated to remove this dirt effectually; your cattle trucks would become in a very bad state, would they not, notwithstanding the sweeping?—Yes, the manure, and the litter which come up after a long journey, no doubt, is very moist indeed, and a great portion of it can be swept out, but then the corners of the waggons have to be scraped out; this would take some time to do no doubt, and being made of wood, in the course of time they get rotten, and have to be replaced.

1470. Mr. *Hunt.*] Can you tell us the comparative cost of carrying cattle alive, and carrying them dead in the form of carcases?—Yes; my attention was called to that specially some few weeks ago by a report that appeared in the papers; and a letter from Alderman Mechi, in which he states that some meat had been carried at a very exorbitant price, and he thought the railway companies were charging too much; of course there are always elements of the different modes in which these things are treated, that require explanation. For instance, a lot of cattle walk to the station; they walk away from it, they take no packing. If meat is slaughtered and carried into the country, there is a large cost involved which has to be deducted before you can come to a comparative price chargeable for the carriage of meat, dead or alive. There are the meat hampers and cloths that we contract for, and we pay a contractor 6 *s.* a ton to find these meat cloths and hampers; then there is the cost of collection from the place where the animals are slaughtered, and the delivery to Newgate Market, or any other market in London where the meat is sold, which has not to be done in the usual slow way that horses travel about London with heavy loads, but we have quick trotting horses, which take these hampers to the market. Then we have special men employed doing nothing else, working through the night to pitch these hampers. It is a trade of itself, and these men who are employed in pitching such loads, carry immense weights; you would think they would fall under the immense loads which some of them attempt to go with, but they struggle on and get to the salesman's door. These meat hampers have to be collected again by separate vans, and taken up to the station to be transferred to Lincolnshire or Yorkshire, wherever the trade is to be served, and that, of course, involves a cost. Then there is the labour of the men employed at the station in loading to and from the collecting waggons, first of all into the trucks, then from the trucks into the delivery waggons, and the cost of these services is immense.

1471. Mr. *Dent.*] You said that you charged 6 *s.* a ton for cloths and hampers; what do you mean by that?—I mean that if a man has half a ton of meat to send, he would be charged 3 *s.* for the hampers that we send; if he had one ton, he would be charged 6 *s.* for it.

1472. That is for any distance?—Yes. It would involve too much detail to charge a certain price for 100 miles, another price for 50 miles, another for 25 miles, and another for 200 miles.

1473. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose you charge in the same way that a fishmonger charges, who sends home a hamper with a turbot?—Yes, perhaps a nearer parallel would be a carriage of coal; we charge 9 *d.* per ton for the use of the waggon, whether it goes two miles or 100 miles.

1474. Mr. *Hunt.*] I suppose until the Act of Parliament was passed, prohibiting railway movement, your carriage of dead meat was very limited?—No, we carried about 20,000 tons or more to London per annum.

1475. In what time?—In the year before the cattle plague begun.

1476. I suppose it is very limited, in comparison with what it was at that time?—No doubt there has been an increase in the carriage of dead meat since.

1477. Can you give us the ratio of the increase?—I think I can. The Great Northern Railway carried for the 12 months ending December 1865, about 20,000 tons, or 63 tons for each working day, and we carried as much as 160 tons in one day during the time the live cattle trade was stopped. That was on a Monday or Thursday; those are the two heavy days; and this quantity was carried in an infinity of packages; I have the detail of it. We carried about 20 per cent. more dead meat during that time than before the Cattle Plague Regulations were in force.

1478. Is that continuing now, since the prohibition has ceased?—The increase at present is not very large. The increase was rapid at first, and has maintained about the same figure since. The consumption of meat in London is considered to be about 200,000 tons a year, and we carry about 10 per cent. of the dead meat.

1479. Do you know how much dead meat comes into London?—More than half the quantity

tity is dead meat now, but of course the proportion has increased considerably since the prohibition of carrying cattle has been in force.

1480. That prohibition ceased on the 16th of April?—Yes, but the carriage of live cattle has been but very partially resumed indeed, for one reason, and a very strong one, that the Order in Council which gave liberty to carry cattle again, was accompanied with such stringent regulations, that it was impossible to avail ourselves of it.

1481. In fact, the movement of live cattle has not resumed its ordinary course?—No, and I do not think it will; I believe that the great difficulty that has to be solved is this; not whether the fat cattle can be beneficially moved when dead, but the difficulty will be, I believe, in carrying store cattle to the grazing districts, because, of course, the meat when carried as a valuable commodity, is carried at high rates of speed, and everything is ready to take it to its destination as soon as possible. It is worth carrying at those high prices, but store cattle cannot be carried dead. The only great difficulty will be to supply the grazing districts of Norfolk with the proper quantity of store cattle, in order to keep the farmers sufficiently supplied.

1482. We are not dealing in this Committee with the temporary regulations for the purpose of preventing the cattle plague spreading, but more with regard to the present trade in cattle; do you think it will be possible to supply London and populous places with dead meat?—I do.

1483. Mr. *Dent.*] All the year round?—All the year round.

1484. Mr. *Hunt.*] You carry dead meat largely in the summer months on your line?—We do.

1485. Meat is brought from Aberdeen to London?—Yes.

1486. To supply the best butchers in London?—Yes. I do not know whether it has been proved before the Committee, but it is a known fact that carcasses in Aberdeen, of similar value, equally good beasts have been sent to London slaughtered, and packed in the usual way, and others sent up alive; both consignments made by the same sender to the same consignee, in order to test the relative value of the two modes of conveyance. They were both carried by the Great Northern Railway, and it was found that the carcasses which went up "dead" were in much better condition when they came to be sold than those which travelled up "alive," and were slaughtered in London.

1487. Mr. *Dent.*] You say it was in a better condition, but which made the most money?—I do not know that.

1488. Mr. *Hunt.*] Was that on account of the injury to the system of the animals by reason of the long railway journey?—It was a combination of every distress that an animal meets with; of course it gets into a state of excitement with the journey, and a certain state of fever is produced.

1489. Every stage of movement is accompanied with excitement to the animal?—Yes.

1490. First of all driving the animal, and then the conveyance in the truck, with the shunting, the whistling of the engine, and so on, and everything to which the animal is unaccustomed; then there is the driving out of the trucks, through the streets in order to reach its destination in the market?—Yes, and there is the amount of thirst the animal undergoes; I do not know what sort of evidence you have had here, but as long ago as the 25th November, I suppose, in common with all other railway managers, I received a letter from the Home Office, from Mr. Waddington, which is as follows:—"Whitehall, 25 November 1865. Sir,—I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to transmit to you the inclosed extract of a letter received from the solicitor to the City of London, relative to the conveyance by railway of cattle from Scotland to the Metropolitan Cattle Market; and I am to request that the attention of the traffic manager, or of whoever is responsible for the arrangements for the conveyance of cattle on the Great Northern Railway, may be forthwith called to the statement of the inspector of cattle at the Metropolitan market, and to express Sir George Grey's hope that measures may be taken for remedying the evil, which, if that statement is correct, may be productive of very serious consequences. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, *W. Waddington.* The Secretary to the Great Northern Railway Company." The other letter is this:—"Guildhall, London, E.C., 22 November 1865. Mr. Tegg, the inspector of cattle, at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, informs me that cattle conveyed by the Railway Companies from Scotland, leave there on the Thursday and do not get to the lairs of the Metropolitan Cattle Market until Saturday, and he has every reason to believe that they have neither food nor water during the transit; and if there were any predisposing causes of disease, this cruel treatment may well induce its appearance. I am, &c. (signed) *T. J. Nelson,* City Solicitor. T. G. Baring, Esq., M.P., Under Secretary of State for the Home Department."

Mr. *S. Clarke.*
7 May 1866.

1491. Is that a true statement, that the animals come from Aberdeen to London without being fed or watered?—They do.

1492. Have you any information as to what the loss of weight is upon the animals so treated?—I made it my business to communicate with the Scotch Companies and the intermediate company, the North Eastern, which goes from York to Berwick-on-Tweed, to see how far the statement made by the City Solicitor was true; I knew what it was on our own line, and how far the remedy could be found. I will read you my letter, which I addressed to Mr. Waddington. "The Great Northern Railway, General Managers' Office, King's Cross Station, London, 11 December 1865:—Sir, In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing copy of a letter received by the Under Secretary of State from the City Solicitor, dated 22d November 1865, relative to the carriage of cattle between Scotland and London; I have to state, that the average time occupied by cattle, whether carried by ordinary trains or special trains from Aberdeen to London, a distance of 554 miles, is 36 hours (about 16 miles per hour), but of course in a long journey like this, a cattle train is subject to occasional delays and detentions for the passing of other trains, &c.

"Cattle, when once placed in the trucks, are not fed or watered until their arrival at their destination, for several reasons:

"First, That the cattle are unaccompanied (in most instances) by persons in charge of them, and therefore the feeding and watering would devolve upon the servants of the several Railway Companies;

"Secondly, That no payment is made for the provender that would have to be given to them;

"Thirdly,

Mr. *S. Clarke.*

7 May 1866.

"Thirdly. Because cattle will not feed or drink while in the trucks; and they would have to be unloaded, involving considerable delay, considerable expense, and the probability of mismatching cattle, they being unknown, except by the number of the trucks, to the railway servants; and if once the beasts in any two or more trucks were to get mixed, it would be impossible for them to be redivided, without the almost certainty of error, and any errors would involve a loss, as the parties who got better beasts than those intended for them, would make no allowance; and the parties getting less valuable animals would be sure to claim on the railway company.

"Fourthly. There is at present no place throughout the journey where the operation of feeding and watering can be performed.

"I readily, Sir, admit that the case is one that wants a remedy, but the remedy does not rest, as I hope you will see from the communication, in the hands of the railway companies. There would be no great difficulty, if the senders of the cattle were willing to pay something to remunerate the companies for finding a plan for unloading the beasts, and keeping the contents of the small trucks separate from each other; for finding service and provender; and if the senders were content that the journey should occupy several more hours than is now the case, and which would, of course, cost the companies somewhat more for engine-power, which would have to be paid by the sender. Further, there must be concurrence on the part of all the senders of cattle, as, if the plan were adopted for any, it must be for all. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, *Seymour Clarke*, General Manager. H. Waddington, Esq., Office of Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whitehall."

1493. Mr. *Hunt.*] You say that it is impossible to feed and water the animals in the trucks, because they would not take it. Is that statement the result of experience?—Yes, there is no doubt about it.

1494. Have you had it tried?—We have the evidence of the people who are in the habit of dealing with cattle, and they all come to this conclusion, that unless you allow time enough for the cattle to come out and shake themselves, and get accustomed to the place in which they are, they will not feed.

1495. We have had a witness here this morning who states that animals are fed and watered without being untrucked on foreign lines. He states that he has never seen it, but that he is assured it is the case?—Of course I cannot say what his evidence is worth, but in England it is never done, and I am sure if you have ever seen cattle in transit, you would come to the conclusion, that by no process at present in operation could they be fed or watered. First, you could not get at them, and secondly, they would not take the food and water.

1496. I was surprised at the statement of the gentleman this morning; but that is his statement?—So am I. The time that would be taken to get the beasts out of the trucks, and give them time to get a little more comfortable than they would be when first taken out, would involve a great delay, or an immense space of time. There is another great practical difficulty as to the mixing of the beasts. They come up in lots, and one truck holds ten or a dozen, according to its size. There may be 50 wagons to a train. Just fancy all those animals let loose in one place, to be fed and watered. We should never be able to match them again.

1497. No railway company would undertake the responsibility of untrucking them and retrucking them?—No; it never could be done. All we know is, that John Smith has truck 754 consigned to him, and we are bound to deliver to John Smith the contents of number 754.

1498. You have not answered the question I put to you. Have you ever tested the loss of weight on any animal in its transit from Scotland to London by train?—No. I know that general report says the depreciation both in weight and quality is considerable. Of course it must be much more when they have to be "walked."

1499. Would it be possible to have it tested by weighing a truck load of animals, say at Aberdeen, before sending them to their destination in London, and then weighing them on their arrival?—Yes, it would be quite possible; but I do not know that that would give you much information. You could not, of course, test the relative weight if he came up full, and during the long journey emptied himself; he would be much lighter when he got to the end of his journey.

1500. Have you seen the evidence given on the part of Mr. Way, who is a butcher: "We calculate, and have brought a good authority for our calculation, that an ox will lose one stone a day (that is the Smithfield stone of 8 lbs.) in its transit, say from Scotland to London"?—Oh no, I have not seen that. Of course he would be a much better judge of that than I am. That is his business. I should think the loss was greater in quality, because of the uncomfortableness of the animal; he gets feverish.

1501. They are in a less fit state to be killed than before they leave the place from which they come?—Yes, I believe there is no doubt of that at all; you were asking me the question whether I could tell you the relative cost of the carriage of live and dead beasts, after deducting the several items I have mentioned, such as hampers, and cloths, and the cost of their working, and I have compared several stations on the line from the existing cost per head, and the existing cost per ton, taking the weight of a carcass at 7 cwt.; I have taken Biggleswade, Peterborough, Boston, Alford, Lincoln, Grantham, Retford, and Leeds; I will now give you the price per head, and I will give you then the price per carcass of 7 cwt. to a beast, after I have deducted all the et ceteras I gave you just now. Biggleswade, a distance of 41 miles, the cost per head is 3 *s.* 5 *d.*, the cost per carcass 2 *s.* 11 *d.*; Peterborough, 76 miles, cost per head 6 *s.*, per carcass 7 *s.*; Boston, 106 miles, cost per head 7 *s.*, per carcass 11 *s.* 1 *d.*; Alford, in Lincolnshire, 130 miles, cost per head 8 *s.* 7 *d.*, per carcass 13 *s.* 5 *d.*; Lincoln, cost per head 8 *s.*, per carcass 12 *s.* 10 *d.*; Grantham, cost per head 8 *s.* 9 *d.*, per carcass 11 *s.* 1 *d.*; Retford, cost per head 11 *s.* 6 *d.*, per carcass 13 *s.* 5 *d.*, and Leeds (the longer distance) 13 *s.* 4 *d.* per head, and 12 *s.* 10 *d.* per carcass, of 7 cwt. The reason why the Biggleswade price comes out less is, that these deductions bear more hardly upon the smaller amount than upon the large one, because my deduction comes to 18 *s.* 6 *d.* a ton; and 18 *s.* 6 *d.*, taking the Biggleswade rate, of course leaves a less proportion for carriage than if the 18 *s.* 6 *d.* was taken off the larger amount.

[*The Table was handed in, and is as follows:*]

To LONDON from	Miles.	Cattle Rates, average 7 Bullocks per Truck; average sum. — Per Head.	Rate per Head. — Per Mile.	Present Rate for Meat, including Hampers, Cartage, and Terminal Service. — Per Ton, dead.	Rate, after deducting Terminals and Cost of Hampers and Cloths, at 18 *s.* 6 *d.* — Per Mile per Ton.	Average weight per Bullock, dead, 7 cwt.; Cost, including Hampers, Cloths, Collection, and Delivery. — Gross Rate per Carcase.	Deduct Cost of 18 *s.* 6 *d.* per Ton for Hampers, Cloths, Cartage, and Terminal Services, leaves — Per Carcase.	Rate per Carcase, not including Station Terminal Services, Cartage, or Hampers, Pitching, &c. at 18 *s.* 6 *d.* per Ton. — Per Mile.	Sheep. Average Rate, alive. — Per Head.	Sheep. Average Rate, dead. — Per Carcase.
		s. *d.*	*d.*	*s.* *d.*	*d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*d.*	*s.* *d.*	
Biggleswade	41	3 5	1·	26 8	2½	9 4	2 11	·84	– 8	
Peterborough	76	6 –	·94	38 4	3	13 5	7 –	1·09	1 –	
Boston -	106	7 –	·79	50 –	3½	17 6	11 1	1·25	1 3¾	
Alford - -	130	8 7	·80	56 8	3½	19 10	13 5	1·23	1 7½	
Lincoln -	138	8 –	·69	55 –	3	19 3	12 10	1·11	1 6	
Grantham -	105	8 9	1·	50 –	3½	17 6	11 1	1·25	1 9	
Retford -	138	11 6	1·	56 8	3¼	19 10	13 5	1·16	2 3½	
Leeds - -	186	13 4	·85	55 –	2¼	19 3	12 10	·85	3 1½	

The Empty Hampers and Cloths are carried back "free."

Great Northern Railway.

Live Stock carried to *London* through Goods Department during Twelve Months, July 1864 to June 1865, both inclusive.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Horses in Cattle Trucks.	Donkeys.	Goats.
1864:							
July - - -	3,479	14,962	314	39	431	2	–
August - -	2,348	16,698	410	37	566	–	–
September - -	1,304	12,934	323	32	370	–	–
October - -	1,234	11,666	553	38	437	–	3
November - -	718	8,816	408	8	236	–	–
December - -	3,669	8,149	697	35	308	–	–
Total 6 Months -	12,752	73,225	2,705	189	2,348	2	3
1865:							
January - -	2,563	10,669	334	31	117	–	–
February - -	1,917	9,864	422	66	986	.	.
March - -	2,099	12,276	206	35	391	–	–
April - - -	2,184	15,785	277	36	1,509	.	–
May - - -	3,931	23,059	195	52	586	–	–
June - - -	3,037	21,436	79	48	401	–	–
Total 6 Months -	15,641	93,086	1,513	268	3,990	–	–
	12,752	73,225	2,705	189	2,348	2	3
Total 12 Months -	28,393	166,311	4,218	457	6,338	2	3

The Irish traffic is carried *viâ* the London and North Western Railway to London.

Mr. S. Clarke. — 3 May 1866.

1502. Then what you put down there for the carriages is what actually goes into the pockets of the Company?—Yes.

1503. That is after taking away everything you have to pay the contractors for supplying packages?—Yes; and then there is this which, of course, cannot be given accurately, but is estimated; the claims that are made on the Company for the detention or wrong delivery, or anything that happens to the carriage of dead meat for which we are responsible to the parties paying the higher rate.

1504. Tell me how you reckon to carry that per cwt.; do you reckon in that any offal at all?—No, it is only that which is fit to eat.

1505. Do you reckon to carry the heart or the head?—No, the sides simply; there is a curious fact, the Scotch meat is sent up in the largest consignments, and requires less separation in delivery; but, one morning in February 1866, out of 93 tons of meat that arrived, there were 300 consignments as regards the senders, and they were in 340 separate consignments as regards the names of the salesmen; now all that responsibility we have to take, and if any gentleman ever went to Newgate market early in the morning when the hampers are being pitched, and when the place is so blocked up from narrowness of access, that it is impossible the vans can get near, and the different salesmen cannot find places for their meat, and it is pitched down at the salesmen's doors; our collectors have to go at 11 or 12 o'clock in the day, when the meat is sold, and rely on the proof that they can give that the meat was pitched at the salesmen's doors, and his acknowledgment of the receipt of it. If he cannot make his advice to the sender fit with what he has had invoiced to him he generally tries to lay it to the account of the railway company, and the claims arising out of that are very considerable indeed.

1506. Have you had to pay a considerable sum for the detention of meat?—Very considerable; there is more paid in Scotland, because it comes through a greater number of hands, and is less under our control. There was a question I read in Mr. Moseley's evidence, in which I fully concur, that a great many of the difficulties that are now before the public arise from the fact of this large metropolitan meat market being in the state in which it is now; I recollect the first time when Mr. Charles Pearson, the city solicitor, who originated the meat market, used to come to me day after day some 10 years ago, relative to his scheme of a metropolitan market, connecting the Great Northern Copenhagen market with the selling market, which is now going to be built in Smithfield, and to have the railway access underneath it. There it is now much in the same condition as it was then.

1507. Supposing Smithfield Market is constructed, I suppose you would like to run a line into the market from your own?—It does exist.

1508. But it is not under your own control?—We have running powers as far as the Farringdon-street Station, and the Metropolitan Meat Market is just beyond. I am now in treaty with the owners of the Metropolitan Railway for the Great Northern trains to run on to Moorgate-street, which would be through the market.

1509. Then the difficulty about the detention of the meat would be very much got over if that was ever carried out?—Yes, but there is one leading defect with the scheme of the metropolitan market, that there is not siding accommodation for the great number of trains that will come from Great Northern and Great Western, and other companies, so that they can be got rid of under the market. The market is on the level of the present old Smithfield. The access is underneath; all the meat will have to be got up by hoists through a floor. Then, of course, all coming at a certain time, or nearly at a similar time, in order to get the meat into the salesman's hands at six or seven in the morning, there would be such an accumulation of railway waggons from all parts, that I am satisfied there is not nearly siding accommodation enough provided here.

1510. What remedy do you suggest for that?—To make a larger area of sidings.

1511. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Whose fault is it that it has not been done; is it the fault of the City, or the fault of the railway?—It is the fault of the immense cost of acquiring land.

1512. But money could be obtained either by the railway or the City; is it the fault of the railway company or the fault of the City?—If you can call it a fault, there certainly will not have been money enough expended by the railway companies, in my opinion, to utilise the large area of the market. There will not be means enough to supply the market itself.

1513. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Whose fault is it that the Smithfield market has not been opened?—I believe it is for want of concurrence between the Metropolitan Company and the City as to the mode in which it could be carried out.

1514. How many years is it since that Bill was brought in?—I think 10 years ago. Mr. Bunning, the City architect, has died in the meantime.

1515. Mr. *Hunt.*] What is your opinion as to the great convenience to the metropolis of having one central market; or is it better to have several markets in different parts of the town?—I believe that if access could be given to one market it would be far preferable to have one central market than any in the out-lying places. All these things were gone into by myself with Mr. Charles Pearson when the thing was first originated by him. The great object of concentrating it was that the out-lying butchers who came in shoals in the morning to take back the meat in their carts might all know where to come to get their supplies, and if they found they had got one market to go to first, and then to another where they might get a better supply, it would tend to immense inconvenience. I am talking now of the outlying places, such as Kennington and Clapton, from which many butchers come in their "tax carts" to get their supply of meat for their shops to supply their own neighbourhoods.

1516. Supposing there was proper accommodation in a central market, and good communication from the chief lines running into London, you would see no difficulty in supplying the dead meat market?—No.

1517. Not even in hot weather?—No; one great point to be made, and of more importance than any other, is the road access to the market; we have constantly to apply to the City police authorities to try and get better regulations made, in order that the buyers may be able to get into the market.

1518. During the few weeks that the railway traffic has been suspended, there have been some temporary

temporary regulations made by the City authorities?—Yes, a small attempt; the access to Newgate market is so miserably bad now that they could not remedy it much; the time occupied in getting a short distance from King's-cross to Smithfield is very great; an average of one hour and 18 minutes for each load.

1519. On account of the blocking up of the streets?—On account of the blocking up of the streets.

1520. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Nothing can well be conceived worse than having a dead meat market close to Newgate-street, one of the main thoroughfares?—Nothing; it is impossible for anything to be worse, both in space and the mode of getting at the salesmen's shops, which I am now talking of.

1521. Mr. *Hunt.*] Supposing that no fat cattle were brought into London alive, and the dead meat traffic took entirely the place of the live fat stock traffic, do you think the railway companies would be able to reduce the rate for carrying dead meat?—Yes, I think over long distances it might, but then it would want concurrence on the part of the senders of meat before any considerable deduction would be made; we are obliged to pay dividends to our shareholders, and also not to make extravagant charges at the same time, but if we do not make a margin to cover the claims we are subjected to, we should be losers by the carriage instead of gainers; bear in mind that the meat hampers only go in one direction, and the quantity of them that are constantly in use is very great indeed; they have to be sent back empty.

1522. You have no goods on the return journey?—No; that last answer I gave will apply to Yorkshire, because I remember the Scotch people do not send their beasts up in hampers; the Scotch people only use cloths.

1523. Have you seen what are called travelling larders, which are in use on the Great Western?—Yes, we tried them ourselves years ago; the great difficulty is, that in order to hang the meat up (it would only apply to sheep in any case) you must have an immensely strong vehicle, because the meat is all attached to the roof; then as the meat is attached to the roof, it makes it immensely top heavy; and, then again, if carcases of mutton are hung up by the legs at the top, they swing against each other, and chafe to such an extent, that a great depreciation takes place; you cannot confine them at the bottom, it would be no use if you could, and you cannot give sufficient space for them not to touch, because you could not get a load if you did.

1524. Do you see any way of fitting up trucks for the purpose of the conveyance of meat better, in the way of shelves for instance?—I had an idea once that we could do better than find hampers and cloths, and I took an immense deal of pains about it. I consulted the leading men of Newgate market; they took the question up with a good deal of interest also; they came to me, and the result of their inquiry, and the discussion we had was that placing them in layers, or any other mode of carrying them, would not be so satisfactory as the hamper. One great point you see is that each man now gets his individual consignment. If a hamper comes with so many carcases of meat, or sides of beef, it goes to him; but if they were all packed upon shelves they would have to be pulled out piecemeal; the shelves could not go to market, and they would very likely be mismatched. I think I am justified in saying that meat could be carried all the year round, from the fact that fish is.

1525. Fish is carried in ice, is it not?—To a certain extent it is. I have no doubt if it were the practice that dead meat should be carried instead of cattle in the heat of summer, means of carrying the meat would be resorted to. I find that last year we carried no less than 14,000 tons of fish to London.

1526. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] That is in baskets, and so on; from what parts did you carry them?—From Grimsby all along the east coast as far as Aberdeen. A great deal from Scarborough, and a great deal from Hull. There was a great deal from Grimsby, because there we have laid ourselves out very much for carrying cod fish from the Dogger bank, &c.

1527. Mr. *Dent.*] The fish runs right through by your fast trains from Scarborough to London?—Yes.

1528. Mr. *Hunt.*] You have got special fish trains?—Yes, during some parts of the year, when there is a great glut of fish; and we have fish trains in the season from Grimsby, but, generally speaking, trucks are attached to the fastest goods trains.

1529. Have you ever had to pay any damages for the detention of fish?—No doubt; but there are two rates; some are at owner's risk, and some not.

1530. Mr. *Holland.*] Is there any injury caused by the dust to the dead meat?—Not much. I have no doubt it is an element; but it would be an element in favour of hampers and cloths. No doubt the dust would be a disadvantage in the system of hanging, because you would have to have open sides to the waggons.

1531. And wherever you have ventilation you must have dust?—You cannot keep it out. In travelling in a passenger carriage in the summer it is impossible to avoid it. You are obliged either to have the window shut, and make it very hot, or else to have it open and get covered with dust.

1532. Mr. *Hunt.*] You say there are large consignments by the same individuals from Scotland?—Yes.

1533. That is one firm have a whole truckload sometimes?—There is one figure in this which I omitted to mention to you, and which your question now will give me an opportunity of filling in. I gave you the number of consignments on a certain morning, and I find that the 93 tons were composed of 1,014 packages, the average weight of them being 1 cwt. 3 qrs. per package.

1534. Do you know whether that was principally beef or mutton?—The Scotch is chiefly beef.

1535. Where does the mutton chiefly come from?—Yorkshire; and a great deal from Lincolnshire.

1536. Do you know where these beasts are killed in Scotland; are they killed in the towns?—I think they are killed in the towns. Of course, if the system of exclusively carrying dead meat was to be adopted, instead of carrying live cattle, a plan would have to be invented, and no doubt the demand would bring about the custom of slaughtering beasts at the several places, or near them.

1537. There would be no difficulty in having slaughterhouses adjacent to the stations?—The difficulty would be the cost, if it was a small neighbourhood. It would be very hard on the company

Mr. *S. Clarke.*

7 May 1866.

company. I do not think we have any funds to expend in slaughterhouses; and I do not think the public would do it. I think, practically, the farmers should have to do the slaughtering on their own premises, and men, instead of going round as drovers to collect cattle, would have to transform themselves into slaughterers, and kill the cattle on the farmer's own premises.

1538. Mr. *Dent.*] Is it not the fact, that in Lincolnshire, where a good many beasts are sent from, they are not slaughtered on the farmers' premises, but sent down to the butchers to be slaughtered there?—Yes, it is a trade in itself. I mean they are not slaughtered at the railway stations. There are a considerable number of men employed as drovers in London; they are well known; and in the country too; going round collecting droves of cattle. They go to this farmer and that, and get two or three; and then get half a dozen from the next, and drive them to the nearest station to consign them to the several parties.

1539. You think those men might establish slaughterhouses of their own, or the same class of men?—No; I think in some barn or other belonging to the farmers, they would have the means of killing the beast, slinging him up, and quartering him.

1540. Have you any other evidence which you wish to give to the Committee on the subject?—No. I read through Mr. Moseley's evidence, and tried to collect certain points that seemed to have been made by the Committee; I think I have given you the result of it.

1541. Mr. *Dent.*] You have not told us what is the ordinary time you take to bring your cattle up from Aberdeen to London?—The Great Northern route occupies about 36 hours from Aberdeen to London; and the steamboats take two days.

1542. Mr. *Hunt.*] You stated you had to pay a considerable sum for loss by reason of detention; does that apply to long distances more than to the short ones?—Yes; and that is because, if we do happen to be a little behind time, it is of more importance, because the meat has been longer slaughtered. The claim would not be so heavy, in consequence of the meat having been carried a short distance, because it would not have depreciated so much, and therefore we have a better margin; that is the English of it.

1543. Mr. *Dent.*] Take your consignments from Leeds or Scarborough, do you run them by the same sort of trains that you do your fish?—Yes; they come through in the night.

1544. But the fish come by fast trains?—Yes, but if the meat is to be carried extensively, Government would not allow trucks to be put on in any number upon the limited mail.

1545. Mr. *Hunt.*] One question about the bottom of the trucks; you said if they were covered with asphalte there would be no hold for the animals' feet; would that not depend very much on the composition of the asphalte?—No.

1546. If the asphalte was mixed with rough grit, the animal would get a very good foothold?—I am afraid it would soon get so smooth that it would be of no use. The battens that we nail across are certainly an inch thick. It takes a very great difference of level, or a great amount of roughness to give a foothold to an animal, because so much slush and litter gets about him, that the foothold is very bad.

1547. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you supply Manchester with dead meat?—No, of course there is a good deal goes there, but we are not cross country carriers. That is chiefly done by the Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the Manchester and Sheffield.

1548. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] With regard to the supply of London with dead meat, do you think London could be supplied with dead meat all over from one central market?—I do; of course it would require something much larger than is contemplated now, but I have no doubt it could be supplied by the central market, and then the outlying butchers, in those suburban places, which now are almost London itself, could come and fetch the supply they wanted for their customers. I do not suppose the ultimate supply would be confined to one market.

1549. I am speaking with regard to general convenience. Do you think if Parliament were to contemplate the supplying the whole metropolis, the 3,000,000 of people with dead meat, that that could be done by its being brought into one central market?—I do, and then of course I accompany that answer by the statement that it will have to be done in a very extensive way, both as to access to the market, and the means of sending the railway trucks to supply the demands of the market.

1550. Do you think it could be done by dividing the markets and having several of them?—The difficulty there is that the people do not know where to get to the best market. An immense quantity of meat is carried away out of the City to be sold in the suburbs. I should think the best meat is taken away to be sold in the suburbs. It would tend to the good of the trade in general, if all these outlying men were to know where they could get supplied, rather than go to different markets.

1551. I am not speaking so much as to the commercial and economical side of it, I am speaking to you as a great railway conveyor of goods, and I am asking whether you think that for the convenience of so large a number, it would be better to divide the markets rather than have one?—I think I had better confine my answer to all railways north of the Thames; in fact I have this in my mind, because in coming from the south of England, the Brighton Company if it ever carried much meat which it does not now, and the other Companies on the south of the Thames, might be concentrated into one. At present the largest carriers of meat are the Great Eastern, the Great Northern, London and North Western, and the Great Western.

1552. When you say meat you mean cattle and sheep?—I mean both. I mean dead meat and cattle.

1553. You carry a great many sheep?—Yes, we do carry a great many out of Lincolnshire.

1554. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are not a great many sheep consigned to you from Berwick which come from the North?—Yes, I have the comparative numbers here of the sheep that come from the North, and the sheep that come from the home counties of Lincolnshire and Bedfordshire. In twelve months we carry 28,393 beasts, 166,311 sheep, 4,218 pigs. That is taking six months, July, August, September, October, November and December 1864; and adding January, February, March, April, May, and June 1865.

1555. You stated 200,000 tons of meat was the consumption of London. That includes all kinds of meat, beef, mutton, and pork?—I suppose so,

I am

I am only taking it from common hearsay. That is the general belief as to the consumption of meat.

1556. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where did you get these figures?—The figures I last gave you are from our own returns.

1557. But where did you get the consumption of meat of London?—That is more from rumour than anything else.

1558. You got it from wholesale dealers, I suppose; from some authentic source?—Yes.

1559. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Your opinion is that the arrangement now made for supplying the markets are utterly insufficient for the purpose as to the City, and so forth?—I think so indeed; I think there is not enough in a railway point of view to supply the market as a market.

1560. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] There is a want of sidings accommodation?—Yes.

1561. Will there be the means of avoiding that difficulty by procuring land? There are the means of doing it at an immense cost; part of the basement of the market is to be used as the goods depôt for the Great Western, just opposite the hospital in the south part of Smithfield; there is a great circular access now being made from the level of the market to the goods department below, and the Metropolitan Company are now laying out large sums of money in increasing accommodation, but that is chiefly for warehouses in which to store bale goods, and other things to be dispersed about London, but they are not increasing the siding accommodation immediately contiguous to the market.

1562. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is there not now before Parliament a Bill as to these warehouses?—They got their Bill for the extension of them last year.

1563. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The Corporation of London are in possession of all the streets near the market, are they not?—Yes; but the ground below is the property of the Metropolitan market; part of the arrangements between the City and the railway was, that the columns were to be built in a certain way, which would support the basement of the market, and the hoists were all arranged; that was in Mr. Bunning's time; the earth that was taken out was carried out partially by the Metropolitan Company, and partially by the City authorities.

Mr. *S. Clarke.*

7 May 1866.

1564. What is the area that is left for the market?—I cannot tell you what is the length of it.

1565. What sort of accommodation will there be for the butchers' carts?—The access will be very much better than now; they come from north, south, east, and west; there will be a stream of carts through; they will come in by Smithfield-bars, and pass down the market to the south, and there is a way through; there are various hoists to be placed there, where the meat will be brought up from underneath.

1566. Will there be found room for an immense number of carts?—For a great many.

1567. Mr. *Graham.*] You mention that you approve of the store cattle being brought in alive, and not the fat beasts; would it not be practicable to distinguish between the two, do you think?—Oh, yes; they are very easy to distinguish from each other; they look very different, and they weigh very different; it is known that a beast carried to London as a store beast would not be valuable for slaughtering; it is in no condition at all for killing.

1568. *Chairman.*] A certain amount of store beasts is brought to the London market in order to be sent off to the provinces?—Will you allow me, in reply to the Honourable Member, to say that a beast sent to be fattened and to be eaten is so different an animal from the other, that there is very little difficulty in distinguishing them.

1569. Mr. *Dent.*] You have been speaking altogether of the home trade and not of the foreign trade?—Altogether of the home trade: I suppose the importations will much increase, and that better regulations for the ports will be very desirable indeed.

Clare Sewell Read, Esq. (a Member of the House), called in; and Examined.

1570. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are a Member of the House?—I am.

1571. You were one of the Cattle Plague Commissioners?—I was.

1572. You have had very great practical experience in cattle?—I have in grazing, not particularly in breeding.

1573. What is your opinion as to the desirability of increasing the restrictions upon the importation of animals into the country before they have been subjected to quarantine?—I think that the foreign fat stock should be slaughtered at the port of landing, and that store cattle should be subjected to quarantine before they are allowed to proceed into the provinces.

1574. Would you make that a universal rule, or would you allow the Privy Council or some department of Government to prescribe what animals should be subject to quarantine?—All cattle and sheep that were not intended for immediate slaughter I should quarantine.

1575. Would you leave the Government to say what countries were infected with contagious diseases, and the animals coming from those countries only to be subject to quarantine, or animals coming from all foreign countries?—I think animals coming from all foreign countries.

C. S. Read, Esq., M.P.

1576. I suppose the expense of placing animals in quarantine would add something to the price of them to the purchasers?—It would.

1577. I suppose you consider a purchaser would find his account in that by reason of having a sort of warranty that the animal was sound?—I think they would be increased in value by having gone through a period of quarantine. As to store cattle, they almost all of them come from districts where there is some sort of disease. We do get very few store cattle from France, I believe, and certainly I have never heard of any coming from Spain or Portugal.

1578. The animals that come from Spain and Oporto are fat animals?—They are fat animals, and generally aged, good animals.

1579. The countries generally from which we get store animals have more or less disease among their herds?—Yes; I think they have.

1580. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Have not cattle lately been sent from Gottenburg, in Sweden, to London?—Yes; they were all slaughtered. They were poor, miserable things.

C. S. Read, Esq., M.P.

7 May 1866.

I saw some of them in the Metropolitan Market, and they sold at 5 *l.* each.

1581. Do you know, as a fact, that there has been no disease in Sweden, within the memory of man?—I do not know.

1582. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is it the opinion of people concerned in the feeding and grazing of cattle, that nearly all the diseases we have in this country, in cattle, have been imported from abroad?—Yes; pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease, small-pox in sheep, and, I need not say, rinderpest. I may add that I have grazed a good many of what we call Dutch store cattle, and I have had fearful losses from pleuro-pneumonia; so much so, that I will not buy any more of them, even if they are very cheap.

1583. Mr. *Dent.*] More than from Irish cattle?—More than from Irish cattle.

1584. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you had much experience of Irish cattle?—Yes; we graze a great many in Norfolk.

1585. Do you find you get much disease from Ireland?—I think that next to the foreign cattle, they are more subject to pleuro-pneumonia than any others, and we think it is from the bad way in which they are shipped across the Channel.

1586. Have you been able to judge of the way they are shipped by personal experience; have you seen them shipped?—Some years ago I saw some of them unloaded at Liverpool, and they seemed in a dreadfully heated state, when taken out of the hold.

1587. You think they were too crowded in the hold?—I think they were.

1588. Have you any suggestions to make as to the improvement of the treatment of animals, either on board ship or on railway trucks?—I think that vessels should be built specially adapted for the transit of cattle, and that they should not carry more than a certain number. I think that railway trucks again, should only have a certain number of cattle put in them.

1589. Do you think there is any possibility of feeding and watering animals without untrucking them?—I do not think there is. I have heard here to-day that foreign stock are watered and fed in that way; but foreign stock are much more docile than our English ones, many of them having been worked; they have been at stake or tethered, and they are managed much more easily than our cattle, especially the Scotch and Irish.

1590. There is more personal attention given to cattle abroad, is there not?—I believe there is.

1591. They are led about?—Yes.

1592. And they have not such large pastures to roam about in?—I believe so.

1593. The cattle from Spain have mostly been worked, and all the fat cattle?—I believe all the old fat cattle have been worked, and very fine animals they are.

1594. Do you think it desirable that animals coming from Aberdeen to London, should be untrucked for the purpose of being fed and watered?—No, I do not; but I think they should not be hindered in their progress to town.

1595. You think if they come through without any detention, there is no occasion to water them? Yes; I would make it imperative that they should be watered before they are loaded, and should not leave the railway yard before they are watered again.

1596. Is there any convenience for that purpose at most of the yards?—I think there is.

1597. Mr. *Dent.*] You mean in the railway yard when taken out of the trucks, I suppose?—Yes; I would not let them leave the railway yards where they are untrucked, without having water.

1598. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you considered the question of whether London and other populous places could be supplied with dead meat only, without any live animals being brought into them?—I think they might.

1599. But not with the present arrangements?—Certainly not.

1600. What arrangement would you suggest?—The present state of Newgate Market is atrocious and abominable. I have been there a good deal during the time of the prohibition of live stock by rail. I have sent some meat up, and it has been muddled about in a most unsatisfactory way.

1601. It is wholly insufficient for the arrangements of the metropolis?—Quite so; it seems to be about the worst arranged place I ever saw.

1602. Would you be for allowing fat stock from the country districts to come into London?—Certainly.

1603. Not the London market?—Yes.

1604. But not foreign cattle?—I think not, I think they had better have a market by themselves somewhere close to where they are landed. It will not signify, provided everything, as it is now, was slaughtered in London. I do not see that any harm would arise from it, but the danger would be when cattle are mixed with foreign stock, and then scattered over the country, as they have been hitherto.

1605. Are you acquainted with the slaughter-houses in London, or any of them?—I have visited many of the private ones.

1606. What is your opinion of them?—I think they are generally very well managed, but I think they are very badly situated as to a great number of them.

1607. Do you think it would be desirable to have a public slaughter-house attached to the Metropolitan Market?—I do.

1608. Is there plenty of space for that purpose?—Plenty.

1609. You would have that under proper regulations?—Certainly.

1610. The advantages of having a central slaughter-house would be, that you would have inspections carried on much more efficiently, would you not?—I think you might.

1611. Are you acquainted with the abattoirs of Paris?—No.

1612. Or Edinburgh or Glasgow?—No.

1613. Have you any more observations you wish to make to the Committee?—I made an observation about the carriage of dead meat and the price that the Eastern Counties Railway charge. Their rate for fat cattle from Norfolk to London averages from 10 *s.* 6 *d.* to 12 *s.* 6 *d.* per head alive. They charge from 3 *s.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a hundredweight, and, as a matter of course, as our cattle will average somewhere about eight hundredweight, it is double. They do not find us with cloths or hampers either, and the farmer delivers the meat into the truck. I have seen as much as five tons of meat in a truck, which of course would be something like 15 *l.* for the truck. Of course, if the truck carried cattle, it would not carry above six live ones, which would come to little more than 3 *l.* There is the difference, that the bullocks walk out of the truck, and are no more trouble, but the meat has to be carted to Newgate.

1614. Mr.

1614. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You furnish the cloths and hampers yourselves?—Yes.

1615. And they send them back empty?—Yes.

1616. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Is that general through the whole of the stations on the Great Eastern?—I do not know; I am speaking of Norwich.

1617. In all its branches?—The trade in dead meat from Norfolk was not very extensive.

1618. Mr. *Hunt.*] You think the railway companies might carry dead meat at a much lower rate?—I think they might.

1619. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Were you here when Mr. Moseley was here?—I was not. I am only speaking of Norwich now. I do not speak about other branches of the Great Eastern.

1620. He speaks of Harwich alone; but that is part of the Great Eastern system?—Yes.

1621. It is all under their own government?—Yes.

1622. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] May I ask whether you went on board the boat at Liverpool, out of which you saw the cattle come in a very heated state?—No; I saw the boat unload, and they all came out covered with sweat.

1623. Was it one of the Irish boats?—It was one of the Irish boats. This is some 10 or 15 years ago, and therefore I could not say whether there is any improvement in the trade.

1624. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Have you any knowledge how many store cattle come into this country?—I have not.

1625. Or into your own district?—I can only give you a fair idea of it, that is to say, from last July to last December, at the Norwich station. The Great Eastern Company were 2,500 head of cattle short of their usual supply on account of the cattle plague.

1626. You propose that a quarantine should be applied to all foreign store coming into this country?—Yes; but I am not talking of that now. I am talking of store cattle from Ireland, from Scotland, and from the Midland counties, which come to graze in Norfolk.

1627. You cannot tell me what quantity come into the ports?—It is very irregular indeed; sometimes you hardly have any, and in some years they come by thousands.

1628. When they come in by thousands you would require a very considerable bit of land to quarantine them?—Yes.

1629. Mr. *Dent.*] Would you apply your quarantine to Irish stock?—No.

1630. Do not you think (putting the rinderpest aside) that Irish stock are very nearly subject to as much complaint as foreign stock?—Not so subject. I should first of all place the foreign stock, next the Irish, and then the Scotch and English.

1631. All stock that have to travel, whether by railroad or sea, are subject to pleuro-pneumonia?—I think that the sea voyage is considerably worse than the railroad, I suppose on account of the bad ventilation.

1632. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Might not the very same thing that affects the Irish cattle affect the foreign cattle if they come across the sea. Might it not have the effect of producing pleuro-pneumonia in them as well as in the Irish cattle?—I should think they are liable to contract it from the confinement they undergo.

1633. You think the cattle that come across the sea, are more liable to pleuro-pneumonia than any others?—Yes, certainly.

1634. And therefore you put the Irish and the foreign together; both are likely to be affected by the sea voyage?—Yes; but the foreign cattle more so, from my experience of them, than the Irish.

1635. Is the sea passage longer?—The passage would be longer, certainly.

1636. The total amount of travelling would be more?—Much more, I think.

1637. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you think it necessary to establish quarantine for foreign store stock from countries that are clear of cattle plague, or would you only establish it for animals coming from where there was a suspicion of it?—We have no foreign stock that I know of which comes from any district that you might consider always free from cattle plague.

1638. A witness told us that in the South of Germany there was no disease; that the Belgian Government have lately sent a commission to inquire, and that they were going to allow the transit to be re-opened?—I believe the more railways are opened towards the south of Russia, and consequently through Germany, the more likely you are to have the cattle plague.

1639. From the south of Russia the cattle will come through Northern Germany?—Yes, but Hungary is hardly ever free from disease.

1640. Mr. *Norwood.*] You feel quite satisfied that we imported the rinderpest?—Yes, I have no doubt about it whatever.

1641. It appears to me that you have no objection to foreign cattle coming into the country; you would not do anything that would discourage importations without a strong benefit on the other hand?—Certainly not.

1642. As an agriculturist, you feel the necessity of foreign cattle coming in?—Yes, we quite agree that we cannot supply the country with meat now; we want to be protected if possible; we consider the importation of stock has done us a great deal of harm in both ways; first of all in taking away the market from us (although we do not object to that), and secondly, by introducing a number of diseases which considerably reduce our profits.

1643. You think that all lean cattle should be put in quarantine?—Yes.

1644. How long would you quarantine them?—I think they should be quarantined for 21 days; three weeks.

1645. Would there never be this difficulty; you could only quarantine them in fields or pastures, within the immediate neighbourhood of the port, because the county authorities would not permit foreign cattle to be removed into their district, and they would have to be quarantined at the place of importation. Supposing you had a lot of cattle from the Continent which developed a great amount of disease, would not the animals going into quarantine contaminate the place of quarantine in which they were placed, and make it dangerous to place a second lot of animals there?—I apprehend if you find a cargo diseased, you would slaughter them at once. I think it is highly necessary to have lairs, and quarantine, and markets, and slaughter-houses, at all the different ports at which foreign cattle are landed. Almost all of them come to four or five ports, the great majority of them; certainly I think not to more than six or eight.

1646. I am asking you these questions, having in my mind the port of Hull. Supposing the

C. S. Read, Esq., M.P.

7 May 1866.

import 1,000 store cattle a week, how would you arrange for accommodation for keeping them in quarantine. Would it not be a very serious matter to quarantine 4,000 or 5,000 cattle?—Yes, it would, indeed. I have no idea that the cattle would come in those numbers. We generally get ours from Harwich. I have never known anything like that number come in a week.

1647. The trade is increasing very much, I think?—Not the trade in store cattle; I am not aware of it. I have had a good deal of experience in feeding those foreign store stock, and I really will not have any more of them. As to sheep, again, although they have grazed well, they are subject to scab, and other cutaneous diseases.

1648. Mr. *Graham.*] Have you ever seen a cargo of foreign cattle landed?—I have.

1649. Where?—I have seen some at Lowestoft, some at Harwich, and some at London.

1650. You thought that the ships were utterly inadequate for the accommodation of cattle?—I beg pardon, that was some time ago; I thought the Irish boats were not perfect as to cattle accommodation.

1651. Mr. *Norwood.*] You are not prepared to speak distinctly upon that?—Not now. I think the boats which now bring the foreign cattle are very good. They are built on purpose for the cattle trade, I believe.

1652. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are you not aware there is a quarantine established on the Continent with regard to cattle supposed to be afflicted with any disorder?—I do not know that.

1653. We had it in evidence before the Committee two years ago, that there was a very close examination to prevent any infected animals coming in?—Yes, but that examination is very much broken through now; they have got railways, and they come straight away to the seaport.

1654. I do not think you would find a cattle train running through the Continent to any one of the ports of import of this country; do you know of such a thing?—We had it in evidence before the Cattle Plague Commissioners that they did come.

1655. Did you ever hear anybody of their own knowledge say that cattle came direct from Hungary to Rotterdam or Hamburg?—We heard a great deal of evidence before the Commission upon that, and the salesmen constantly tell me, when I go to the Metropolitan Market, that some of them are Hungarian cattle, and come straight from Hungary.

1656. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Is there any reason why store cattle should not come from Spain?—I have no idea why they should not come; the simple fact is that they do not.

1657. But supposing they were quarantined coming from Holland, and not quarantined coming from Spain, would not that stimulate the importation of store cattle from Spain?—It might; I have never seen any cattle from Spain, only those that are old and fat; I am not aware that they have a great quantity of store cattle to dispose of.

1658. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] We have it in evidence that the Spanish cattle are the finest cattle that come into the market?—They certainly are the finest cattle that come into the Metropolitan Market.

1659. After that the Frish?—Do you mean as regards size or quality?

1660. Both?—Yes, they are very fine cattle indeed; very large, and well grazed.

1661. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Have you ever tried to make any calculation of the increased price which would be demanded for cattle in consequence of the quarantine?—I should think they would be worth 1*l.* a head more to the person who buys them.

1662. How much less would they be worth to the person who sells them; how much additional expense in point of time and payment for feeding would it be to the person who sold them?—If I were a grazier of foreign store stock I should not at all mind paying for the quarantine if the animals were sound at the end of the quarantine.

1663. You do not think it would improve the demand in England at all?—I do not think it would.

Thursday, 10*th May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Graham.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Leader.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.

Mr. HUNT, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JOHN HÖNCK, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

1664. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Consignee of Foreign Cattle to the Port of London?—Yes.

1665. How long have you been engaged in that trade?—Sixteen years; since 1851.

1666. How many thousand cattle pass through your hands in the course of the year, on an average?—I should say, during the last few years, I have had, on an average, 20,000 head of cattle and from 50,000 to 70,000 sheep pass through my hands annually; all foreign cattle.

1667. Are you concerned in foreign cattle landed at any other port except London?—I receive them from Harwich, Thames Haven and direct to Blackwall. At present they are consigned to those two outports, Harwich and Thames Haven, and London direct. Occasionally we have them from Hull also, but that is only in few instances.

1668. When they come from Harwich, do they come to London, or do they come to the London market?—They come by train to London.

1669. The principal part of your trade is direct to London?—The principal part of our trade is direct to London.

1670. What foreign ports do you receive animals from?—We receive them from Denmark, from Schleswig and Holstein, from Hamburgh and all the north of Germany, from the Weser, from Holland, from Portugal, and Spain.

1671. But I ask you, what are the ports at which they are embarked?—Tonning is the principal port of shipment for the Schleswig Holstein cattle, then Hamburgh, Gestemunde on the Weser, Rotterdam, Harlingen, Vigo, and Oporto.

1672. Is your trade principally in store stock, or fat stock?—Almost exclusively fat stock.

1673. Most of the animals which you import at present go into the London market?—Most of them.

1674. Do you supply the markets of any other large town?—None, except in London.

1675. Do you import milch cows?—Not any.

1676. What is the condition in which animals arrive from these different countries; I mean, as to the way in which they are treated, and whether they suffer from their passage, and so on?—The vessels which are, in almost all instances, particularly adapted to the trade, generally bring them in very excellent condition, except in cases of very bad weather, in which, of course, they suffer.

1677. What is the average passage from Tonning?—The average passage from Tonning is about 48 hours.

1678. From Hamburg?—A few hours more on an average.

1679. From Oporto?—From Oporto, from three and a-half to four days.

1680. Are they carried in your own vessels?—We have two vessels in the cattle trade; they were built especially for the cattle trade, and we bring them over by them.

1681. And I suppose you freight other vessels of companies with cattle?—Vessels of various companies; only as consignee.

1682. Do you find that the cattle are well treated on board vessels belonging to other companies?—Yes; I should say that the arrangements are very excellent, with a few exceptions, of course. There are always a few steamers which are not so well adapted for the cattle trade as those which are specially built for it.

1683. Have you many losses, by reason of deaths on board, in coming?—In the autumn time we have had severe losses; in very stormy weather, during October and November; but otherwise not.

1684. Do the animals get damaged by being knocked about in stormy weather, or do they suffer from sickness?—No. Of course, in very bad weather, they would get knocked about a little, but if the boats are of the character which I have described they do not suffer so much; it is only in smaller vessels that they get knocked about much.

1685. The loss is from sickness in stormy weather?—No, I should say not.

1866. But you say that sometimes you have losses in stormy weather?—In very severe weather.

1687. What is that owing to?—That is owing to the badness of the weather.

1688. So that they get knocked about and injured, and suffer from sea-sickness?—Certainly, they get injured.

1689. From being knocked about?—Yes.

1690. Is that the case in your own vessels?—I should say not. Where the vessels have proper fittings there is not so much chance of their being knocked about. It is necessary that every vessel which is in the cattle-carrying trade, should have proper fittings.

1691. Then we arrive at this; that some of the vessels are not sufficiently adapted for

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

carrying cattle in bad weather?—Certainly not. I should say that every vessel, which is in the cattle-carrying trade, ought to have proper fittings, and some of the vessels have not.

1692. Now, in all these vessels, are there provisions for feeding and watering the cattle during the voyage?—Yes; they are well cared for on the voyage, generally speaking.

1693. What are the different wharves at which they are landed in the port of London?—There are two wharves at Blackwall, and there is the Dublin wharf; they are the three principal wharves,

1694. Is that at Poplar?—No; the General Steam Navigation Company's wharf is at Poplar. Then there is the Brunswick wharf at Blackwall.

1695. And Brown's wharf?—That is what is called Brown's wharf; then, further up, is the Aberdeen wharf. There are comparatively few landed there. Next to Brown's wharf, at the Dublin wharf, the greatest quantity of cattle are landed; and there is also the General Steam Navigation Company's wharf, opposite St. Katherine's Docks.

1696. When the animals are landed, are they inspected?—They are always inspected.

1697. What place is there for use for that purpose?—They are inspected on the wharf directly they are landed. The veterinary surgeon is, generally speaking, in attendance.

1698. And they are not passed on until he has inspected them?—They are not passed on until he has inspected them. I think he is obliged to give a certificate with them before they can be removed.

1699. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is that always so?—It has been so for the last two years.

1700. *Chairman.*] How long a time does he take to examine each animal before passing it?—The examination is very rigorous, and I should say, on an average, it took him a couple of hours to examine a full cargo of cattle.

1701. What do you call a full cargo of cattle?—About 300 or 400 head of cattle, and 500 or 600 sheep.

1702. That is nearly 1,000 head altogether?—Yes.

1703. That is at the rate of 500 head an hour?—Yes.

1704. Do you think that that examination is sufficient to detect disease?—I think so; perfectly. A practiced eye can very soon detect anything like sickness or illness, either in horned cattle or in sheep.

1705. The animals that are not passed are slaughtered at the port, are they not?—The animals that are not passed are slaughtered at the port; but, if you will allow me to state we have had this year very great inconvenience from the number of cattle that have been stopped from "eczena"; that is foot and mouth disease. The loss at one time to the owners was so great that they stopped sending altogether.

1706. Do you mean that they stopped sending cattle altogether, or stopped sending those which had the foot and mouth disease?—They stopped sending for one week altogether; we had hardly a foreign beast in the market.

1707. In what month was that?—To the best of my knowledge it was about six weeks ago.

1708. And after that the importation, I suppose, recommenced?—The high prices have tempted them again since.

1709. After they recommenced, did you find as many animals stopped from foot and mouth disease as before?—No; I do not think so many came of that description.

1710. The effect of the rigorous inspection was to prevent their sending over animals that had the foot and mouth disease?—It so happens sometimes that the animals may catch it on the journey.

1711. But the effect of the rigorous inspection was that when they sent the animals again you found not so many with the foot and mouth disease?—It so happened that there were not.

1712. That is a testimony to the good of the inspection, I suppose?—Oh, decidedly.

1713. Have you had many animals stopped as having rinderpest?—No; none whatever.

1714. Is there any inspection at any of the ports at which the animals are embarked?—There is an inspection now at every port where they are embarked.

1715. Is that a Government inspection, or an inspection on the part of the owners?—In Germany it is an inspection on the part of the owners; in Holland I believe it is enforced by the Government.

1716. The Government do not allow a diseased animal to be exported, is that so?—I think not; but I am not prepared to speak positively on that point.

1717. Do the animals come long railway journies on the Continent before they are put on board the vessels to come to London?—They do.

1718. Do you know whether they are fed and watered during these long journies?—Yes; the owners take every care of them, and there is a kind of half-way; when the cattle were brought through Holland, they always used to stop at Emmerich, that is one station.

1719. At Emmerich they are untrucked, we understand?—They are taken out of the trucks and fed there.

1720. Do you know of any place where they are fed without being untrucked in any continental country?—No; I do not.

1721. Do you think it possible to feed and water animals in the trucks?—I should think it quite possible to feed them.

1722. And to water them?—They could be watered with pails. It would be a good deal of additional trouble, but I do not see that it could not be done.

1723. Do you think that the animals would drink if a pail was put into the truck?—Decidedly.

1724. But you have never known it done?—No; I have not.

1725. Do you think it would be an advantage that they should be watered on long railway journies?—I should think the better they are cared for, the greater advantage it would be to the owners, decidedly.

1726. I suppose it is quite a chance what days the animals are landed at Blackwall?—They are principally landed on Saturday.

1727. For the London market on Monday?—For the London market on Monday; they are principally landed on Saturday and Sunday.

1728. What route do they take in going to the London market from Blackwall?—There is a regular route pointed out for them by the police regulations, and they must not deviate from that route.

1729. They go through the streets?—They go through the streets.

1730. Have

1730. Have there been many complaints on the part of the inhabitants of those streets?—I have heard that there have been complaints from the inhabitants of Poplar.

1731. There has been a memorial to some Government department on that subject, has there not?—I believe so.

1732. When they get to the London market and are bought for slaughter, what becomes of them; are they taken out to be slaughtered immediately for the most part, or do they go to lairs?—They mostly are taken by the buyers to their own slaughterhouses, and, with the exception of those that have to go into the country, they are slaughtered principally in private slaughterhouses.

1733. Are there many slaughterhouses adjacent to the London market?—There are three or four slaughterhouses which are built by the City.

1734. May they be used by anybody?—They are rented by certain private individuals.

1735. But not for the use of the public?—Yes, the public have access by an arrangement there.

1736. But it is not the practice for butchers to slaughter animals there, unless they happen to be the renters' of those places?—It is not; they drive them to their own slaughterhouses, because they invariably suffer loss if they do not. They like to have the offal and everything under their own eye. I have heard them say they would certainly give from 1*l.* to 1*l.* 10*s.* a head more for an ox, if they could slaughter it at their own slaughterhouse.

1737. Do they go to lairs before they are slaughtered, or are they not driven off straight away to the slaughterhouse as a rule?—They generally are driven to the lairs, and are taken out later. There are only certain hours during which they can drive them from the market, and if they do not get them away before eleven in the morning, they cannot get them away until five in the afternoon.

1738. They are driven to the lairs, and there kept until they are wanted to be slaughtered, and then they can be taken to the private slaughterhouses?—Yes.

1739. Are you acquainted with many of these private slaughterhouses?—I know some of them.

1740. Are they situated in populous parts of the town?—Many private butchers have their own slaughterhouses adjacent to their own premises, but invariably they have, also, at the market a slaughterhouse: for instance, in Whitechapel almost every butcher has his own slaughterhouse adjacent.

1741. I suppose it is rather a nuisance having these animals driven through the streets to the slaughterhouses?—There have been complaints about it, no doubt.

1742. You do not think it a good arrangement to have private slaughterhouses dotted about a populous town?—Well, I am hardly prepared to say that.

1743. Are you acquainted with the system in Paris?—Yes, I know the system in Paris.

1744. Can you tell us what the system is there?—They have abattoirs erected for the purpose of public slaughterhouses, but the slaughtering of cattle is not carried on there on nearly such a large scale as it is in London.

1745. By the law in force there, animals, I believe, cannot be killed in private slaughterhouses, can they?—I believe not.

1746. Do you think that having a public slaughterhouse ensures a better inspection, both of cattle and meat, than you can get where there are private slaughterhouses?—I do not think so.

1747. Do you think that an inspector can discharge his duty as efficiently if he has to go about to the different slaughterhouses, as if the slaughtering took place at one large public slaughterhouse?—I am not aware that there is an inspection; in fact, I know no inspection takes place after the butcher has once removed his cattle from the live market.

1748. I was alluding to the inspection of the meat; there are in London inspectors to inspect the meat?—There are in the meat markets.

1749. Could not the inspector discharge his duty more efficiently, if he could see the carcass of the animal before it is removed to the different shops and to the public slaughter-houses?—There is no doubt if an inspection of the dead meat was made absolute, that he would have that opportunity.

1750. Would you give us your opinion as to whether animals should be slaughtered at the port of London without going to Copenhagen Fields?—I do not think they could, without entailing a great loss to the owners, and without upsetting every arrangement.

1751. It would disturb existing arrangements?—It would entirely.

1752. But what would be the difficulty of having a place down the river, where animals could be slaughtered?—In the first place there would be a ruinous loss to the owners of at least 3*l.* to 4*l.* per head through the present system being upset, and persons not being always in attendance to go and buy cattle there; so much so, that I am quite persuaded it would not work.

1753. I wish to know how you make out that loss; will you give us the details of that?—People are not there to superintend their own property, and we have had it shown that in many instances a great deal of the offal has been, if I may so, taken away; it has been stolen.

1754. I am supposing that there was a permanent slaughter-house established somewhere near the port of London by the river side, for the slaughter of all imported animals; do not you think that would draw down all the people in the trade to that particular place?—I do not think it would.

1755. Do you think that if animals were obliged to be slaughtered at the port, the foreign trade would cease?—I do not say it would cease altogether, but it would make a very great difference in the price of meat, and no doubt if the price of meat were so enhanced, then they would make an effort to bring them, but it certainly would cause a great enhancement in the price of meat to the consumers.

1756. Why do you think the price of meat would be enhanced?—Because there necessarily would be a great deal of extra expense entailed upon the cattle so brought into consumption.

1757. I wish you would go into particulars about that, and tell us how?—We have it from experience that there is a loss upon every bullock which is slaughtered at the water side at present.

1758. But then your experience is in exceptional cases, where the bulk of your animals go to the London market, and the few that are rejected and not passed by the inspectors, are slaughtered by the water side; but I am putting the case of the

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

the animals being received at the London market, and the whole of the animals being slaughtered there?—It would stop the importation for a time, that is quite certain; I do not think that foreigners would submit to it.

1759. We have had evidence from Harwich that it would make no difference to the foreign trade if animals landed at Harwich were to be slaughtered there. If that is true, what is the difference between Harwich and London in regard to that matter?—I have had one experience, last autumn, of going down to Harwich, and I soon found out that the butchers who came there wanted to have them at 4 *l.* a head less, and I was actually obliged to take a butcher down from London to buy them. I told Mr. Moseley that I should, in either case, have to bring a claim against him of 3 *l.* a head from that very circumstance.

1760. Which he laughed at, I suppose?—He did not quite fancy it; we have not quite settled the matter yet.

1761. You do not expect to get it, I suppose?—I do.

1762. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you sent in the claim?—No. I am about sending in the claim now.

1763. How long ago was this?—About two months ago.

1764. *Chairman.*] Supposing that such a system was established, or some means could be devised for converting the offal to the purpose for which it was used at the same spot; if such a system was established of slaughtering all animals brought to the port of London, means could be devised for converting the different kinds of offal to the use to which they are severally put at that spot?—There is no doubt that the evil could be removed.

1765. And it could be turned to better account than if it was to be carted away from the places where the animals are slaughtered now?—No; the butchers like to have the offal under their own control.

1766. When an animal is slaughtered at a private slaughter-house in London, what becomes of the hide?—The buyer sends it to his own skin salesman.

1767. And the skin salesman takes it to the tan pit, at Bermondsey, or to the railway stations?—To Leadenhall market.

1768. Then it has to go again out of London, in order to be converted, has it not?—Not necessarily so. We have a great many tanners in Bermondsey.

1769. It has to be carted away to Bermondsey, or else to be sent down into the country?—Precisely.

1770. I suppose there is a considerable expense occasioned by removing the hide?—I should say the expense is not much. There is a regular system by which they collect all the hides.

1771. But that is not done without expense?—It is not done without expense, certainly.

1772. I suppose it is the same with the horns?—Yes; they are left with the hides.

1773. The same with the hoofs?—Yes.

1774. The same with the blood. The blood is largely used in manure, is it not?—Yes.

1775. I suppose it has to leave the populous haunts in which the animal is killed to be converted into blood manure?—They do not make use of the blood except in large quantities. The large contractors sell the blood wholesale.

1776. That has to be removed from these slaughter-houses?—Yes.

1777. Everything that goes to the slaughter-house alive has to be carted away dead. All the offal has to be carted away to the different parts of the town to the blood-manure manufacturers, and so forth?—Such things as hides, certainly.

1778. Supposing you could find a place near the river side where you could slaughter the animals, and where there was space for this manure manufacture, and so forth, it would be a very great saving with regard to the removal of the offal, would it not?—I think the expense of the removal of the offal is so very trifling that it would not be a consideration.

1779. Perhaps you have not gone into the question?—Well, I cannot say I have made a calculation; but I have certainly an idea of my own as to what it is, and I think it would be very trifling.

1780. Supposing there was a direct railway communication from your slaughtering places at the port of London to the London central dead meat market, proposed to be erected at Smithfield, a great deal of the evil you anticipate would be removed?—No, I do not think it would remove the evil.

1781. If you could run carcasses straight from the places where they were slaughtered by the river side to the central market at Smithfield which it is proposed to erect, I suppose the dead meat purchasers would congregate there?—Any arrangement which would upset the present system would be very detrimental, and, I consider, almost tantamount to stopping.

1782. You think the present system is perfect, and cannot be improved?—With regard to the foreign cattle.

1783. I believe you do not import store cattle in numbers?—No, we have a few store cattle at times.

1784. Are you aware that there are great complaints made of different diseases coming in by means of foreign cattle?—I have heard complaints, but I do not believe there has ever been any proof of it.

1785. Do you believe that every disease we have suffered, from pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease, and rinderpest, are all indigenous?—I do not go so far as that, but I certainly say there has been no proof that any disease has been brought here from abroad by the foreign cattle; I am speaking of the rinderpest.

1786. I am speaking of the other diseases; do you think the foot and mouth disease was brought from abroad?—That I am not prepared to say.

1787. You are not prepared to deny it?—No.

1788. You are not prepared to give your opinion to the contrary?—I am not.

1789. What do you say as to lung disease?—We have scarcely any cases of lung disease on the Continent now; it is much more prevalent in England.

1790. Do you think it was originally brought from the Continent?—I am not prepared to state that.

1791. Do you think it was not brought from the Continent?—I do; I think it was not brought from the Continent.

1792. Do you think that is the general opinion of cattle owners in this country?—I am not prepared to say that, but I believe it is the general opinion of all persons connected with the foreign cattle trade.

1793. Do you think it is the general opinion of professional men in England?—I do not think it is the opinion of professional men.

1794. Nor of cattle owners?—I have heard many cattle owners say, that they do not believe it was imported from abroad; I have heard English cattle owners and dealers say that.

1795. But you think the general opinion of the cattle owners is, that it did come from abroad?—I believe it is the opinion of the professional men that it came from abroad.

1796. But that it is the opinion of the whole of the persons connected with the foreign trade in cattle, that it did not come from abroad?—Yes; I am quite sure of it, and also of many English cattle owners.

1797. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Do they always go through the streets from Brown's Wharf up to Islington?—Yes.

1798. Do they never go by Bow?—Yes, they do.

1799. Bow is rather outside London; is it not?—It is just on the borders of Essex.

1800. Do they ever stop at Bow on their way?—Do you mean for the purpose of being laired?

1801. Yes?—Certainly they do.

1802. Is that in open fields?—Yes.

1803. Have they any grass fields near them?—No; the fields there are only used for the purpose of lairing cattle.

1804. But have they any grass fields near those fields?—The grass fields are used for the purpose of lairing the cattle, generally speaking.

1805. What are the adjacent fields to them?—There are very few fields in that district.

1806. Are all the fields used for the purpose of lairing cattle?—What few there are in the neighbourhood.

1807. To whom does the Dublin Wharf belong?—I believe it belongs to Mr. Hartley.

1808. You said you principally imported fat stock?—Yes; I am a consignee of fat stock.

1809. And you know Brown's Wharf?—I do.

1810. To whom does Brown's Wharf belong?—It belongs to the General Steam Navigation Company.

1811. How do the Dutch cows come there?—The General Steam Navigation Company land most of their cattle which they bring from Germany and Holland, and various parts of the Continent there.

1812. I wish to know if Dutch cows come to Brown's Wharf?—They may be imported there.

1813. Do they come in a vessel by themselves?—No, they do not; they are mixed up with fat stock.

1814. You say the inspection is very good there?—I do.

1815. I am now going two months back. Supposing any fat beast happened to be stopped for any disease which happened to the cows that came over in the same vessel with them, what would be done?—The cows are taken to whoever will buy them. They used to go to the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

1816. Therefore, if the fat animal was diseased and stopped by the inspector, and killed at the wharf, the cattle coming over in the same vessel were allowed to go on?—Until lately, if there was any single head of cattle suffering with the foot and mouth disease, the whole cargo used to be stopped; but the Custom House authorities thought those regulations so strict, and, in fact, so unjust, when the foot and mouth complaint in this country was so prevalent, that they made the exception, and allowed the animals which were not suffering with the foot and mouth disease to go away.

1817. Supposing any animals were to be stopped with the rinderpest, am I rightly informed that all cows that came over with those animals were allowed to go on?—If there was one animal with the rinderpest I would guarantee to say the inspector would have stopped the whole lot.

1818. Go back to the month of February; was that the case then?—I am not aware that there was a single case of rinderpest detected at the water side, otherwise they would have been stopped.

1819. Now, as to sheep; supposing any beasts are brought over diseased, and there are sheep on board with them, what happens to the sheep?—The sheep would be passed, supposing the sheep were sound.

1820. Supposing a beast was killed having the rinderpest, three months back, what happened to sheep which came over in the same hold with it?—I believe there were a lot of sheep stopped at Harwich.

1821. I am talking about Brown's Wharf, as you know perfectly well?—I am not aware that there has been such a case at all.

1822. Am I to understand that no animal was stopped at Brown's Wharf with the rinderpest?—Not that I am aware of.

1823. Did not the English Government, some six weeks ago, stop the importation from Dutch wharves?—They did.

1824. Did they not give, as a reason, that the cows which came in with the diseased animals were admitted into London?—Yes; if it be the case that those were suffering from the rinderpest, there is no doubt that either it must have been incubated in the system, and brought out after removal from the wharves, or that they must have caught it in the places to which they had been removed.

1825. Then you think it quite possible that an animal should be passed as apparently sound, and then that it should afterwards become (as you call it) incubated on its way up to the place to which it is sold?—Yes; it may be so.

1826. There is one thing I wished to ask, namely, why this enormous loss should happen to an owner of an animal when killed on the banks of the Thames?—At present we have found, from experience, that it is so, because of the extra expense and trouble; and the peculation, that is going on, frightens every buyer, and the meat is not so good; the meat does not look so well as if they can take the animal home to their own slaughter-houses and have it killed, and therefore it creates a loss of some few pence per stone.

1827. Then you mean it is from deficient arrangements that there is peculation and a deficient accommodation for slaughtering?—From the deficient arrangements, and the fact that the persons have not got their property under their own control.

1828. Am I to assume this, that the person who hires these slaughter-houses, at Islington, suffers a loss in comparison with the man who kills at his own slaughter-house?—Undoubtedly they suffer a loss through having the cattle killed at the water-side.

1829. Will you answer my question. I ask whether

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

whether I am to understand that these men, who hire those public slaughter-houses at Islington, suffer a loss of some pence a stone, in comparison with those who slaughter in their own slaughter-houses in the City, or elsewhere?—I cannot say that they do not suffer any loss.

1830. Then a person may slaughter with the same advantage, in a public slaughter-house, as he may in his own slaughter-house at home; am I to understand that?—No, I think not.

1831. Does he suffer a loss?—The butcher suffers a loss through not having his property under his own control. They always object to slaughter at public slaughterhouses when they have an opportunity of taking them home to their own places.

1832. I understand a certain number of butchers hire slaughter-houses at Islington Market?—Yes; a few of the largest wholesale butchers.

1833. Has it been their custom to do so, year by year?—It has, since the market has been in existence.

1834. Do you suppose that they suffer a loss by killing at Islington, instead of killing at the slaughter-houses close to their own shops?—I should say so.

1835. Then may I ask why, if there were proper slaughter-houses, and a proper system, on the banks of the Thames, similar butchers would suffer a loss there more than they do at Islington?—It is the general opinion that they would do so.

1836. I ask you, if you can give me any reason why they would?—From the deficiency of arrangements.

1837. I know your arrangements at Brown's wharf are very bad, for I have seen them. I am asking if there were proper arrangements, and similar slaughter-houses, as there are at Islington, why a butcher should lose more on the banks of the Thames than he does at Islington?—I do not suppose the butchers would lose any more, but the importers would lose; the loss would fall on the importers.

1838. If a butcher does not lose, why should an importer lose?—Because there is not the competition for buying the cattle. The competition for buying the cattle would vanish at once. When they are brought to a certain known market, we have plenty of competition among the butchers, but if you do away with competition the price at once becomes nominal.

1839. Supposing there was a market on the banks of the Thames for live cattle to be exhibited, with slaughter-houses in which to kill them, would you not have the same amount of competition as you now have at Islington?—I do not think you would, because you would divide the markets, and it would leave a certain quantity of buyers to go to an English market, and another portion of them to go to a foreign market.

1840. Supposing you had a foreign cattle market on another day from the English market, why should you not have the same amount of competition as you do for your foreign cattle at Islington?—A division of markets is always bad, it cripples the trade; that is my impression.

1841. I believe at present, and during the last month also, the live cattle has been almost an entirely foreign market at Islington?—During the time the traffic by railway was stopped.

1842. May I ask what part of London the butchers who buy the foreign cattle principally live in?—They are principally the wholesale buyers and contractors who live in Whitechapel Market and Newgate Market.

1843. Is Whitechapel Market nearest to Islington, or to the banks of the Thames?—It is nearer to the banks of the Thames I should say.

1843*. Then I understand at present, an animal goes up to Islington, comes down again to Whitechapel, and goes up five or six miles to Islington again, is it not so?—No; the cattle that are landed at Blackwall do not come to Whitechapel at all.

1844. They go to Islington?—Yes.

1845. The Whitechapel butcher buys them, does he not?—Yes, frequently.

1846. You said that they were principally bought by contractors, who live at Whitechapel?—The wholesale butchers of Whitechapel, Leadenhall, and Newgate Markets.

1847. Then the animal goes up to Islington and comes all the way back again to Whitechapel?—Certainly, they go to the meat markets.

1848. Would it not be more convenient for the butcher who lives in Whitechapel, to buy his animal in a live meat market on the banks of the Thames, kill it there, and take the carcass on by rail?—That I am not prepared to state.

1849. Are you prepared to state it would not be so?—I am not.

1850. I think I understand you, the Government contractors are the principal people who buy foreign stock?—A great many of them are sold to Government contractors.

1851. Do they supply Woolwich?—Woolwich is a small contract; it affects a very small portion of the contract.

1852. Deptford?—Deptford is not a permanent contract.

1853. But they would supply Deptford as one?—Yes.

1854. They would supply Woolwich as another?—Yes.

1855. Chatham, as another?—Certainly.

1856. Therefore all this meat would go to the south side of the river?—Certainly it would.

1857. Now, supposing that is the case, would it not be more convenient to get your animal on the banks of the Thames, kill it there, and take your meat at once?—It would be more convenient perhaps for the supply of those three particular contracts; but they only form a very small portion of the Government contracts in England.

1858. Now we will go through the foreign meat market: I understand there is a great portion taken by these contractors?—There is.

1859. A great portion is taken by the Whitechapel and Leadenhall butchers?—When I say a great portion, I suppose 400 or 500 a week are taken by the contractors.

1860. Out of what number?—Out of something like 2,000 or 3,000.

1861. What sort of number would a Whitechapel butcher take?—That depends quite upon circumstances; but I should say, on an average, they take 400 or 500 a week.

1862. And Leadenhall and Newgate?—A similar quantity.

1863. Who are the butchers who supply the population near the docks with meat; where do they live?—They live at the east end of London; the whole district from Whitechapel to the Victoria Docks.

1864. Do not they principally buy foreign meat for that population?—I believe they buy their meat principally at Whitechapel and Leadenhall markets. They buy it principally dead at these meat markets.

1865. Is it not, to a great degree, foreign meat which they buy?—I have no doubt a great quantity of it is.

1866. Would not all those butchers who live near the Victoria Docks buy more easily at the banks of the Thames than they would by having to go a greater distance from it?—Those who are in the habit of buying their meat at the dead meat market, and do not come as customers to the live market, invariably attend the dead meat markets only.

1867. What becomes of the rest of the foreign animals; we have only got 1,200 out of 3,000 yet?—They are distributed about London in different places.

1868. But are not the great majority of the foreign cattle consumed near the banks of the Thames?— No; they are consumed in all parts of London.

1869. But about half are consumed either by the contractors or on the banks of the Thames?—Yes; about one-half.

1870. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] I do not think you have described what the course is yet; you say you are a consignee of foreign cattle?—Yes.

1871. Do the butchers come down and buy of you from the ships?—No; we bring the cattle to the Metropolitan Market, and they come there and buy them.

1872. Will you give me some idea as to the relative price of the foreign meat, compared with the English?—Invariably the difference of price is ½ *d.* per pound in favour of the English.

1873. Lord *Naas.*] Does that include Spanish beasts?—Yes, it includes Spanish beasts; but we have had instances where they have been very fine; where they make quite as much as English cattle.

1874. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] I am excluding Spanish beasts; but, as a general rule, are the foreign beasts as good as the English?—I should say they are not so young, as a rule; they keep them longer, and always, in consequence, lose the prime of the meat.

1875. You have told the Chairman that the inspector stopped animals when there happened to be any one of the cargo infected; what became of those animals that were stopped?—They were slaughtered at the wharf, and then there is an examination after they have been killed.

1876. Have the inspectors a power of ordering all those animals to be slaughtered at once?—Certainly.

1877. Can you tell me an instance where any number of animals have been so slaughtered by the order of the inspector?—I have known cases myself where cargoes have been stopped which have lost as much to the owners as 5*l.* per head; 200 at a time through that very circumstance.

1878. Do you know what became of that meat?—That meat was obliged to be brought to the meat market, and there it was invariably sold at a ruinous price, from the fact stated before.

1879. Was there nothing to show that that was the meat of animals that had been slaughtered from infection?—Nothing.

1880. So that it had a chance of going to the market as sound meat with only the difference that there was the low price fixed for it?—The meat is always inspected by the inspector after the cattle are slaughtered at the market.

1881. Would it be possible for any inspector, after the animal had been slaughtered, to discover whether the meat was the meat of a sound or unsound animal?—Yes, certainly.

1882. Do you think that any inspector, on a view of it, would be able to detect at once whether it was sound or unsound?—I should think a practised eye certainly could.

1883. What class of men are these inspectors generally?—The inspector who inspects these cattle now is as competent a man as any in the United Kingdom.

1884. Was he brought up as a veterinary surgeon?—Yes.

1885. Have they all been brought up as veterinary surgeons?—Yes, certainly. I should say the London inspectors are as competent men as any you could find in the kingdom.

1886. Is there any previous course of study before these men are employed as inspectors?—Yes.

1887. Are you sure of that; do they pass an examination?—Yes, as veterinary surgeons.

1888. Do they all hold any diploma?—I am only speaking of the two we have in London; I know they do.

1889. You have mentioned four wharves; do these two inspectors look after these four wharves you have named?—They do.

1890. You told us that from 2,000 to 3,000 animals pass through your hands in the course of a week, and you now state there are two inspectors; are there only two inspectors for passing the whole of the foreign cattle which pass through your hands?—At these wharves there are only two inspectors.

1891. The whole of these 2,000 or 3,000 animals come to these wharves, do they not?—Yes; but they arrive on various days; they do not all arrive on the same day.

1892. If they did, it would be utterly impossible for any two inspectors to examine the number; what is the largest number you have ever known to come on any one day?—About 1,500.

1893. You say that six weeks ago there was a great quantity of cattle with foot and mouth disease; were any of those animals killed?—They were all killed.

1894. Were there any means of detecting after death, or any sign by which was denoted the presence of the foot and mouth disease?—The foot and mouth disease does not affect the flesh of the animals.

1895. Pleuro pneumonia does very much?—Not in the earlier stage.

1896. Is not the lung generally destroyed in cases of pleuro pneumonia?—That is only in the more severe and advanced stages.

1897. Did you ever see any case of pleuro pneumonia where the lung was not affected to a considerable extent?—I have seen very slight cases of pleuro pneumonia.

1898. The Chairman asked you a great many questions about slaughtering animals on the banks of the Thames; are there any public places where animals could be slaughtered now?—At the present moment there is no accommodation at all.

1899. *Chairman.*] They slaughter 20 or 30 beasts in the shed at the wharf, do they not?—At one slaughterhouse they can slaughter 40.

1900. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is that shed the

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

property of a private individual, or does it belong to the company?—It belongs to the company.

1901. The two companies you have named are the General Steam Navigation and the Dublin?—Yes.

1902. Is their charge the same?—They charge for slaughtering cattle at the wharf.

1903. You seem yourself to have a very great objection to slaughtering these animals; is that by reason of any increased expense?—By reason of the very bad experience I have had of it.

1904. How have you found that experience to be bad; what is the difference between slaughtering an animal on the banks of the Thames and slaughtering it at Islington?—We cannot get the men down to buy them of us.

1905. Then it is the disinclination on the part of the trade to come to the water's edge?—Certainly.

1906. Would they not have a better opportunity of inspecting the animals there as they come out of the vessel?—No, they never can have a better opportunity than in a public market.

1907. Do not you find in your trade, as in every other, that habit is everything; after it is done for a month, will they not be willing to come down to the water's edge?—We have been obliged to have cattle killed for the last four or five years, to my knowledge, and the system does not seem to me to improve; the buyers are not more numerous than when we first began.

1908. You say at one time the foreigners did not send any cattle there; did you then try to deal in English cattle, and make another market in that way?—No, I did not.

1909. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] To revert for a moment to this question of the boats; it seems that certain cattle are consigned to you in the boats of the General Steam Navigation Company and another company, and that other cattle are consigned to you in certain other boats; now, are the animals imported in the better boats of more value than those which come in vessels not so well adapted for the purpose?—In case of fine weather it would make no difference, but in case of bad weather the result would be that the butchers, if they had any idea that they came by a vessel where they would be bruised, would fight very shy of buying them.

1910. What proportion of the foreign cattle consigned to you, which are very numerous, come over in these inferior boats, which are not so suited to the purpose?—That I cannot say. It is only occasionally that those boats are made use of; and I was only mentioning that every boat which is carrying cattle ought to have suitable fittings for the purpose of carrying them.

1911. In saying that, is it your opinion that the general shipping trade or companies associated, as the Steam Navigation Company is, for the importation of cattle, will provide proper vessels without the regulation or inspection of Government?—I have no doubt of it. That would be to their own interest, because if they did not provide proper vessels, they would not get the cattle to carry.

1912. Now, go a little further; is it your opinion that it would be desirable that no vessel should be allowed to import cattle other than those licensed and surveyed under the regulations of Government so as to preclude the market from being supplied, and to save you from being supplied with animals which, you say, are frequently, in bad weather, damaged on the passage?—I should say that it would be a very good plan, and I believe there is a system of inspection already by the Government.

1913. I am afraid that is not a rule?—I have heard of the Government inspectors coming down to inspect the various cattle vessels at Blackwall; I know, for a fact, they have inspected our own.

1914. Do you know that it is required by the Government, or do you know that there are officers appointed to see, and required to see, to the construction and adaptation of the vessels for the foreign cattle carrying trade?—No; I do not know that it is absolutely law and compulsory.

1915. Are you acquainted with the manner in which hides are exposed, and the horns cut off, at a shed immediately adjoining the present Leadenhall Market?—I am.

1916. What is your opinion of the arrangements adopted there as to that particular matter of the hides?—I have no doubt that the arrangements adopted there are such as at present suit the trade.

1917. Do you think it a system which can be advantageous to the public, and that it is not connected with very great danger to the public health?—I am not aware that it is at all dangerous to the public.

1918. Have you frequently been there?—I have been there on several occasions.

1919. You have been at the shed during the time that the hides have been laid out and the horns cut off with an axe, and the people there at work?—Yes; it is not a very inviting place.

1920. Have you not been very much oppressed with the most extraordinary and disagreeable effluvium which takes place in the midst of a very large population on that spot?—There is no doubt of it.

1921. Have you chanced to pass there in the last autumn during the prevalence of the rinderpest and the disease in animals in London?—Yes; I have been there.

1922. Were you struck with the effluvium being worse at that time than ever it was before?—No; I cannot say that I noticed it particularly.

1923. You told us you thought the cattle on debarcation were sufficiently inspected; do you consider two hours sufficient for the inspection of a thorough cargo, consisting, I think you said, of from 300 to 400 beasts, and from 500 to 600 sheep?—I do, provided the inspector is a competent man.

1924. I am assuming that the inspector is a competent man; in the inspection of these animals, does he examine their mouths?—Yes.

1925. And as regards those sheep; are the sheep turned up to see whether they are healthy, or to see whether they are scabbed or not?—Yes, they are all turned up.

1926. Have you ever known an instance, in any of these vessels, of the General Steam Navigation Company overladen and bringing too heavy a cargo, and damage arising from it?—I have not.

1927. Lord *Naas.*] Do the cattle suffer in hot weather, in the holds of the vessels?—Yes, they do; unless they are properly ventilated.

1928. Have you any idea what the temperature of the hold of a vessel, bringing over cattle in the usual summer weather, is?—I have not; but I know the temperature is so oppressive, that, without

without proper ventilation is given in these vessels, it is scarcely possible for a human being, in the heat, to go down below.

1929. Do not the animals, coming out of this very high temperature, appear very much exhausted?—Yes, they would do so, but the vessels regularly adapted for the trade have proper ventilation, and therefore it is not so much the case with them.

1930. Have you any idea what the temperature would be on a very hot day in summer, the thermometer standing, say, at 75 degrees; do you know what the temperature would be in the hold of one of the best vessels, under those circumstances?—No, I cannot say as to that.

1931. When are those cattle inspected?—They are inspected on being landed.

1932. Immediately on being landed?—Immediately after being landed.

1933. Do you think, when the beasts are taken out of the hold of a vessel, after having been subjected for many hours to that very hot atmosphere, that they are in so natural a state that even the most skilful can detect disease or unhealthiness?—I do, invariably.

1934. And you think, that subjecting the beasts, for so many hours, to such a hot atmosphere, has, in fact, no serious effect on their general appearance or state?—I do. We have not found it to be so in well adapted vessels.

1935. I am not speaking of beasts that have been knocked about, but of beasts that have been subjected to the heat of these holds?—The vessels which have been employed in the cattle trade are nearly all of them properly ventilated; those, at any rate, which serve regularly in the cattle trade, and I should say this is one of the greatest objects which shipowners have to provide for; proper ventilation in cattle ships.

1936. You stated to Sir Matthew Ridley that every beast's mouth is examined, and the sheep turned up; how could that process be conducted when you say that very often a thousand head of cattle and sheep are passed in two hours?—The inspector has an assistant. There are invariably two or three of the drovers to mouth these cattle.

1937. You do not wish the Committee to understand the inspector personally inspects every one of these beasts?—He inspects them himself, but the drovers or assistants open the mouths of the cattle, so that he may get on with the inspection.

1938. You think a thousand head of cattle and sheep can be inspected in that way in two hours by one man?—I do.

1939. Without a chance of an unhealthy beast being passed by?—I should think so.

1940. That is your opinion, is it?—It is.

1941. Have you known cases of cargoes of beasts being passed over, and disease afterwards detected amongst them?—No; I have not known any cases, with the exception of the cows which were bought by Earl Granville's steward.

1942. Speaking generally, are you of opinion that it is almost impossible that a case of pleuro-pneumonia, or of foot and mouth disease, or of rinderpest, could escape the cognisance of these inspectors?—I am.

1943. Do you believe that?—I do; I had a case last Saturday where the inspector at once detected an animal which was suffering from pleuro-pneumonia, and which was the only one amongst a cargo.

1944. You state that the butcher would give from 1*l.* to 30*s.* more for the beasts they could kill at their own slaughter-house, than for the beasts they would be obliged to kill elsewhere?—Yes.

1945. Is that your opinion?—I have heard them give testimony to that effect; they have told me so.

1946. Do not these butchers buy a great quantity of dead meat?—Yes, they buy a certain quantity for their consumption.

1947. Do they give from 1*l.* to 30*s.* less for the dead meat they buy, than for the beasts they kill at their own slaughter-house?—I should say that they buy the dead meat invariably on better terms.

1948. On better terms?—I should say so.

1949. Then, in fact, they get it cheaper?—Yes, that is the case.

1950. They give less for the live beasts than they do for the dead beasts?—The meat which they buy, as dead, does not come up in such a good state, and therefore they must have a certain quantity of live cattle to make their shop look nice.

1951. But is that so; some of the very primest meat that is sold in London arrives from Scotland daily?—I am aware of that; the Scotch meat invariably fetches a very high price.

1952. Does it not look as well as the meat which is killed in London?—It does not look so well, but it invariably fetches a higher price.

1953. What advantage to the butcher is it by killing at his own slaughter-house, if he can get a higher price for meat which is killed in Scotland; how can you reconcile these two things?—The supply of dead meat is irregular, and sometimes it happens that if he goes to a dead meat market he has to pay an enormous price, whereas, at other times, when there is a glut in the market, he can buy the dead meat very cheap.

1954. I am not talking of the dead meat being cheap or dear, but I am talking of the relative value of meat killed out of London, and meat killed in slaughter-houses?—Will you permit me to say that, with the live cattle which they buy, they regulate the supply; and, supposing we had no supply but the dead meat, it would cause the greatest irregularity in the supply of London that could possibly be imagined. In my opinion it would have the effect, that sometimes there would be such a glut of meat brought into London that it would be impossible for it all to be consumed, and at other times London would be without meat.

1955. Then you wish the Committee to understand that the butcher will give more for the live meat, because he will be able to keep it or kill it at his convenience, and not with reference to the quality of the meat?—Precisely.

1956. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Do you have any Scotch cattle come to your wharf?—The Scotch cattle are landed at the Aberdeen wharf.

1957. Then you do not know anything about the condition in which they arrive by the steamers?—I believe they arrive in tolerably good condition.

1958. And that the boats by which they come are well fitted for that trade?—I believe so.

1959. Do you know what difference there is in the price of sending them by sea or by rail from Scotland?—I believe that the price is pretty much

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

much the same. It does not vary much, either by one route or the other.

1960. Have you heard in what way they are considered to come in the best condition?—People generally prefer sending them by railway, I believe, and not subjecting them to the sea voyage.

1961. Mr. *Graham.*] You said the advantage to a butcher of getting his meat in a live state was that he could keep it until it was wanted?—Yes.

1962. Is it not the case that by keeping a beast after landing from one of these hot steamers for a day or two the condition of the meat will be improved very much?—Yes.

1963. So that there is an advantage not only in keeping it until it is wanted, but in having the meat in a better condition?—Precisely.

1964. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is there any bill of lading sent with the cattle that come over?—Yes.

1965. Then, if any animal dies of disease on the passage, is it thrown overboard, or kept till it is landed?—That is a case which has not occurred during my experience, where they die they generally die from stress of weather.

1966. They never die from disease?—I never heard of a case.

1967. You spoke of the inspection of meat in France; do you consider the inspection of dead meat in France more stringent and severe than it is in England?—I do not.

1968. Are you aware that it is the custom in France to stamp every piece of meat that comes into the public market; it is so in some parts of France; is it so in Paris?—I do not think it is so in Paris.

1969. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you know the custom of Paris?—I have noticed the way in which the meat is sold there.

1970. They have a large cattle market near Paris?—They have two, Poissy and Sceame markets.

1971. One on each side of Paris?—Yes.

1972. How far is Poissy from the abattoir?—Poissy is about 12 miles from Paris.

1973. Would that be two or three leagues from the abattoir?—Yes.

1974. I heard some evidence given about the foreign meat; you say that some part of it is a halfpenny cheaper than our English meat?—Yes, on an average, I should say it is so.

1975. Has there not been some importation recently of cattle from France?—Yes, there has, a very large importation.

1976. What has been the quality of the meat?—Exceedingly fine.

1977. As good as the English meat?—Yes; they have imported splendid cattle from France during the last three months.

1978. Have they come from Boulogne?—From Boulogne and Havre.

1979. Have the cattle been brought from Havre to London by boat?—Yes, from both places.

1980. From Boulogne they come up to London by the Steam Navigation boats?—Precisely.

1981. You do not know anything about the Newhaven trade, I suppose?—I do not; I think that is stopped.

1982. With regard to some other boats which brought cattle, you said there was not sufficient accommodation; is it a common occurrence that cattle are brought by boats which are not properly constructed for the cattle trade?—It is not a common occurrence, it is only in cases where boats are at certain out-ports, and for the sake of getting freight, they take cattle home, and are not properly fitted.

1983. Do you mean that as to London?—It may be so; we have had it occur.

1984. We want to know the fact; is not the main cattle trade carried on between the continent and London by boats constructed for that purpose?—Most decidedly so.

1985. When cattle are brought in boats not fitted for the purpose, it is more by chance than anything else?—It is.

1986. The cattle brought in these boats, I suppose, are brought on deck?—They are brought on deck, and under deck also.

1987. When they are brought by boats of that kind under deck they are brought by a boat that has not proper fittings, I presume?—The fittings I am speaking of are all under deck. By fittings, I mean proper divisions to carry the cattle so that in case of bad weather they do not pitch about in the vessel.

1988. I am afraid I have not made myself understood; the boats in the cattle trade have fittings for the purpose of carrying cattle on the deck?—They have.

1989. I am now speaking of the boats which do not carry cattle regularly; do those boats when they carry cattle, ever bring them on deck or under deck?—That would be a matter of chance, no doubt; no doubt they would bring them under deck if they had room under deck.

1990. Do they?—I have heard of such cases.

1991. You do not know of it of your own knowledge?—I have heard they did so last autumn.

1992. I suppose, if there was a large trade carried on in that way, you would know of it?—There is not a large trade carried on in that way. Those cases always are exceptional.

1993. Is there not a great desire on the part of those who send cattle over, as well as purchasers, that they should be able to do it at some open market?—Precisely.

1994. And that a market of some kind or other, whatever it may be, whether at London or elsewhere, must be a large market, where buyers and sellers can meet?—Undoubtedly. By the competition that is created in the public market, the trade is kept on a proper level, and carried on to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

1995. And buyers are reluctant to go to small places?—They are. The fact is, that frequently they could not get what they wanted.

1996. Then it would be a loss to them, of course?—Certainly.

1997. Besides which, there being no regular standard by which they could judge how other people buy, they would be reluctant to go to a small place?—Yes, they always prefer a large market, where they know they can get suited, and there they will go.

1998. That will be the case whether you have dead meat or live meat; persons will go to the large market so as to fix the prices; that I apprehend to be the case with all buyers and all sellers?—Yes.

1999. Mr. *Norwood.*] Is it not the case that the owners of the steamers are very often the importers of the cattle?—No, not very often; they are quite exceptional cases. I believe Mr. Robinson

Robinson and Mr. Hall are about the only shipowners who regularly import cattle.

2000. It must be much to the advantage of the shipowners to make their steamers as perfect as possible for the conveyance of cattle?—Undoubtedly.

2001. And there is no necessity for a Government inspection?—I should say that self interest would always be a sufficient guard to the shipowner to protect himself in having the vessels adapted for the purpose of carrying cattle.

2002. Supposing there were two steamers in the cattle trade frequenting the port of London, one bringing its cattle invariably in good condition, and the other, from defective construction, bringing the cattle badly; the ship which brought the cattle in good condition would get a better trade?—As a matter of course, it would get all the trade, and the other would get none.

2003. Therefore, there it is the greatest possible inducement for owners to make their ships perfect?—Precisely.

2004. A question was put to you by the Chairman, and by another honourable Member, with reference to the disadvantage you have been at when you have slaughtered your cattle at the wharf. You have not been able to sell?—No.

2005. That would not be the case if there was a joint meat market formed somewhere on the water-side, where all foreign cattle might be exposed, and to which the butchers would come down?—That would be a division of the market.

2006. Between the foreign trade and the home trade?—Between the foreign trade and the home trade, and therefore very detrimental.

2007. Wherever there is a large quantity of merchandise, you find the merchants and factors and brokers will come to it?—Yes.

2008. So that if there were all the conveniences for holding a large market by the water side, you would eventually get a market there?—That is a question I am not prepared to answer, but my opinion is, that it would meet with very great opposition from the whole trade.

2009. *Chairman.*] Supposing that no live fat cattle were allowed to come into the Islington market at all from England or Scotland, should you then object to having your cattle slaughtered by the water side?—In the first place, if you will permit me to say so, I do not think it would be possible to shut up the Islington market.

2010. I do not ask your opinion whether it would be possible to shut up that market, but I ask you this: supposing no cattle could come into the Islington Market for the purpose of being slaughtered, should you then object to having your foreign cattle slaughtered by the river side?—We should certainly object if we could help it.

2011. Supposing you had the monopoly of the live fat stock market, would you then object?—Yes.

2012. You say it would be impossible to prevent live fat stock coming to the Islington Market; was it not possible, and was it not done, a few weeks ago?—It was done during the cold weather, and I believe it was possible during that time.

2013. What has been done, I suppose, is possible to be done again?—As soon as the hot weather comes you would find it very different, and I believe the result would be that some days London would be without meat, and on other days it would be overflooded with it.

2014. We had some experience of it when the Act of Parliament was passed, prohibiting the movement of cattle by railway, as to what could be done. Did you hear then that there was a short supply of meat in the metropolis?—Yes, I did, on one or two occasions.

2015. Did you ever hear that a butcher refused a customer: did you ever know a single instance where a customer sent for a joint of meat and could not get it?—No, I did not.

2016. Do you know there was no great rise in price in the London markets?—The fact of the cattle plague raging in the different districts assisted the movement very much, because, in consequence of the Government Order, the owners were obliged to have the cattle killed, and the dead meat markets were, during that time, over supplied.

2017. So that when you could not bring live stock by railway to the London market the dead meat market was over supplied?—It was, through that circumstance, from the owners being obliged to kill on account of the cattle plague.

2018. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you mean, obliged to kill animals that were not diseased?—No, I mean that, if among a herd, a quantity of stock, an animal was taken with the disease the others were all obliged to be killed.

2019. *Chairman.*] They were obliged to kill those which had been in contact with it?—Yes.

2020. And the consequence was, there was a great glut in the dead meat market?—Yes.

2021. And there was a great impetus given to the foreign cattle trade?—I believe that the foreign cattle trade has increased.

2022. The newspaper reports showed nearly double the foreign beasts coming into the London market in the week that prohibition took place and a few weeks before?—Yes, I believe that was so.

2023. If that were so, should you have any objection to look forward to a similar state of things, to shut out all live stock coming by rail to the London market, and for you to have a monopoly of the foreign trade by the river side?—I think the whole trade would object to it if they could.

2024. I ask you if you should have any objection; do you think it would be very injurious to the foreign trade?—I think it would.

2025. Why do you think so?—Because, if such a regulation were adopted, I do not think there would be half the quantity of foreign cattle come.

2026. If the foreign cattle had the monopoly of the London markets you think that only half the quantity would come?—No, I misunderstood you.

2027. Then, what is it you mean?—I understood you to ask me the question, whether if the foreign cattle were obliged to be killed at the water side.

2028. And no other live stock for slaughter could come into London at all; would that be detrimental to the foreign trade?—No, it would not.

2029. Supposing that the one regulation were accompanied by the other, I suppose you would very cheerfully submit to it?—Do you speak of me individually?

2030. I mean you and those whom you represent—the foreign cattle trade?—I believe the

Mr. *John Hönck.*

10 May 1866.

trade would object to any slaughtering at the water side.

2031. You were the importer of the famous Revel cargo, were you not?—Yes.

2032. It could never be satisfactorily proved whether the disease was brought in by means of that Revel cargo?—I am quite satisfied, as far as my own knowledge goes, that it did not come in by that cargo.

2033. You have given evidence to that effect before the Commissioners?—Yes.

2034. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you know how the regulations as to the cattle plague are carried on on the Continent?—Yes, I do.

2035. How are these large herds brought to the port of embarkation?—They are collected from the various markets on the Continent. We receive cattle now even from Vienna.

2036. Do they come by train?—They come by railway, generally, by way of Magdeburg and Hull.

2037. Do you know of any that have come from Hungary by rail?—Cattle come from various parts of Hungary to the Vienna market.

2038. Do they come by railway?—Yes.

2039. Are you sure of that fact?—Yes.

2040. Do any large quantities of them come by railway?—Yes.

2041. Are those store cattle that are conveyed by railway?—They are not so frequently conveyed by railway, if you are speaking now of the Hungarian cattle. I do not think they are always carried by railway.

2042. What I mean to ask is this; can cattle, having any disorder, come by railway from Hungary, all the way to Rotterdam, without inspection?—I should think not.

2043. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I think I understood you to say that if there were too much dead meat introduced in a day into London there would be a glut?—Yes.

2044. And a great deal of meat would be sacrificed?—Undoubtedly, in warm weather.

2045. If live animals were allowed to come into London, and not to leave London, and there were too many came in, what would be the case then?—They would be kept alive until such time as they were wanted.

2046. At what expense?—At a very trifling expense; say 1 *s.* per day.

2047. Are you aware that there is a system in London now as to dead meat, of ordering only so many carcases to be sent up as are wanted by particular people?—No, I am not. There may be from Scotland, but I am not aware of the fact.

Monday, 14*th May* 1866.

PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. W. Egerton.	Lord Naas.
Sir James Fergusson.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Graham.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Hunt.	

THE RIGHT HON. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. THOMAS COULSON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *T. Coulson.* 14 May 1866.

2048. Mr. *Norwood.*] I believe you are extensively engaged in the foreign cattle trade at Hull?—Yes.

2049. Are you an importer or salesman?—I am a wholesale salesman.

2050. Can you tell the Committee from what foreign ports your import of horned cattle arrive?—We get them from Hamburgh, from Bremen, and from Toning. The trade with Holland is now closed, but we have had a great number from Holland.

2051. Have you in your possession statistics showing the amount of horned cattle that are imported into Hull from those ports that you mentioned?—I have not.

2052. I believe another gentleman who has been summoned can produce those statistics?—He probably may be able to do so.

2053. With regard to sheep, is there not a considerable import of foreign sheep into Hull?—Yes.

2054. Where do the sheep come from?—They come now principally from Hamburgh.

2055. Did they come from Holland before the prohibition?—Yes; we had them from Holland, but not in such large numbers as from Hamburgh.

2056. Are the parties on whose account this stock is imported foreigners who consign to you, or are they British subjects who import?—They are chiefly foreigners.

2057. They are consigned to you and to other salesmen for sale?—Yes.

2058. Where do you sell them?—I sell them in my own premises chiefly, in Hull; since the prohibition we have been obliged to sell them in Hull.

2059. Before the prohibition came into force, what was the course of procedure with regard to the disposal of them?—We sold all we could in Hull, and what we did not sell we sent forward to different markets, to Rotheram, to Wakefield, to Manchester, which I attend on Tuesday, and to Leeds on Wednesday.

2060. The horned cattle which you get from abroad are principally fat cattle, I suppose?—Yes, they are principally fat cattle; I have had a great number of lean cattle from Holland; stores from Harlingen particularly.

2061. You have a fair proportion of cows?—Yes, milk cows.

2062. Those are chiefly from Holland?—Yes.

2063. The importation of cows has ceased since the prohibition?—Yes.

2064. Can you give the Committee any idea as to the proportion of fat and store cattle coming into Hull?—I can only from memory; there is a great deal more fat cattle than lean; considerably more.

2065. Where do you get your store cattle chiefly from; from what foreign ports?—Harlingen is the principal place.

2066. You do not get very much from Hamburgh?—Very few into Hull.

2067. Where do the store cattle go to?—I sold one man 450, which went to Dundee; and I had a letter from him three weeks ago, in which he expressed his satisfaction with them.

2068. In point of fact, are they sent all over the country for the purpose of fattening?—Yes; he only wished to have 100 or 200 more.

2069. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] When was this?—A few weeks ago; that was a gentleman in Dundee; he wrote to me to say that 80 per cent. of them were living.

2070. Mr. *Norwood.*] Do you find the importation of store cattle into Hull is increasing?—It is not now; but it will.

2071. There is an increasing demand for foreign store cattle, which would enable you to do a larger trade, if you were enabled to have the cattle?—Yes.

2072. With regard to these lean stock, at what parts of the year have you the largest number of them?—Just about this month it commences to be turned into the pastures.

2073. To be grass fed?—Yes.

2074. Now, in what condition do the foreign cattle reach the port of Hull?—In very good condition, generally; it is according to weather; that is all; but as to their general health, I think I have seen nothing wrong in them, excepting that from Hamburgh, there have been a few with the foot and mouth disease; I have never seen anything else in my life.

2075. You have seen no rinderpest?—Never.

2076. Can you tell me what your importation

Mr. *T. Coulson.*
14 May 1866.

of foreign cattle into Hull is in the year?—I cannot tell you the number; there are many salesmen in Hull.

2077. You have no complaint or suggestion of improvement to make with regard to the import of foreign cattle, as far as the steamers are concerned; tell the Committee any suggestion you have to give them on that subject?—There are some little things which, I think, should be altered; sometimes they are overcrowded in the steamers.

2078. What is that occasioned by?—It is when they are very anxious to start them, and so long as they can crowd them aboard they do not mind particularly how they put them in.

2079. And the cattle suffer from that overcrowding, I suppose?—Yes, that is to say, if it comes on bad weather; they do very well when the weather is fine.

2080. Are the owners of these steam vessels, in Hull, also importers of cattle on their own account?—I do not know of one at the present time.

2081. Do they merely confine themselves to the trade of carrying?—They do.

2082. Do you find a very large amount of cattle injured by this bad weather, which, you have alluded to just now, during the winter?—We have not had very much; the place from which we find they come in the worst condition, is from Bremen.

2083. What is the cause of that?—The cause of that is, that their accommodation is not quite so good, and they generally fill the boats too much; they are generally overcrowded a great deal too much from Bremen.

2084. I suppose the result is, that you have many of them with broken limbs?—Yes, and some have to be slaughtered on board if they come in in bad weather.

2085. Are they also much bruised?—Yes, in bad weather, when they have been overcrowded.

2086. Of course that is an immense disadvantage in the sale of them?—Yes.

2087. What is the length of the passage from Bremen to Hull?—It is about two days and one night; it is rather a long passage sometimes.

2088. Do you think it would be an advantage if steamers were licensed to carry only a certain number, which they are capable of carrying, in the same way as ships are licensed to carry passengers?—That would be decidedly the best.

2089. In the Bremen ships you have the cattle and sheep in the hold as well as on the deck?—Yes; there are some vessels made expressly for cattle.

2090. Those vessels, I presume, are fitted up for cattle?—Yes, some of the Bremen boats.

2091. Those boats bring their cattle better than those that have not those appliances?—I do not know so much about that; they generally want to make the best of the voyage; it is a question of payment; they crowd them too much.

2092. The Hamburgh trade is your chief trade?—At the present time.

2093. Do you find the same objection there with regard to the delivery of the cattle?—No; I think we have better accommodation from Hamburgh in every way; better steamers, more facility, and not so much overcrowding.

2094. When your cattle arrive at Hull, what sort of accommodation have you there; have you sufficient accommodation for landing and inspecting during landing?—Yes; they are improving it now; just at the present time; it is tolerably good at the present moment; we should like to land them a little quicker at low water.

2095. Have you personal accommodation in Hull; pastures and every accommodation of that sort?—Yes every accommodation.

2096. Belonging to yourself?—Yes.

2097. Within the borough?—Within the borough.

2098. There is no market, I think, in Hull that can be fairly used by you as an importer of foreign cattle?—There is a market on Tuesday, but it is of very little importance.

2099. You do not use the market in that case?—Very seldom.

2100. Then I suppose the buyers come to your private premises and inspect what you have in stock, and purchase or not, as they think fit?—Yes.

2101. As I understand, that which you cannot get rid of in Hull, you send to these two or three other large markets which you mentioned which you regularly attend?—Yes.

2102. Is there a very large amount of foreign cattle slaughtered in Hull at the present moment?—Yes, one man bought and slaughtered 200 within three days.

2103. Was that recently?—Yes, it was the week before last.

2104.—How did he dispose of those carcases; was it all for the consumption of Hull itself?—No, very few of them were disposed of in Hull. He sent them to Sheffield, to Manchester, and different west country places.

2105. Of course, that kind of trade has considerably developed itself since the restrictions which have lately been put on the movement of cattle?—Yes, they must do that or not have them at all.

2106. Do you think that the system of slaughtering at the port, and distributing over the manufacturing districts behind Hull, is likely to prove a permanent source of business?—No; if it comes hot weather it would be a bad case directly.

2107. You think there will be objections, then?—Yes, it would not keep them, it would not pass.

2108. I think there always used to be a considerable amount of dead-meat traffic from Hull before the late disease showed itself, is not that so?—I have seen a great number of sheep go to London dead.

2109. That has been a trade for many years? That has been a trade for many years.

2110. Mr. *Hunt.*] In hot weather?—Not in hot weather; sometimes they go by rail; they sometimes kill them and put them on the rail, and they get to their destination the same night.

2111. I thought the general mode of conveyance to London was upon the deck of a steamer?—Yes, before railways.

2112. They were sewn up in cloth and placed on the deck of a steamer?—Yes.

2113. In moderately cool weather that system is a very feasible one?—Yes; I think they go in as good condition by rail, if it is in cool weather, or they could do so.

2114. With regard to the inspection of foreign animals in the Port of Hull; is that satisfactory?—Yes; very satisfactory.

2115. Do you think the inspectors competent and able to perform their duty?—I do.

2116. With regard to sheep you have a large importation of them?—A very large importation.

2117. In what condition are they brought over?—In good condition generally

2118. They are sent alive in all directions; to Liverpool and elsewhere?—Yes; to Manchester and Liverpool principally.

2119. The other is a large trade; the wholesale butchers slaughter the sheep and send the carcases to London and in all directions?—Yes.

2120. Your slaughter-houses in Hull are private in every respect?—They are all private.

2121. Do you consider them well managed?—Yes; very well managed.

2122. Are they sufficient for the purpose of the trade?—They have been, so far.

2123. Would they be sufficient if the system of slaughtering fat stock at the port was adopted as a permanent thing?—I should say it would be sufficient; we have had an immense number in a week or two, and there seems to be plenty of room.

2124. You believe the business was satisfactorily and properly done?—Yes, it was; they have them in several places; they have not them altogether.

2125. I believe the Board of Trade in Hull have a meat inspector, whose duty it is to examine carcases and to examine meat in every shape and form?—Yes.

2126. Is he a competent man?—He is.

2127. And does his duty well?—He does; I do not see any fault in him in that way.

2128. As far as the supply of meat to Hull is concerned it is abundant and good?—It is generally good; Hull is noted for good meat.

2129. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you get any cattle from Gottenburg?—Yes, I have had.

2130. There has never been any disease among them?—I never saw anything wrong in them myself.

2131. Are they store cattle?—They are sent for fat cattle, but they are rather short of being fat.

2132. How many hours is it by rail to Manchester from Hull by luggage train; how soon could the dead meat get there?—I should think from six to eight hours, perhaps, by luggage train.

2133. Could they not send them through the summer by night?—They could if they liked, but railway companies will not accommodate us when we like.

2134. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Have you ever known them to refuse to take dead meat at night?—I have never seen any go at night. There might be some travelling at night, very likely. There are trains at all times in the day. When a man wants to go to Sheffield he can leave at six o'clock, and can get in in the middle of the night, I believe.

2135. Have you any reason to believe that if the trade generally asked the company to carry the dead meat at night, they would refuse?—I do not suppose they would do so if a man could take one train to himself. They would refuse to take a carriage with only 8 or 10 beasts in it; if he would take a special train himself that would be another thing.

2136. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] As a salesman what is your opinion of the way in which the cattle trade would be affected, if the regulations were, that all foreign cattle imported should be killed on the spot?—It would depreciate the trade very much.

2137. In what way would it do so?—When the hot weather came.

2138. Do you think the consignments from foreign ports would be lessened?—Yes, very much so, indeed, I am certain of it; it could not be done, I think; I have seen it for one week when there came a little bit of a heavy trade, and they made about nothing.

2139. Do you apprehend that at one time there would be a glut, and at other times there would be a scarcity?—Yes, I apprehend there would; it would vary.

2140. Do you think that the foreign owner would not send over his cattle with the risk of finding the market overstocked when they got there?—If he was napped very strongly once I think he would be very cautious again.

2141. You spoke of the boats in which these cattle came being of a different character; you mentioned the boats by which the cattle came from Bremen as being the worse?—Yes; I have seen most damaged on board those boats.

2142. Are those particular boats vessels that bring any other goods, or are engaged in another trade, and being disappointed of freight, or not finding their freight ready, take the cattle as supercargo?—They are of both classes.

2143. Not getting enough freight they fill them up with cattle?—Some come with cattle expressly, and some with cattle and goods.

2144. Then, is it your opinion that these vessels which come with a mixed cargo, a portion of which is cattle, are vessels that ought not to be employed in such traffic?—I think the beasts come over as well in those as in those that come expressly.

2145. I understood that in some they came very bad; that in bad weather there were broken legs, and so on, and that sometimes some had to be slaughtered?—Yes.

2146. Does that arise in the cases of these insufficient boats?—Yes, and the weather besides; but the boats are not sufficiently good; they are generally overcrowded, that is the only fault.

2147. Would it not be an advantage to the trade if regulations were adopted prohibiting all vessels importing cattle which are not built and formed for that express purpose?—No. There ought to be a restriction of the numbers, but the boats that bring cattle and goods are just as good as those which are made expressly for cattle.

2148. Then it is your opinion that they should be restricted as to number?—As to number, decidedly.

2149. Do you know the temperature of the holds of these boats in which these animals are conveyed?—I have never tested the temperature further than that I have put my head in; that was quite sufficient to test it as being too hot.

2150. Would the temperature be so high as 80°?—I have known it, I should say, to be 70°.

2151. Is that frequently the case?—Yes. It is worse when they arrive, and there is no through draught; of course if a boat is sailing there is a draught.

2152. You complained rather of want of sufficient accommodation, and of time being somewhat lost in getting these animals ashore at low water?—Yes.

Mr. *T. Coulson.*

14 May 1866.

2153. Does that complaint apply with greater force to these boats?—Yes, the larger boats. The Bremen boats draw more water generally. They are large vessels.

2154. Are we to understand that greater delay occurs in the landing of cattle from these Bremen boats, in which they come over in worse condition than arises from the landing of the cattle from the larger and better constructed boats?—I do not understand you exactly.

2155. I want to ascertain whether the animals that come over in Bremen boats are further damaged or injured by these boats having to wait longer to disembark them than those animals from the better boats which draw less water?—The fact is, if I may suggest anything, I do not know whether that is in my province, they ought to have a place to land cattle in whatever state the tide is; because I have known a boat wait for six or eight hours, and the cattle are suffering more than during the time they are sailing at sea. The draught is stopped, and that is the time they suffer most.

2156. You would desire to see a restriction of the number according to the size of the vessels?—Yes, I think that ought to be done, decidedly.

2157. Then am I to understand that these Bremen boats, of which you rather complain than not, have no proper means of ventilation on board?—Yes, they have; but not sufficient for the number that is sometimes in the holds; I suggested to Ringrose's that their boats ought to have a regular current of air through, and they made it immediately; there were some cattle suffocated in the hold of one of their boats, and it resulted through nothing else but because there was not a sufficient draught of air through.

2158. Could you give us any idea of how many instances you have had of cattle with broken legs, or having to be slaughtered from suffering on the passage in any six months; can you give us anything like the number of cattle that have either been slaughtered or damaged to the extent of broken limbs?—I could not with certainty.

2159. Have you had as many as half a dozen cases in a month?—In some months do you mean, or taking month by month?

2160. In any one month?—Yes, I have seen as many as half a dozen accidents in one month, in the latter part of the year, in October and November.

2161. In the case of cargoes that have had a bad passage?—Yes.

2162. Have you ever seen any cases in hot weather in which the necessity for slaughtering arises from excess of temperature in the hold; have you known cattle in such a state that they were obliged to be slaughtered on being taken out of the vessel in consequence of the heat?—I have seen them in a very bad state; I have seen them dead, but I have not supposed that it has been entirely from the heat; it has been the stormy weather, and the heat also.

2163. Now, as regards sheep, you say you are a large importer of sheep from Hamburg?—Yes.

2164. In what condition do those sheep arrive?—They come generally in very good condition; there were 1,300 landed the other day, and only two wrong out of the 1,300; they had good steamers.

2165. Then in a general way your opinion is, that the sheep do not suffer on the passage?—No, not so much as cattle.

2166. That they come reasonably cool, and reasonably ready for the shambles?—They do.

2167. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you had any complaints from any of the people to whom you have sent this dead meat, as to the condition in which it arrives?—I do not send dead meat away; I sell it to the men who send it away; I never slaughtered a beast for sale yet.

2168. That is a distinct trade?—It is.

2169. You speak of having premises of your own within the Borough; supposing any cattle arrive with foot and mouth disease, have you any means of separating them from the rest?—We have.

2170. What is the practice with regard to animals that come over with foot and mouth disease?—They used to be killed immediately, but there is not so much notice taken of them now.

2171. They are killed and sold to the butchers?—Yes, they are sold to dealers, speculators, and butchers.

2172. Do you know of any means by which that meat is distinguished from the other meat?—It is easy to distinguish.

2173. You think there would be no difficulty in any one conversant with the trade distinguishing them?—No, it is very easy.

2174. What would be the marks upon an animal having the foot and mouth disease; I want to know if there is a distinction made in the market at all, between the beasts killed in consequence of having foot and mouth disease and other beasts?—No, there is no difference; I was a butcher before I was a salesman, and I know dead meat as well as live meat.

2175. Have you any place for putting animals in quarantine?—I have a place where I can fasten them up; but I have never been asked that question.

2176. Have you imported any of those animals having foot and mouth disease, yourself?—I have seen many that have been sent to me.

2177. What have you done with those?—I have killed them.

2178. At once?—Yes, the quicker the better.

2179. They have been killed in the ordinary way, and sent into the large towns as meat fit for consumption?—Yes.

2180. Do you not think there ought to be some regulation by which that meat might be distinguished from the other?—I do not know what regulation there could be.

2181. How many inspectors have you at Hull?—Two.

2182. You say they have done their work very well?—Very well.

2183. I suppose you cannot tell me what number of animals come in the course of the week?—No.

2184. Have these two inspectors any assistance in inspecting the animals when they arrive?—One of them has a son, I think.

2185. You cannot give us any details as to the number of animals which come into Hull in a week?—No.

2186. Are there 5,000?—Not 5,000.

2187. Are there 3,000?—No; I should say a thousand in a week.

2188. *Chairman.*] Have the regulations which have been recently in force had the effect of depreciating

preciating the value of foreign cattle?—Very much so at times.

2189. Mr. *Hunt.*] What particular regulations; will you specify them?—As to the slaughtering?

2190. *Chairman.*] The regulation that they must only be moved from the port of arrival in the shape of dead meat?—Yes.

2191. Is it your opinion that if that were a permanent regulation, the importers of foreign cattle would have to submit to a considerable depreciation?—They would for many months in the year, and a very great one.

2192. That would tend to lessen the importation?—It would.

2193. Are the cattle which are imported by you and consigned to you, Dutch cattle or any of them?—Not at the present time.

2194. Are they Dutch cattle which may have passed in transit through the countries from which you do import?—No.

2195. There are none of them Dutch cattle?—None of them are Dutch that I have ever seen; most of them are German or Prussian.

2196. Mr. *Hunt.*] You say that when the regulations which were made in consequence of the cattle plague were in force, there was a depreciation in the value of foreign cattle imported into Hull?—At times; when they were overstocked. Then we had not a difficulty in getting them away.

2197. Were there fewer cattle imported at that time into Hull?—There were a great number and a bad trade.

2198. Were there fewer or more cattle imported into Hull when that regulation came about?—I should say there have been fewer since, but the time of year has something to do with it.

2199. When cattle were not allowed to be moved in this country by railway, did not that give an impetus to the foreign cattle trade?—No, I do not think it did.

2200. A great many beasts were slaughtered in Holland for the purpose of being sent inland at that time?—Yes.

2201. Was that new to you in a great measure, or had you been in the habit of having that done before?—No.

2202. Then did not that rather give an impetus to the foreign cattle trade?—No; for there were larger numbers came than we should have sent before alive. We had a better chance of trade. If we are overset with a bad trade in Hull, we should go where we could find a better.

2203. With regard to the number that arrive, and are consigned to you for sale, are they sent haphazard, or do you advise how many should be sent?—No; they are sent haphazard; we do not know what is coming until the boat arrives.

2204. I suppose you correspond; you give them hints as to when there is likely to be a good market?—Yes, to men that are regular customers.

2205. How far is it from Hull to Manchester, by rail?—About 100 miles.

2206. How were these carcasses sent; were they sent at night?—They are sent at all times. I see them going away all day.

2207. Is there a special meat train?—No, I have never seen a special meat train.

2208. They go by goods trains?—Yes, by goods trains. I see that Messrs. Thompson McKay adopt the plan of sending them through. They are great carriers.

2209. What is the character of the inspection at Hull; does your inspector pass animals with the foot and mouth disease?—Yes, they are passed now. He does not now stop them, because he knows they have all to be killed.

2210. Would he stop store stock with the foot and mouth disease?—They would have to go into some place or other till they got better.

2211. By order of the inspector?—Yes; but we never have foot and mouth disease from Dutch beasts.

2212. You have had foot and mouth disease from Hamburg?—Yes.

2213. Are they always stopped by the inspectors, unless they are fat animals?—Yes; if they have foot and mouth disease, the inspector would put his mark upon them. He would not allow them to travel if they had foot and mouth disease.

2214. Do you occupy land in the neighbourhood of the port for the purpose of taking in these beasts?—Yes, I have land for my own business.

2215. Pastures as well as other places?—Pastures as well as sheds; but we prefer them tied up generally. I cut grass for them.

2216. That depends upon whether there are stones or not?—Yes.

2217. *Chairman.*] Are those lairs of yours within the port of Hull, and able to be used under the Orders in Council?—They are within the limit, a mile.

2218. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you keep the fat animals for some days before you sell them?—We keep them as short a time as we can, and sell them as quick as we can.

2219. What is the average number of days you keep an animal?—I never keep them more than two or three days.

2220. You get them off as fast as you can?—Yes, the same day if we can.

2221. What do you do with regard to store stock?—They are beasts which generally stop with you a little; they must wait for the market.

2222. With regard to your store stock, do you wait until you have orders for them, or do you send them to different places?—There are customers that come from all parts.

2223. You wait until customers come to look at them?—Generally.

2224. What are they; jobbers?—They are generally all dealers; very seldom farmers; they go all ways.

2225. Supposing you get a lot of animals with foot and mouth disease, which I suppose you have now and then, does the inspector refuse to pass them?—He will order them to be locked up, but I have never had any.

2226. Does he mark them in any way?—I have never had any to try.

2227. What security is there, that you do not send those animals out before they are cured?—There is only the appearance of them.

2228. The inspector inspects them on their landing?—He does.

2229. And then they are brought into your premises?—Yes.

2230. What security is there, that they will not come out of your premises before they are cured of foot and mouth disease?—There is no security for fat beasts. I have never had a lean animal with foot and mouth disease in all my experience, simply because I have never had a lean beast from Hamburg through my hands.

2231. With regard to the fat stock, the in-

Mr. *T. Coulson.*

14 May 1866.

spector does not stop them?—Not under the present Act.

2232. What should you say to a regulation requiring all animals to be kept in quarantine for a certain number of days?—I think the remedy would be a great deal worse than the disease.

2233. Will you explain that?—Do you mean for lean or fat stock?

2234. For lean stock?—For lean stock it would be decidedly the best.

2235. How many days should you recommend them to be kept?—Some for a less time than others. Some animals will get better in less time than other animals. One animal will take two days, another three days, another a week; we can have no guarantee about that.

2236. There would be some expense attending it, would there not?—A great deal.

2237. But would not the animals fetch a much higher price?—No, they would fetch much less.

2238. Would not an animal that had gone through quarantine, and was guaranteed to be free from disease, for which it would be liable to be stopped, fetch a higher price than an animal that had not the risk of disease?—No, they depreciate so.

2239. Are you speaking of fat cattle?—No, of lean cattle.

2240. Why should lean cattle go back, when they are properly watered and fed?—They can neither eat nor drink when they have foot and mouth disease.

2241. I am speaking of animals landed and put in quarantine, as to which you do not know whether they have any disease at all; supposing all the store animals that are landed at Hull are put in quarantine for 10 days, and properly cared for, fed, and watered, would they not fetch a higher price at the end of their term of quarantine than they would if they were killed immediately on being landed?—Much less.

2242. Explain how?—You cannot keep foreign cattle up to the mark; you may give them what you like; they always go back.

2243. Supposing they were sent away to pasture at once, would they go back?—No, in pasture they would do better.

2244. Why would they go back at all if they were kept in pasture?—Up to a certain time they do go back; if a farmer gets beasts on to his lands they go back a certain time, up to a month or so before they turn the right way.

2245. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is that from the effect of the voyage?—The climate and the voyage and other things which perhaps we do not know about exactly; it is more particularly the case with foreign stock.

2246. *Chairman.*] A man would not give so much for a beast if he could only have it on the condition of its undergoing quarantine for 14 days, with all the resulting expenses from that, as if he could have it at once?—He might give as much, but there would be a great depreciation to the owner of the animal.

2247. Somebody must find the money for the quarantine expenses?—Yes.

2248. Is there any difference between the effect of the quarantine and its expense upon the price of a beast, and a duty; suppose I put a tax, equal in cost, in time, and in money, to the quarantine, would there be any difference in the effect of the one and the other?—I think the effect of the quarantine would be very bad on the trade.

2249. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you think that a horse which is warranted sound fetches a lower or higher price than an animal that is not warranted?—A horse that is warranted sound fetches much more money than one that is not.

2250. Then if an animal has been in quarantine for 10 days, and is passed by the inspectors as perfectly sound in all respects, would not that be equivalent to the warranty of a horse?—No.

2251. What is the difference?—One is in good condition and the other is in bad; a horse that is warranted is generally in good condition, but a beast, after it has been quarantined, becomes depreciated.

2252. Do you think, if you were a farmer, and were going to stock a farm, you would not rather buy a lot of beasts warranted sound, and give a higher price for them than buy a lot of beasts which might have any disease under the sun?—No, I would take my own opinion.

2253. You would take your chance?—Yes; and all men will that have to do with beasts; you may talk to them as you like.

2254. Mr. *Norwood.*] Since the prohibition of transport into the country, have the net proceeds to the foreign consignee in foreign cattle declined or reduced?—The prices have been last week going up, but before that time they went down considerably, owing to the supply; our own country beasts are now becoming perfectly nominal. There are very few of our own country beasts left.

2255. I do not think you quite understood me; since the prohibition of transport into the country, when you have been able to take your surplus to Rotherham or other markets, have your account sales become more or less favourable to the owner abroad?—Less favourable.

2256. And you attribute that to the fact that you have been unable to find a market?—Yes.

2257. But since this order the cattle have all been slaughtered in Hull?—Yes.

2258. Do the buyers come down from the manufacturing districts to buy the carcass?—No; they buy them alive. I sold a man from Scarborough seven beasts, and he killed them in Hull and took them to Scarborough.

2259. Is that the course with the West Riding people generally?—Yes.

2260. They come to you, buy the beasts, and kill them themselves, do they?—They buy the beasts and kill them themselves.

2261. Mr. *Hunt.*] Then do you find there is a cessation of the cattle traffic from abroad to your port, when the price is low?—I cannot say much about that.

2262. Is the effect of the depreciation in price to stop animals coming?—It stops them for a certain time.

2263. What other markets do they send them to in other countries when they are stopped from coming here by reason of the lowness of the price?—They generally send them to the best market they can; Newcastle, for instance.

2264. What markets have they in Continental countries when the low price forbids them to send them here; that is what I want to know?—I do not know that; I cannot tell you.

2265. Mr. *Norwood.*] Has the value of Dutch fat cattle fallen very much in Holland since the prohibition?—

prohibition?—No, the price has kept up in Holland, for fat cattle particularly.

2266. *Chairman.*] Supposing you had a quarantine of these store cattle, would there be any security that after all they might not have the foot and mouth disease when they began to travel?—Not at all; there would be no security; they might have it; I have seen it twice myself.

2267. If you made the restrictions upon the foreign cattle sufficiently great there would be none come at all, would there?—There would not; it would lessen it very much.

2268. If it was a condition that every beast that came to England, upon its arrival, should have a sum of 10*l.* paid upon it, I suppose nobody would send one?—I think not.

2269. You might turn all restrictions, whether of quarantine or anything else, into a money value?—You might.

2270. Then, according to the amount of the fine which has to be exacted, either in the form of detention or the form of expense, so you lessen the trade in foreign cattle?—Yes.

2271. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] But, on the other hand, if the cost of detention were only to be about 1*s.* a-day, which would make it 10*s.* instead of 10*l.*, do you apprehend that would have much effect in diminishing it?—It is not so much the amount, but it is the detention in point of time.

2272. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there not this further insecurity, that the foot and mouth disease might break out at the end of a fortnight?—I think it might; half the farmers and dealers would have them left on their hands with the foot and mouth disease.

2273. Mr. *Hunt.*] Quarantine would be a security against cattle plague, would it not?—It would be a security against cattle plague, there can be no doubt of it, because that would show itself during that time in fat cattle; they would be killed and eaten, and done with before the quarantine was over.

2274. Mr. *Norwood.*] Have you had any rinderpest imported at all?—I have never seen any.

2275. You have not had any instance through your own business?—No.

2276. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you heard of any of your customers having cattle plague on any of their farms?—Yes, I have known some farmers who have had it, and lost all their beasts, and some who have never had it.

2277. Do they trace it to the foreign cattle?—No, they never had a foreign beast on their place.

2278. Do they consider that their cattle got the disease from foreign cattle; did any of the persons whom you have supplied store cattle to complain that they have got the cattle plague on their farms from its being introduced by foreign beasts?—No, I never heard of that; I am only sorry I have been obliged to leave that letter from Dundee behind; I could not find it.

Mr. *T. Coulson.*

14 May 1866.

2279. *Chairman.*] Had you anything to do with that importation which took place of Russian cattle?—Yes, the Revel beasts came through my hands.

2280. Last year is the first time the cattle was imported direct from Revel?—Yes, I believe so.

2281. Have you been able to trace any cattle plague as arising from these particular cattle which came from Revel?—No, never.

2282. What became of them when you got them?—I sold 106 to two men, and the remainder all came to London; those which were sold went to Leeds and Manchester.

2283. For slaughtering?—Yes.

2284. The rest went to London?—Yes.

2285. How long did you keep them at Hull before you sold them, and sent them away?—A day and a night; they were soon off; they were as wild as deer; we could not turn them; I never saw such wild cattle in my life; there did not appear to be anything amiss with them; they were very tight in their hides; that is all I could see; they were poorish beasts, and not fat, and they are generally tighter in the skin when there is not any fat under it; poor beasts have that effect more than fat ones.

2286. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you get any Hungarian cattle from the ports of Holland?—Not that I am aware of.

2287. You do not know where the cattle which you import come from?—No, I never inquire; I know the Dutch beasts well, and I can tell a Dutch beast from a beast of any other country, and I can tell the German beasts from the Dutch.

2288. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you had any French cattle lately?—None.

2289. *Chairman.*] How long were these Russian cattle on their journey from Revel?—I believe they were six days, but I am not certain.

2290. Is not that a long time to keep cattle in the hold of a steamer?—Yes, but that steamer was a splendid boat, and cool and airy; I went aboard her when she lay in the river; she was a very nice boat.

2291. Is there likely to be a great deal of importation from Russia direct?—I do not know; I never heard whether that paid or not; we did not make that inquiry.

2292. It was new altogether?—Yes, it was a speculation, I believe.

2293. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Were they not fat beasts?—They were sent for fat, but nobody would buy them for lean; they were very old, some of them without teeth.

Mr. JOHN MALCOLM, called in; and Examined.

2294. Mr. *Norwood.*] I BELIEVE you are connected with the large firm of Brownlow, Browning, Lumsden, & Co., Steam Shipping Owners?—Yes.

2295. You have vessels regularly running in the Hamburgh trade, which convey cattle of all kinds?—They do.

2296. What other ports, from which cattle are imported, are you connected with?—Antwerp and Dunkirk.

Mr. *J. Malcolm.*

2297. Have you any statistics by which you can inform the Committee what number of animals have been imported in the last two or three years into Hull?—I can for the last three years.

2298. Tell me the quantity of cattle imported in 1863, 1864, and 1865; give them separately?

Mr. *J. Malcolm.*

14 May 1866.

—In 1863 there were 7,400 bulls, oxen, and cows; 6,211 calves; 34,783 sheep; and 2,138 swine.

2299. In 1864?—21,279 oxen, bulls, and cows; 8,276 calves; 36,245 sheep; 7,415 swine.

2300. Can you tell the ports from which they were shipped?—I cannot give you the quantities from each port.

2301. Give me the various foreign ports which supplied Hull during that time?—Hamburgh, Bremen, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Gottenburgh, Revel, Tonning, and Dunkirk.

2302. What was the number imported in 1865?—Oxen, bulls, and cows, 26,947; calves, 9,197; sheep, 69,041; and swine, 15,293.

2303. I think these figures show that the trade is increasing in cattle?—It is increasing rapidly.

2304. Are you of opinion that the trade in foreign animals will increase considerably if there are no restrictions put upon it?—I believe it will.

2305. Your Hamburgh steamers, I believe, are specially adapted for the conveyance of cattle, are they not?—Not specially built for the cattle trade, but adapted for the conveyance of cattle.

2306. Have you adopted all the suggestions that have been made to you from the importers?—Yes.

2307. You are quite ready and willing, and anxious to do so?—We are open to adopt any improvement they may suggest.

2308. It is your interest to bring the animals in as good a condition as possible?—It is.

2309. Are you paid freight for animals which die on the voyage, or are thrown overboard through stress of weather?—We do not claim freight for dead animals thrown overboard at sea.

2310. Then you are the sufferer as well as the owner of the cattle, if accident does occur to them during the voyage?—Yes.

2311. Is your accommodation satisfactory, having regard to the length of time they are upon the voyage?—We have every possible accommodation on board ship, but the landing accommodation might be improved.

2312. In what respect?—In the detention in the case of vessels arriving about half-tide.

2313. Is it a fact that the river Humber is a tidal river, and that the tide flows very strongly indeed; that there is a great rise and fall in the tide?—Yes.

2314. And if vessels run up within half-an-hour of high water, they could run alongside the landing-place?—That is so.

2315. You coincide with the opinion of Mr. Coulson, that there ought to be a landing-place where the steamers might run alongside and discharge their cargo very soon after the tide flows?—It is very desirable to have such accommodation.

2316. That would reduce the length of time the animals would have to be confined on board ship?—It would.

2317. Have you any other suggestion to make to the Committee?—There might be a shed for the cattle to be put in after landing near the landing stage: the accommodation in that respect is rather deficient at present.

2318. You have two modes of landing cattle at Hull; one is, that you run your vessel alongside the pier in the river at a certain time of the tide, and discharge the vessel upon that wooden pier?—Yes.

2319. When the tide admits of going into the dock, you discharge your cattle on the dock quay?—Yes.

2320. The inspectors are present, the Customs inspector and the Corporation inspector, and every animal is inspected and passed?—Yes.

2321. And then driven away by the salesmen to their private yards?—After they are all landed.

2322. Is it not the case that within the last few months the Hull Corporation, at the special request of the Lord Lieutenant of the Riding, Lord Wenlock, has fitted up one of the old baths and washhouses for the purpose of placing foreign cattle therein?—Yes, they have.

2323. Has that place been at all used yet?—Not to any great extent.

2324. It is fitted up for that purpose?—Yes.

2325. Do you know the accommodation which is provided there?—I do not.

2326. Have the Dock Company done anything at Hull within the last few months to improve the appliances for the importation of cattle?—At the suggestion of the Lord Lieutenant they are about erecting a shed.

2327. A large shed?—Yes.

2328. Under which the animals could be driven in coming from the ship?—Yes, to remain there until the whole cargo was landed.

2329. Are your appliances for landing the animals proper, do you think, for taking them out of the holds and so on?—Oh, yes, we walk them out.

2330. You walk them out; you do not sling them at all?—No, with our own vessels in the Hamburgh trade, we do not sling them at all; we walk them out.

2331. I suppose in the winter months, when the North Sea is extremely stormy, you have occasionally cargoes that suffer considerably from the weather, and animals have their limbs broken and get suffocated, and so on?—We have instances of that kind sometimes, but not to any extent.

2332. And I suppose that happens when the weather is really very bad, when there are equinoctial gales and other severe weather at sea?—Yes.

2333. In ordinary weather there is no casualty of that kind?—Nothing at all.

2334. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] What is the freight of the animals from the different ports?—From Hamburgh it is 15 *s.* for cattle, and 1 *s.* 3 *d.* for sheep.

2335. From Bremen?—From Bremen, I think, 1 *l.* for cattle, and 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for sheep, but I am not exactly sure.

2336. From Gothenburg?—I do not know; it is a small trade, and quite a new trade.

2337. *Chairman.*] Is there any detention on the wharf after the cattle are landed?—No; after the landing is completed there is no detention; they are walked away at once.

2338. When the cattle are shipped on the other side, is there a careful examination of them, to see what is their condition?—No, there was no examination as to their condition; there is now, within the last six months. I speak more particularly of Hamburgh; we get a certificate from a veterinary surgeon, who examines them when they are put on board, and who certifies that they are in good condition.

2339. Mr. *Norwood.*] That is the case in the Dutch trade, is it not?—Yes, in the Dutch trade also, I think.

2340. *Chairman.*]

2340. *Chairman.*] Is there anything of that sort at Tonning?—No.

2341. Supposing cattle arrive for shipment that are suffering from cattle plague or from foot and mouth disease, would you take them on board just the same?—No, not if we saw that.

2342. Have you anybody to look to them, to be sure of that?—No, we have not.

2343. Do these cattle come from various parts, and meet at the port for shipment?—From all parts of the interior.

2344. Then they are thrown together for the first time on board your ship?——

2345. Then, if by chance one animal with the cattle plague came on board it would probably infect the whole of them?—I am not able to speak to that point.

2346. You do not yourselves take any precaution as to the state of the cattle that you ship?—No, we do not, except where there is a supervision by the authorities at Hamburgh and other places; we do not ourselves inspect them.

2347. Have you not yourselves an interest in doing so?—No, I do not know that we have.

2348. Supposing the cattle arrived at Hull, many of them in a state unfit for human food, would there not be some question as to the freight?—No.

2349. In whatever condition you deliver the cattle, are you paid the same?—No; if one of the cattle arrived with a broken leg, and had to be slaughtered on board, we only charge, in that instance, half-freight.

2350. But if they were suffering from any disease when they arrived, you would have the freight just the same?—Just the same.

2351. Do you cleanse the holds of these ships that carry these cattle from Holland to Hull, and from the Continent to Hull?—Every voyage.

2352. How do you do that?—They are brought up on fresh water sand; we take the sand out and scrape and wash the hold well down.

2353. You do not use any disinfectant?—We have occasionally used a disinfectant.

2354. You do not wash with lime water, for instance?—We have used lime water and chloride of lime occasionally.

2355. Would you object to that being a permanent regulation that ships bringing cattle have their holds washed with lime water after every voyage?—I see no objection to it.

2356. Do you not think it would have a tendency to prevent the spread of cattle plague if the holds of these ships were carefully disinfected and cleansed after every voyage as a permanent regulation?—I should say it would.

2357. There is always a chance, at the best, of having one animal on board having symptoms of the disease?—I have never seen anything of the disease imported.

2358. You have not?—No, never.

2359. Do you carry any of the cattle on deck?—Yes; about half on deck.

2360. In the winter season as well as in the summer?—We do not bring so many in the winter, they are generally all below hatches, as a rule.

2361. Are you the insurers of the cattle, or are the shippers?—The few that are insured are insured by the shippers.

2362. But supposing you were obliged to throw some of these cattle overboard to save the rest, and to save the ship, how would it stand then?—We are protected by a clause in our bills of lading.

2363. Mr. *Norwood.*] That is the clause which says, "All accidents at shippers' risk"?—Yes, "On deck at shippers' risk."

2364. *Chairman.*] Have you any regulations as to the number of cattle that you will allow to be shipped?—No.

2365. Have you no regulation as to the amount of cattle that each boat is to have?—No; we regulate that ourselves. We allow three feet for a beast, but we are not bound by that; we could take more if we liked.

2366. You have a regulation amongst yourselves?—Yes.

2367. What space do you allow for each beast?—Three feet in breadth.

2368. It is an order that is given to the shippers that your agents ought not to allow more cattle to be put in the steamers than will fill a space equal to three feet each?—That is so.

2369. I suppose three feet is barely sufficient. They lean against each other as they stand, I suppose?—I think three feet is a very fair allowance for the class of cattle we get.

2370. Is it true that the cattle do better rather closely stowed than if there were a space between them; do they support one another better, and are they less liable to fall?—I think so.

2371. Have you any regulations as to ventilation during the voyage?—Yes, we have wind sails and ventilators from the far end of the hold, where it is likeliest to be warm. There are two ventilators in each ship, one for the hot air to go up, the other to bring down the cold air. There are also wind sails.

2372. Are they so fitted that they can be used in all weather?—Yes, the ventilators can.

2373. Is this ventilation going on in gales of wind, and heavy weather at sea?—Yes; of course it is limited. The hatches are always open during the voyage. The vessels bringing cattle are very light, generally, and consequently in almost the worst weather, the hatches can be kept off.

2374. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Do you feed with compressed food?—No, with ordinary hay.

2375. Hay and water?—Water twice a day.

2376. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Have you lost any vessels in the cattle trade since the establishment of the cattle plague regulations?—No.

2377. Mr. *Norwood.*] In the stowage of the cattle in the hold of your steamers how are they stowed. Are their heads towards the centre of the vessel, and their tails towards the sides?—Yes.

2378. They are not stowed fore and aft, but athwart ship?—Athwart.

2379. Which way are their heads?—Generally towards the hatchway.

2380. Then, in point of fact, the space that you describe was three feet of length in the hold?—Yes; that applies to deck and to hold also.

2381. There are only two rows of cattle in the hold, one along each side?—Two rows as a rule; few ships will admit of three rows.

2382. Lord *Naas.*] Your company carry from the Dutch ports to Hull?—No; from Belgian ports, France, and Hamburgh.

2383. Now, have you ever calculated what the cost would be for carrying dead meat from these ports to Hull?—No, I have not calculated that. I have never thought of it.

2384. Could you carry dead meat at the same rate per hundredweight as you carry ordinary merchandise?—Yes.

Mr. *J. Malcolm.*
14 May 1866.

2385. What is your freight per ton now on ordinary merchandise from the Dutch ports, and German ports, to Hull?—Do you mean merchandise occupying the same room that dead meat would?

2386. Yes, taking it in that way?—About 25 *s.* per ton.

2387. *Chairman.*] You would not be able to pack your dead meat so closely as ordinary merchandise?—No.

2388. You would be obliged to give it air?—Yes, we should take that into consideration.

2389. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You would not keep it down in the hold?—No.

2390. Lord *Naas.*] Your freight is about 15 *s.*?—Yes.

2391. A beast weighs five or six hundredweight on an average?—Six or seven hundredweight.

2392. That would be about three beasts per ton?—The Hamburgh beasts weigh considerably more than that.

2393. What do they weigh in live weight?—10 cwt. or 12 cwt.

2394. Then I suppose it would be rather under the mark to put two beasts per ton as actual dead weight?—Yes, it would be under the mark for German beasts.

2395. Then at that rate the difference between the carriage of the dead meat and the live meat would not be very much?—No, but then the quantity would be very small.

2396. Two beasts at 15 *s.* would be 30 *s.*, and you say your freight for merchandise similarly packed, and in the same way, to meat would be 25 *s.*?—Yes, 25 *s.* or 30 *s.* per ton.

2397. So that in fact there would be no material difference between the carriage of dead meat and the carriage of live meat as far as your freight is concerned?—Not much.

2398. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you taken into consideration the claims which might be made upon you as to the condition of this dead meat?—We could protect ourselves from that. We could take it at the shippers' risk the same as we do the live stock.

2399. Are you aware that is one of the reasons why the railway companies have been obliged to adopt higher rates in consequence of the large claims that have been made upon them?—Yes, but we never bring perishable goods over the sea except at shippers' risk.

2400. What convenience have you for carrying dead meat. You could not leave it on deck, could you?—It would be best on deck.

2401. Would not the action of the water have a bad effect?—It would not hurt it on a short voyage.

2402. Lord *Naas.*] I suppose if you had a dead meat trade from the German ports alone, you would be obliged to alter somewhat the construction of your vessels?—Yes, we could only bring a limited quantity. We could not bring as many as we can alive now; they would have to be brought in part from the German ports.

2403. Could you not store the dead meat in the holds for nine months in a year?—No, I do not think we could from the German ports; it would be almost impracticable to bring dead meat from the German ports in the summer months or in the spring months.

2404. Even at this time of the year?—It would be impossible, I think.

2405. That being the case, you would not be able to carry as much dead meat on board the vessels as you do live meat?—No; certainly not.

2406. You think you could not carry as much dead meat as you can carry live meat now?—No, we could not.

2407. Mr. *Norwood.*] Have you ever brought any dead meat from any of these foreign ports to which you have alluded?—Never. The longest voyage I have known dead meat taken by sea is from Hull to London; it is a long voyage, and meat is only carried during the cooler months.

2408. Have you any statistics you can hand in?—I can hand in the importation from Hamburgh during 1865.

[*The Statistics were handed in, and are as follows:*]

IMPORTS from all Sources.

	Oxen, Bulls, and Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Swine.
1863 -	7,400	6,211	34,783	2,138
1864 -	21,279	8,276	36,245	7,415
1865 -	26,947	9,197	69,041	15,293

IMPORTS from *Hamburgh.*

	Oxen, Bulls, and Cows.	Sheep.	Swine.
1865 - -	14,306	52,570	6,547

Mr. NOEL JAMES LOCKWOOD, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *N. J Lockwood.*

2409. Mr. *Norwood.*] I BELIEVE you are the Veterinary Surgeon appointed by Her Majesty's Customs at Hull, and also by the Corporation of Hull, to inspect foreign cattle of every kind?—I am.

2410. How long have you held that position?—About 19 or 20 years.

2411. Have all cattle, bullocks, cows, and calves, which are imported from abroad, to pass through your inspection before they are taken away from the ships?—Yes.

2412. In what condition do foreign cattle arrive at Hull?—I have never seen them arrive in better condition at any time than they do now.

2413. Have you any experience of other ports, and the way in which they arrive there?—I have not.

2414. Upon the whole, they arrive very well at Hull?—Very well indeed.

2415. You have heard the previous evidence?—I have.

2416. Do

2416. Do you confirm what has been stated about the general good delivery by the Hull steamers?—They generally deliver them in very good condition.

2417. Are there any special exceptions to that?—The Bremen boats, when they are full, bring them very dirty and very crowded.

2418. Can you tell us the actual points of deficiency on board those boats?—Ventilation is one.

2419. It is not so good as the others?—No, and they are kept in such a dirty, filthy state.

2420. Then the attention paid to them is not so good?—No, they do not pay that attention that Messrs. Browning & Lumsden pay to their boats. In fact, they come so crowded that you cannot get in a proper way to inspect them.

2421. Do you think it would be desirable to license the space on board cattle boats?—Certainly.

2422. So that an excess of that kind could not be permitted?—That is what it ought to be.

2423. You think a regulation would be a proper thing?—I do.

2424. Will you tell us what is the proper space to be allotted to cattle?—I should think three feet six inches would be plenty.

2425. That is in width?—That is in width.

2426. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is that exclusive of the partitions?—It is exclusive of the partitions.

2427. You would not have a partition for each animal?—No, but I should have six animals or so partitioned, because then, if they got down the others could not tread on them; to have partitions between every six would be a good plan.

2428. Mr. *Norwood.*] There are only two rows of cattle in the hold of a steamer?—There is what they call the 'tween decks.

2429. There are only two rows of animals, one on each side of the ship?—I have seen them along each side, and one row in the middle.

2430. Is that a general rule?—No.

2431. If there were only two rows, there would be a considerable space in the centre of the ship?—There would, and that would keep them cool.

2432. In regulating the steamboat space allotted to each beast, that vacant space would have to be taken into consideration?—It would.

2433. Do you put the heads together; do you recommend that?—The tails are in the centre.

2434. And the heads are to the sides of the ship?—The heads are tied to the ship's side.

2435. Is that the best mode of conveying them?—They would get more air if they were tied the other way.

2436. They would get more air from the hatchway?—Some boats tie them that way, head to head.

2437. Do you think that is the preferable mode yourself?—Yes.

2438. Of course, if there were only two rows, there would be vacant space in the centre, which would enable the men to get to the animals' heads to feed or water them?—Yes.

2439. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are there any vessels in which they keep them so now?—They do in Browning & Lumsden's. They can get round and feed them as well as possible.

2440. Mr. *Norwood.*] That is the firm to which the last witness belongs?—Yes.

2441. With regard to disease, do the foreign cattle suffer from that on arrival?—We find them sometimes with the foot and mouth disease.

2442. Have you had any cases of rinderpest?—Never the slightest; never the slightest symptom.

2443. Do you know cases of rinderpest?—I have had many hundreds of cases.

2444. Have you never seen any animals at all landed with rinderpest?—Not with the slightest symptom of it.

2445. The store cattle that arrive have foot and mouth disease more than the fat cattle?—They have.

2446. Is the accommodation at all satisfactory to you?—No.

2447. What can you suggest?—There ought to be a large shed built.

2448. The dock company are about to build one, are they not?—I believe it is stopped now; the parties who live about the shed do not want it, and I suppose they cannot enforce it.

2449. Do you mean to say that the dock company object to build it?—No, they are very willing to build it.

2450. Then, who objects?—The inhabitants of the neighbourhood, because it would block up their sight.

2451. They are fearful of a nuisance?—Yes.

2452. Is there not a place at Springbank, which used to be the old baths and washhouses, and which has been fitted up?—At Bath-place.

2453. Would not that be useful?—Very.

2454. Has it been used?—Yes, there have been 320 or more in.

2455. That is a decided improvement?—Yes, but it wants more ventilation and more light.

2456. Have they plenty of water there?—Plenty of water.

2457. With regard to the landing place, the previous witness stated there should be access at all times of the tide. Do you agree with him that that would be a great advantage?—Certainly.

2458. The sheep arrive in good order?—Very good order.

2459. And the Dutch cows also, before they were prohibited?—I never saw any case of rinderpest.

2460. You have seen no case of rinderpest, but have you seen other diseases brought by these cows, especially from Holland?—Not the slightest.

2461. Then, do they generally arrive pretty healthy?—They always come healthy; I never saw any one of them in any other condition.

2462. With regard to the suggestion that has been made, as to the quarantine for store cattle, would that be desirable, do you think?—I think it would.

2463. As a preventative to anything like the rinderpest?—Yes, it would prevent that, because it would appear within a certain time if the beasts had it at all.

2464. In your judgment, as an experienced medical officer, do you think it would be a desirable thing to quarantine store cattle?—I do think it would be desirable to quarantine store stock.

2465. You would not quarantine fat stock?—It would be better for them to wait for 12 hours, and then examine them when they are cool; allow them to come on shore, and get fed and watered for 12 hours, and then examine them afterwards.

2466. Mr. *Holland.*]

Mr. *N. J. Lockwood.*

14 May 1866.

2466. Mr. *Holland.*] Do you examine them on board?—As they come on board, and as they come off as well.

2467. Individually?—Yes.

2468. Mr. *Norwood.*] You think you would do that better if you were able to do it in some pasture or shed when the beasts are cool?—Yes, for they come out of these holds sometimes half blind with the steam.

2469. Are you able at a glance to detect whether an animal is fit to pass or not?—Not at the first glance. They are tied up until they get a little bit cooler, and you can go round and look at them again.

2470. They stand upon the quay?—They stand upon the quay, tied to the rails.

2471. Then, you give a closer supervision and inspection after they have stood for some little time?—Yes.

2472. And you consider that you are able to detect any disease, if it is to be detected?—We could do it more satisfactorily to ourselves if they were kept about 12 hours.

2473. Would there be accommodation in Hull for quarantine?—Yes.

2474. The pastures adjoining the town would be sufficient for that purpose?—They would.

2475. Even as to store cattle?—Yes.

2476. *Chairman.*] Would you subject the store cattle to quarantine if they came from countries where there was no cattle plague?—I would, for 12 hours, just to keep them cool, so that you could examine them better.

2477. But you do not subject human beings to quarantine when they come with a clean bill of health, in order to see if there is anything the matter with them?—No.

2478. Then why do you think it necessary to do it with cows and beasts?—The men come in a better way; they are taken more care of.

2479. When they come from countries where there is no cattle plague, with clean bills of health, would you subject them to this detention?—I should.

2480. But why?—It would be more satisfactory to ourselves to examine them after they had stood for 12 hours, and got quite cool. I should not require any more.

2481. Mr. *Holland.*] You are now speaking of fat stock?—Yes.

2482. *Chairman.*] I speak of the store cattle; how long would you keep them in quarantine?—From three to four days.

2483. Come from where they might?—Come from where they might, if they are poor stock; they are not sending any of the poor stock at present, or scarcely any.

2484. Supposing it was ascertained that there was not a single case of cattle plague in the country from which they are imported, would you subject those cattle to four days' quarantine upon their arrival?—Yes, as a precaution.

2485. As a precaution against what, if there was no cattle plague in the place from which they came?—There might be a cattle plague and you not know it.

2486. But I am supposing that there was not?—I can only say it would be more satisfactory to us.

2487. How long does it take to make sure the cattle plague is not in a latent state in a beast?—About five days, I should say.

2488. You could not keep them less than five days?—Yes, we could, because they would be two days on the passage, and we should count that in.

2489. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] If the stores were quarantined, is it your opinion that they would be increased or diminished in value to the buyer?—I do not know; I think the foreigners will send as long as they can get the money for them.

2490. But, I mean, would they be increased in value to the buyer in this country of store cattle?—I should think it would not make any difference to the buyers myself.

2491. Would they not command a better price if they were passed out with a clean bill of health, and upon your certificate as the inspector?—I should say they would; I do not know much about the price of cattle, but I should say they would.

2492. *Chairman.*] You would not put the ship that brought them for five days in quarantine?—Oh, no.

2493. Is not the hold of a ship that has brought over cattle, if there has been cattle plague among them, very likely to have the poison in it?—The best plan is to wash it out, and to cleanse it with chloride of lime before any other stock of cattle is taken in.

2494. You would have a regulation of that sort?—Yes.

2495. What would you do with the drovers, with the people who look after them; would you keep them in quarantine?—No.

2496. You would let them go about their business?—Yes.

2497. Would they not spread the infection?—I do not believe in it to that extent.

2498. Lord *Naas.*] Are there many drovers come with these cattle?—Very few.

2499. They are consigned to agents here?—They are consigned to agents here.

2500. What class of people are the drovers who come with them; are they Englishmen or Germans?—Principally Germans; Jews, I should say.

2501. Are there drovers or small dealers who bring their own cattle?—They do sometimes, but very rarely; they are exceptional cases.

2502. In whose employ are the drovers who come from Germany?—They are employed by the party who puts them on board on that side; I do not know who pays them.

2503. The large majority of the cattle come without any drovers at all?—The large majority are without any drovers at all; the sailors take them, and get so much a head for attending to them.

2504. In hot weather, and in summer months, when these cattle are for 48 hours in the hold of these vessels, is it possible that an inspection, no matter how carefully conducted, can be perfectly satisfactory?—It is; you can tell whether there is any disease when they get cool.

2505. Before they get cool, is it possible that an inspection can be satisfactory if it takes place on board a vessel, or immediately on landing?—It is not quite satisfactory; but still we cannot do it in any other way.

2506. Do not cattle show symptoms, in consequence of over-heating, and the stifling atmosphere which they have been in, which resembles disease very much?—Yes, their eyes water sometimes;

sometimes; but when they have been in the open air for some time, all that goes away.

2507. The symptoms which are caused by the over-heating are similar to symptoms of disease?—There is water in the eyes, and the eyes look inflamed, but that very soon disappears.

2508. But still these would be, in ordinary circumstances, preliminary symptoms of disease?—Yes, exactly; sometimes we wait for three or four hours, and then look over them again.

2509. You think that every beast ought to be allowed to stand in some quiet place 12 hours before inspection, in order to secure safety?—That is what I think.

2510. *Chairman.*] Would you subject the Irish cattle to quarantine when they arrive in England?—We scarcely see any at our port.

2511. Not store cattle?—No.

2512. Why not?—Because their passage is not so long.

2513-14. But is that not rather more a reason why they should be put in quarantine?—I believe they bring the Irish cattle on deck.

2515. If the quarantine is for prevention of the cattle plague, what has that to do with the length of the passage; the shorter the passage the greater the necessity for precaution, one would think. Would you subject the Welsh store cattle to quarantine before they were allowed to be dispersed among the farmers?—I should, because they have got the rinderpest there, or have had it there, at least; but they have had no cases in Ireland.

2516. Mr. *Hunt.*] In Ireland you would almost have the means of knowing what cattle disease there were?—Yes.

2517. But with regard to foreign cattle, you do not know where the animals come from?—We do not.

2518. Is it the case that some come from Hungary through Vienna, to the ports of Holland for shipment to this country?—Yes.

2519. You have no means of knowing what country they come from, or whether they have had any disease there?—No.

2520. You think it desirable that any animals coming from those districts should go into quarantine?—Certainly.

2521. Do you not think that the buyer would give a greater price for the animal that had passed through quarantine and come out sound, than for an animal that was supposed to have any disease latent about it?—I think he would.

2522. What disease do you stop animals for now?—There is the foot and mouth disease.

2523. Would you stop an animal that had the foot and mouth disease?—We should order it to be slaughtered there and then, and take the tongue and hoofs away and destroy them.

2524. Were would they be slaughtered, in Hull?—In Pig Alley, or in any parts to which we could get them nearest to the ships.

2525. In the case of a store animal with the foot and mouth disease, what would you do with it?—I should lock it up.

2526. You would put your lock and key upon him?—The Customs would, or else they would send a man down.

2527. Would it be treated in order to recover it if possible?—They would treat it themselves.

2528. It would not be allowed to go inland?—Not until it got better.

2529. With regard to such a disease as scab in sheep, would you stop a scabby sheep?—Yes.

2530. What would you do with it?—Just the same; lock it up.

2531. Lord *Naas.*] Is that what they do, or what you would do?—We do that.

2532. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you had cases of scabby sheep imported?—I have not.

2533. What do you do with the sheep; do you turn them up?—We send them to the pens, and turn them up there; they are so crowded that we cannot get round them in the ship.

2534. Have you discovered any sheep disease among the sheep imported?—I did about 18 or 19 years ago, but never since. The small-pox came in one of the foreign boats.

2535. With regard to pleuro pneumonia, what are your directions about that?—If we saw any of those cases, we should stop them in a moment.

2536. Do you order them to be slaughtered?—We order those having pleuro pneumonia to be slaughtered.

2537. In the case of lean stock?—In the case of lean stock or fat stock, because it is infectious.

2538. Are you employed as cattle plague inspector by the magistrates?—Yes, I have two districts.

2539. I suppose you have seen a great deal of the cattle plague?—I have seen hundreds of cases.

2540. Is it not the opinion of professional men that the disease may be incubated in 10 days?—It was some professional men's opinion, but I think it would show itself sooner.

2541. Supposing that in some cases it takes 10 days before it appears; I suppose you would require a quarantine that would cover those 10 days?—Yes, but I am taking in the passage in that.

2542. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you any experience of cattle travelling by railway?—No, I have not.

2543. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where did you see all these cases of rinderpest you have mentioned?—We have had it very bad in Hull and East Holderness.

2544. Mr. *Hunt.*] What do the people who have had it among their herds, attribute it to; how do they think it came?—They cannot tell; some fancy the foxhounds bring it; there are the most ridiculous ideas about it.

2545. Do they attribute it to the importation of foreign cattle?—No; some of the old farmers say it is the foreign cattle who have brought it, but the younger men do not think anything about it.

2546. You think it is a foolish prejudice?—They think so.

2547. What is your opinion; do you think it came from abroad?—It did not come from abroad at all.

2548. *Chairman.*] Then how do you think it arrived?—I cannot tell that really; I should like to know.

2549. Mr. *Hunt.*] If it did not come from abroad, you have no theory to account for its introduction?—No; I believe myself it broke out spontaneously, and I believe it broke out in London; in London the cowkeepers have not the chance that our cowkeepers have; they cannot turn their cows out to grass, and they give them stimulating

Mr. *N. J. Lockwood.*

14 May 1866.

stimulating food, grains, and so on, to get all the milk they can.

2550. Are you acquainted with the Hull slaughter-houses?—Yes.

2551. Is there a public slaughter-house there?—There is not one.

2552. The butchers kill at their own slaughter-houses?—Yes.

2553. Are the slaughter-houses situate in populous parts of the town?—Yes.

2554. Are they not nuisances in those populous parts of the town?—Some of the people complain, but I do not complain; other people think they are healthy. For myself I do not find any inconvenience; it may be so, some parties make a deal of noise about it.

2555. Are they licensed?—I believe they are.

2556. Would you think it an improvement to have a public slaughter-house on the outskirts of the town, or outside the town?—I do not know about that.

2557. You have not considered that question?—No.

2558. Lord *Naas.*] When you lock up a beast with foot and mouth disease, do you continue to inspect him as long as he is in custody?—Yes.

2559. How long do you keep the animals there?—Sometimes three days; sometimes only two days; sometimes four days.

2560. Is that sufficiently long to cure them?—They soon get a turn; it is only local disease.

2561. What is the general duration of foot and mouth disease?—Five or six days, not more.

2562. Is the beast not turned out or allowed to go into the countryuntil you give him a certificate that he is well?—No.

2563. At whose expense is he kept?—At the expense of the importer.

2564. Now, in cases of store beasts, if you find cases of pleura pneumonia amongst them, what do you do then?—Slaughter them at once.

2565. No matter how lean the beast is, you never attempt to cure him?—No; if he is not very bad at the beginning, he is fit for human food.

2566. Have you ever had any cases of disease of that kind?—I have not.

2567. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is it the result of your experience that foot and mouth disease lasts only that limited time?—Some beasts get over it quicker than others.

2568. I have known some beasts to have it 14 days?—If you dress out their mouths with salt, and so on, you can soon get rid of it.

2569. Mr. *Holland.*] Would it not infect another animal after five days?—It would if the matter from the feet got to a sore part of another beast.

2570. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Did you ever know any die of it?—I do not recollect any dying of it myself.

Mr. William Valentine, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Valentine.*

2571. Mr. *Norwood.*] I believe you are the Meat and Nuisance Inspector of the local Board of Health at Hull?—Yes.

2572. The local Board of Health have cognisance of all matters affecting the health of the town?—Yes.

2573. You have under your inspection the slaughter houses in the town?—Yes.

2574. On the whole, are they well managed?—Yes.

2575. At the present day are they sufficient for the purpose of slaughtering the foreign beasts which have to be slaughtered at the port?—Quite, if there were three times as many.

2576. Do you say that distinctly?—Yes.

2577. So that if it was to be a permanent regulation that fat cattle were to be slaughtered at Hull for import, there would be accommodation for that purpose in the town?—Yes.

2578. Is there any difficulty in the way of the butchers from the inland towns obtaining slaughtering accommodation?—No, the butchers in the town of Hull are quite agreeable to lend them any aid they can to bring forward the cattle slaughtering.

2579. Has it been the case lately, since the prohibition, that when butchers from inland towns have bought foreign beasts in Hull, they have had no difficulty in getting accommodation to slaughter them themselves?—No, they can slaughter them at once.

2580. The slaughter houses are licensed by the local Board?—Yes.

2581. And you have constant inspection?—I have them quite under my control, all of them.

2582. Have you any suggestion to make as to improving the slaughter houses in any way?—No.

2583. You are quite satisfied?—Yes.

2584. You say the health of the town is properly considered in the regulations of them?—Yes.

2585. Do you know of your own knowledge that the health of the town is now remarkably satisfactory?—Yes.

2586. I believe the average of mortality is under 26?—I believe it is.

2587. You have nothing to do with the inspection of foreign cattle when they come in. Your inspection commences when they get to the shambles?—Yes, but the Board require me to see all cattle landed if I can; it gives me a great insight if I see anything wrong to notice them more when they are slaughtered. Any beast that is the least touched with foot and mouth complaint is ordered to be at once slaughtered.

2588. That, I suppose, is ordered by the last witness?—Yes, and the Custom House officer stops with it whilst it is being slaughtered, and then I take possession of the feet, and head, and tongue; I examine them, and if they have the complaint they go to the boiling house to be destroyed, and the Custom House officer sees them destroyed. Anything that comes foreign is under the Customs, and they see it destroyed if there is disease.

2589. You have cognisance of all the dead meat in Hull, whether it is offered for consumption at Hull, or going away?—Yes.

2590. And you have power to stop any carcase?—Yes.

2591. Have you been compelled to exercise that power lately, and to stop any carcases going to the railway?—Not one.

2592. And the meat has gone away in good condition?—In capital condition.

2593. Mr.

2593. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think Manchester could be supplied with dead meat from Hull?—A great deal of it is.

2594. It is now?—Yes.

2595. And has been since these late regulations?—Yes, a great deal of it has gone to Manchester, to Sheffield, to Leeds and Bradford; all the way round for nearly 100 miles.

2596. Do you think that could be continued during the summer, if the trains were sent by night? — Not if you came to kill it in hot weather.

2597. Supposing it was kept a day at Hull, and then sent off the following evening?—That would make it nearly two days; it would be as green as grass before it got there, and most of it condemnable. I am afraid that would work very badly when the hot weather came on.

2598. Are animals who are seized with foot and mouth disease, when slaughtered, fit for food or not?—They are fit for food if taken in the first stage, and you do not put any medicine through them. We never allow them to have any medicine; if they do we condemn them directly, and have them slaughtered.

2599. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] You know nothing of the state of the foreign animals when they come?—Yes, I attend to them the same as the veterinary surgeon does, but I have not the power that he has; if I see anything wrong I mention it to him, and we consult about what is best to be done with them. They are all under his inspection, but I look after them afterwards; there is nothing comes but which they inform us of.

2600. In what condition do the foreign cattle generally come?—I have never seen them come in so good a condition since they began coming; I have attended to the boats ever since I have been in the cattle trade, and I have never seen them come so well as they have come lately.

2601. Therefore you think the inspection has been good?—I think it could not be better.

2602. It has been useful in bringing the animals in better condition?—Yes; they could not possibly come in better condition than they do now. They are wonderfully improved since last year.

2603. Before the inspection used you to see any diseased animals among them?—No; I have never seen cattle come in in a more satisfactory state; they are more like cattle coming out of a fold yard than anywhere else. From most of the boats several of the beasts came in a very unsanitary condition, which we had to bring before the magistrates; and we had to bring some of the people before the magistrates for ill-using the cattle, and likewise bringing them in in such an unsanitary state.

2604. Before the inspection you had complaints to make of the way in which the animals were carried?—There was always an inspection.

2605. But lately they have been much better than they used to be?—Last year I was complaining to the Sanitary Committee about every fortnight as to the state of the Bremen boats and other boats.

2606. Tell us in what condition these Bremen boats were, and what you had to complain of?—There were too great a number of cattle, and they brought them without any bedding at all. I believe they very seldom gave them any water. The heat prevailed to such a degree that no person could go below. If I went below, in two or three minutes I was nearly blind.

2607. There was no care about ventilation?—No; but they are wonderfully improved now to what they were. I could not get them to bring them in a sanitary state. I was always complaining, and I used to get insulted, and still kept reporting to the committee. We brought one of the captains before the magistrates for having the beasts in the Pope's-alley; and in this Pope's-alley they used to stow four beasts on each side. They used to back them in and tie them. One of the beasts had fallen down, and they literally dragged it out limb from limb.

2608. Then you mean to tell us that the beasts used to be very much illused?—Yes; I brought the Humane Society's officer, and showed it to him, and we summoned the captain. The stipendiary magistrate fined him 5 *l.*, promising him faithfully if he went again before him, he would imprison him, and not fine him. They used to have a boat, in which they used to take them out by slings, and so on. The store beasts are chiefly in calf, and it used to do them a great deal of injury; in some cases the calves used to be actually protruding at the time they were getting them out.

2609. Are these screw vessels or paddle vessels?—The screw boats can bring them equally well as the paddle boats.

2610. Taking last year, when you had so many complaints to make, were the screw boats or the paddle boats worst?—Last year was very bad weather, and stormy. I think it would be very much better if so many cattle were fixed in a pen, and all tied by the neck. There is a very great objection to tying them by the head.

2611. Do you think that any regulation laid down as to the number of cattle to be carried in each boat would be observed?—I should think it a great benefit.

2612. Do you think that any system of licensing vessels to carry so many cattle of a certain age would be of use?—It would.

2613. Would that make your duty more easy?—Yes, a good deal more easy; certainly it would.

2614. Would it enable them to bring the cattle over in better condition?—It would; they are too much crowded now; and, when it is stormy weather and the vessel begins to rock, they would go 20 or 30 of them down together, and they must injure one another very much.

2615. Would it be of any use to give power to the local authorities to admit any cargo that has been overpenned?—It would be better if a law was laid down to restrict them on the other side from putting so many cattle on board.

2616. Would it be of any use to turn back any vessel that had transgressed your regulations?—Yes, it would be better to put restrictions on them to stop them.

2617. Your observations apply principally to store cattle?—Yes, to store cattle; that is the mode of getting them out of the hold. So many of them come in calf that by landing them in the slings, it is very injurious to them.

2618. Do you mean that the animals which have been most injured in the transit, have been the cows?—Yes.

2619. In consequence of the slinging them out of the vessels?—Yes.

Mr. *W. Valentine.*

14 May 1866.

2620. You have no landing place?—Only at certain times of the tide.

2621. You have no floating landing place?—No.

2622. Would it have been of use to the cattle trade to have a floating wharf?—Yes.

2623. That is one of the things that would be recommended, as far as you know Hull?—Yes.

2624. With regard to fat animals, are they also overcrowded?—Yes, they are.

2625. Do you find that fat animals have been ill used?—Very much indeed.

2626. That they have been bruised by blows to force them into a crowded space?—They have been bruised by the bad weather, and the knocking about, which cannot be avoided in any vessel I believe, if they are ever so few, but it would be better if there were restrictions put to bring a certain number.

2627. As to the fat animals, are they brought over in a crowded state as well as the others?—Yes, at times; nearly all those are sent from Bremen.

2628. Are there any divisions in those vessels between the animals?—Some of them have.

2629. But that is not always?—Not in all of them; in many of the boats they put what they can upon the poop or anywhere; where the passengers are even. Every available space which they can fill they will.

2630. They carry animals below and also on deck?—They do.

2631. What precautions are taken on board those boats to clean the vessels after they take their animals out?—I only know that they take the sand out and wash them before they put the cargo in; I do not know whether they disinfect them at all.

2632. They do not lime-wash them at all?—No.

2633. Merely take the sand out and put fresh sand in?—I am not aware that they do not wash them out, but I am not aware that they do.

2634. Is the smell from the animals very bad on board those vessels?—Dreadful at times.

2635. Have you seen a cow with any disease come over?—I have not; not one; the only complaint I have ever seen has been the foot and mouth complaint.

2636. What is done with those that come over with the foot and mouth complaint?—The veterinary orders them to be slaughtered immediately; the Customs House sends a man with them while they are being slaughtered, and then, after they are slaughtered, I take what is not sound away, the head and feet, and so on, and have them destroyed.

2637. Supposing a certain number of cattle with the foot and mouth disease are killed by order of the inspectors, what happens to the other cattle that came over in the same hold, which do not happen to show symptoms of it?—They are sold.

2638. Do you think, according to your knowledge, it is possible that those animals might have caught the disease, but did not show it at the time they were sold?—Do you mean with the foot and mouth disease?

2639. Yes?—It is a very common thing, and I know it was formerly, when we used to shift them by the railway; for many years that has been so; a farmer always expects it when the beasts go to a fresh climate; the different heats and colds will bring it on.

2640. Used you to have any animals suffering from pleuro-pneumonia?—Yes, a great many.

2641. What happens to those animals which have that disease?—When they were in a bad state, we used to condemn them, and have them destroyed.

2642. Supposing any animals were condemned, what happened to the animals that were brought over in the hold of the same vesssel?—They were slaughtered.

2643. Were those slaughtered which did not show symptoms of it; was the whole cargo slaughtered?—No, only those that had it.

2644. What became of the others; were they allowed to be sold?—Yes.

2645. And do not you think it possible that that might have communicated the disease?—I do not know that it would.

2646. Do you not think it possible that they would catch that disease, coming over in the hold with the diseased animals?—No, there have been very few of that sort; I have not seen above one during this 12 months or more.

2647. Mr. *Hunt.*] It is your duty to inspect the slaughter-houses and meat markets?—It is.

2648. How many slaughter-houses are there in Hull?—Seventy-two or 73.

2649. Then whenever a beast is slaughtered have you to attend?—Yes, I visit all the slaughter-houses twice a week, and some of them several times in a day, when we know there is much slaughtering of foreign cattle.

2650. The regulations with regard to the movement of foreign cattle, I suppose, induce the Hull slaughtermen to slaughter largely for the purpose of sending dead meat to other towns?—No, not a great deal; they did sometimes, when the market suited, send to London.

2651. Do they not send to Manchester and Leeds?—No, I never knew any instances but once or twice, of dead meat going to Manchester.

2652. Was there not an increase in slaughtering when the railway prohibition was in force?—Not until the traffic was stopped from going by the railway.

2653. When the cattle were stopped from going by the railway were more beasts slaughtered in Hull?—Certainly; the buyers have to come there to buy them.

2654. Then the Hull butchers supplied other towns with dead meat at that time?—Yes.

2655. I suppose that gave you a very great increase of labour, did it not?—It did.

2656. Does it frequently happen that you have to condemn meat as unfit for food?—I have only condemned one beast within the last five months.

2657. What had the beast been suffering from?—Partly from the lung complaint, and what they call "nangberry;" it grows in the inside, more like a large berry than anything else; right from one side to the other, in the inside, and the lungs are very much diseased.

2658. Was that a foreign animal, or an English animal?—An English animal. It was passed for a healthy beast, but it did not turn out to be one.

2659. Is that the only animal you have condemned this year?—Yes.

2660. Have you condemned any joints; any portions of meat?—No.

2661. How many hours a day are you occupied in the inspection?—My time is night and day when I am wanted. I get up at six o'clock in the morning; I do not go to bed until

10 or 11 at night, and I am called up at any hour when they want me.

2662. I suppose you have a great deal of conversation with the butchers and slaughtermen?—Yes.

2663. Did you hear that when they were sending away dead meat to other towns there was any complaint made of its not reaching the other towns in a good state?—No, I never heard a word.

2664. Would you approve of there being a public slaughter-house in Hull instead of all these 72 private slaughter-houses?—No, I think it answers uncommonly well as it is.

2665. You think it is not capable of improvement?—No.

2666. I suppose the inspection would be carried out more easily if there was one slaughter-house?—Perhaps it might, but the butchers have all their own places, and they would be much more comfortable as they are; it would be a very hard thing to keep the men in order if they were all in one slaughter-house.

2667. I suppose the slaughter-house would be kept in order more easily?—There is not a place in England which is supplied with water in the same way as they are at Hull, and we have them white-washed two or three times a year; we get the manure out twice a week; in fact, everything is kept in good order, and I assure you the Board of Health are very strict with them.

2668. Mr. *Norwood.*] In answer to an Honourable Member about the crowding on board the ships, in what you said you were not alluding to all the ships; you alluded more particularly to the Bremen boats?—To the Bremen boats.

2669. In the Hamburgh trade you do not find the overcrowding?—They cannot bring them better than they do; they are anxious to do everything to meet the urgency of the trade.

2670. Am I right in assuming you do not mean to complain of the steamboat traffic of Hull?—Yes; I think they cannot do better; it is more like going into a farm yard as to several of the vessels that come up; there are tons of hay and straw left behind which have not been used. They have a benefit in keeping them well, for the captain and the men are well paid for looking after the animals.

2671. They have an interest in bringing the cattle over as well as possible?—They have.

2672. As to these things which you have spoken of, if I recollect rightly, there was a great deal of attention paid to the case you alluded to about the cows in calf, and there was a considerable deal of indignation about the matter, and there has been a change?—Yes, there has; Mr. Ringrose has got splendid boats, on board of which the beasts can walk, and there is no more slings.

2673. There has been a decided improvement in the arrangements during the last few months?—There has, indeed; they cannot possibly bring them in a better way than they have brought them, or in better condition.

Thursday, 17th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Cogan.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. E. Egerton.	The O'Connor Don.
Mr. W. Egerton.	Mr. Ald. Salomons.
Mr. Graves.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JAMES CRESSWELL WALL, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. C. Wall.* 17 May 1866.

2674. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—I am the Goods Manager of the Bristol and Exeter Railway.

2675. Have you much cattle traffic on your line?—We have a very heavy traffic from Cornwall, and from Devonshire, which is a large breeding county, as Members are aware, and also from Somersetshire. Somersetshire and Devonshire especially are very large grazing counties.

2676. From Exeter to Bristol?—From Exeter to Bristol, and from Barnstaple to Bristol, and from Bridgewater to Bristol, and from the rich districts of Taunton to Bristol.

2677. Fat cattle principally?—Fat cattle principally of the Devon kind. Those are a very heavy class of cattle.

2678. And store cattle?—And store cattle. We used to carry very large numbers from Somersetshire and Devonshire to the neighbourhood of Banbury, and also to the eastern counties, for grazing.

2679. Has it been your practice previously to this cattle plague to cleanse the trucks after each journey?—I would not positively say that they have been cleansed after each journey previously to the Orders in Council, but they were generally cleansed, for this reason: that the traffic of the Bristol and Exeter, and the West of England Railways generally, is a traffic going westward as to general merchandise, and we depended, to a great extent, on the carriage of cattle for the return journey, so that we were obliged to cleanse our trucks because we used our cattle trucks for the transmission of our ordinary merchandise.

2680. When you cleansed them, did you use any disinfectant?—We did not, until the cattle plague appeared, and we had orders so to do.

2681. It was not your practice to use lime-water, or anything of the sort?—It was not.

2682. Since the permission to carry cattle by rail has been given, has your trade recommenced?—It has recommenced partially, but certainly does not amount to one-fourth of what it was this time last year. I may, perhaps, inform the Committee that on the appearance of the cattle plague, and the orders given by Parliament, which interfered to a great extent with the transmission of cattle the Bristol, and Exeter Railway directors turned their attention to the subject, and at their request and desire, a circular was issued to this effect; perhaps I may as well read it: "Bristol and Exeter Railway. Goods Department, Bristol, January 4th, 1866. Cattle Plague.—The traffic by railway of horned stock and swine having been to a very great extent interfered with, the 'West of England Produce Company' hereby inform the graziers of Somerset and Devon that they can offer, at their stores, on and after the 11th instant, ample and complete accommodation for the reception of carcasses sent to them by railway, and that with a view to diminish, as far as possible, the inconvenience and loss that must necessarily arise under the present restrictions, both to graziers and to the public, they have made the necessary arrangements for the sale of carcasses, which must be addressed to the care of Mr. H. T. Swan, West of England Agricultural Produce Stores, New-cut, Bristol. The carcasses will be removed direct from the meat vans of the Bristol and Exeter Railway Company to the shambles, which are very lofty and roomy." Then they nominated certain persons whose names are given here, to whom the meat intended for those sales were to be delivered. The arrangements were these: that we placed a large goods shed at the disposal of two or three gentlemen who felt an interest in the subject in Bristol. The goods shed was fitted up as a carcase market, with sidings running into it, and meat vans constructed to carry carcasses, were immediately ordered, and then we informed the public that all information could be had at our several stations from the goods superintendents at those different points. As manager, they authorised me to say, that until some other arrangements were made, we should be responsible for the proper account of sales, and for remittances. We found that that was responded to to a very great extent by the graziers and farmers of Devonshire and Somersetshire, and that several station slaughter-houses had been erected, so that animals are slaughtered at the railway stations, put into very commodious vans, hung, in fact, as they would be hung in the shambles, brought to these stores, and there they are offered for sale.

2683. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is that a railway arrangement or a company arrangement?—All railway arrangements. We found our traffic was considerably diminishing.

2684. *Chairman.*] This was during the time when there was the prohibition going on as to carrying cattle by rail?—On the 4th January.

2685. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The prohibition did not take place until the 20th February?—No, it anticipated the prohibition.

2686. *Chairman.*]

2686. *Chairman.*] The butchers in Bristol came to this shed, where all the meat was, to purchase for their shops?—No; the butchers in Bristol held a meeting, and came to a resolution not to have anything to do with, or to deal directly or indirectly with any one who sent carcases to these stores. The result was this, that the carcases were offered to the public. The public rushed down in very large numbers, and there was no difficulty at all in selling the meat. People of first-class respectability, such as physicians, in Clifton, proprietors of schools, and others, clubbed together: several gentlemen said, we will have a sheep between us, and all that sort of thing. There was a very great demand, and farmers and graziers, if one may judge from the success which attended the undertaking, got very much better returns through this company than they were receiving from the butchers, while, on the other hand, a very large saving was made to the consumer.

2687. The butchers declined to have anything to do with your arrangement?—They did. I have had a report this morning from the manager as to it.

2688. Mr. *Hunt.*] Did you find customers almost immediately on your opening these stores?—The customers arrived in large numbers.

2689. Immediately?—Immediately. The stores were advertised in the morning papers, three daily papers, that we have in Bristol; there was no difficulty at all.

2690. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What was the difference in price?—I will not speak positively, but there was a difference of something like 3 *d.* a pound.

2691. Three pence a pound cheaper to the public?—Cheaper to the public. I know that the returns averaged about 4 *s.* 8 *d.* a stone, which is 7 *d.* a pound. The money was returned to the graziers and farmers, who sent their meat to these stores. At the same time I, residing in Clifton, was paying 10 *d.* per lb. for mutton.

2692. Who took the hides and skins?—The hides, I should think, were sold to country tanners; the hides did not come to Bristol, because the prohibition extended to hides as well as cattle.

2693. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You said 7 *d.* a pound; the 7 *d.* is a wholesale price, and 10 *d.* a pound is the retail price, to say nothing of the profit, and we cannot compare the 7 *d.* with the 10 *d.* unless we compare the 10 *d.* with the wholesale market price?—I think the 7 *d.* that was returned to the farmers and graziers must have been a larger price than the butchers were then paying, for this reason, that the stores were inundated with carcases, and the graziers and farmers appeared to like the system very much; the butchers of course did not. It was not taken up at all by the Bristol and Exeter Railway Company or by myself as a speculation in meat; the steps were taken merely with a view to keep up, as far as possible, our traffic receipts which we found were falling off, and there has always been a very large difference in the price of conveying the live cattle and the price of conveying the dead meat; but we find now it is as much more profitable to carry dead meat than it is to carry live cattle; therefore, we have reduced our carriage for dead meat, something like 40 per cent. within the last two months, and now it is about 60 per cent. higher than the price we should receive for the carriage of live cattle.

2694. Mr. *Hunt.*] Would you give us the rates?—I will give you the rates from Exeter to London, if you please.

2695. Give us the rates from Exeter to Bristol?—From Exeter to Bristol the distance is 76 miles, and our rate for dead meat is 20 *s.* a ton, which includes collection and delivery.

2696. What was your rate for live stock?—Our rate for live stock averaged about 6 *d.* per truck per mile; fat cattle would have been brought for about 7 *s.* each.

2697. To Bristol?—To Bristol; that would give us 2 *l.* 2 *s.* for the use of a truck from Exeter to Bristol on an average; we, generally speaking, load from three to four tons of dead meat, which would give us 5 *l.* or 4 *l.*

2698. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] This was not winter time?—Yes; we have had no experience of hot weather; the carriage of carcases by railway, even in the summer time, is not a new thing on the broad-gauge system, as between Cornwall and London, for, during the whole of last summer, there was a very heavy traffic in dead meat from Cornwall to London.

2699. Was that carried in baskets?—Sometimes in baskets, and sometimes hung in the trucks. In wet weather it travels very nicely indeed, and does not get dusty, but in the absence of rain, it is necessary when the meat is slung, to protect it with cloths.

2700. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is there any particular difficulty in protecting the meat, when it is hung?—We have not found any.

2701. Would the carcases swing against one another when suspended in the trucks?—They are hung rather closely to each other, and steadied by hooks.

2702. Laterally?—Yes, laterally; I have not heard any complaints.

2703. Has the meat sustained damage; has the surface of the meat been abraided at all?—We have not had any claims from salesmen for compensation for any damage; I cannot speak as to the state in which the meat arrives in the market.

2704. You have had no complaints?—We have had no complaints.

2705. Have you had to pay any claims for compensation, for detention?—Occasionally, and I may say frequently, we have had to pay claims for loss of market. For instance, if our trains are late into Paddington, and we take down the meat to Newgate, and other markets, between eight and nine of a morning, we generally have to meet that, by paying some compensation, because, we are informed, that at that time of the morning, the meat does not realise the same price as if it were delivered earlier. We have had to pay very serious claims for the loss of market by live stock, and not only for fat cattle, but for store cattle coming too late for the fairs. I think that the system of compensation, as far as the railway is concerned, is about equal.

2706. Where were the animals slaughtered which found their way to the store at Bristol?—Most of them were slaughtered at the farm-houses, but a great many animals are slaughtered at Tiverton, in Devonshire, at the railway company's station, where we have provided very ample slaughter-houses.

2707. Do you provide slaughtermen?—No.

2708. When an animal is sent to your station to be slaughtered, who slaughters it?—It is brought there by the owners; they witness the

Mr. *J. C. Wall.*

17 May 1866.

slaughter of the animal, and consign it to their salesmen in London.

2709. What time elapses between the time of the slaughtering of the animals and sending them off by the train?—Sometimes between a quarter of an hour and half an hour; it depends very much on local circumstances.

2710. Is the meat sent off before it is set?—It sets very well in the vans, because the roofs are very high, and the vans are ventilated; there is a great current of air rushing through them. I have been told the meat sets exceedingly well during the journey.

2711. Who is it left to to place cloths and arrange the meat in dusty weather; is it left to the company, or to the owner of the meat?—In some cases to the owners of the meat, in some cases to the company; the company finds hampers and cloths at the different stations for the accommodation of the public.

2712. I am speaking of the case where car cases are suspended in the trucks; does it rest with you to protect them by cloths?—Generally speaking the owners provide the slaughtermen, but if they do not, then we provide them, and lend them to them.

2713. Would there be any claims against the company, supposing the meat got damaged by dust during the transit?—I have never received any claim of that kind, and I think it is a claim that would be resisted.

2714. You consider it is taken at owners' risk as regards the damage from dust?—Yes; the meat is loaded practically by men who slaughter it; they understand hanging it so much better than the company's porters would.

2715. The trucks run by means of sidings into the slaughter-houses?—Yes.

2716. So that the meat is taken down from beams, and transferred at once into the meat van?—Yes.

2717. By hand?—By hand.

2718. Are you now in a position to accommodate all the dead meat with trucks in which it can be suspended; you call them "travelling larders," do you not?—We call them "meat vans." Occasionally it happens that a few hours detention arises; but we are constructing them now as fast as we can; practically we have not had any complaints from the public.

2718*. Since the railway movement of cattle has been allowed, have you found that the farmers still prefer slaughtering the animals, and sending up their carcases?—The farmers still send very large quantities slaughtered; but the butchers have gone down into the country and bought animals, and Bristol has been supplied, of course largely, with live stock since the orders have been modified.

2719. Has this plan of selling carcasses at these Bristol stores been carried on since the railway prohibition has been taken off?—There was one of the largest sales there on Saturday last, as I am informed by the post this morning, that they have had at all.

2720. Has the effect been to make the butchers lower their prices in Bristol?—Yes.

2721. Do you know what the retail price in Bristol is now?—I will not say positively now, but, about a month ago, I conversed with several people, and they thought it had the effect of reducing the prices of mutton by about 2*d.* a pound; these stores have been largely patronised by co-operative stores. In the districts of Bristol there are several co-operative stores, and meat from these places has been bought to a very great extent by these people, and retailed to the consumers on Saturday nights.

2722. In the case of the slaughtering of animals adjacent to the station, what becomes of the offal?—It is retained by the owners.

2723. They dispose of it as they please?—Yes.

2724. How do you think it possible to continue this large traffic in dead meat in hot weather?—We had considerable expèrience last summer in carrying dead meat from Cornwall; I do not remember any inconvenience, I myself do not see why it should not be continued.

2725. Was meat sent from Cornwall to London; to Newgate Market?—Yes.

2726. During the whole of last summer?—During the whole of last summer; during the very hot weather.

2727. Were any claims made against you for loss, in consequence of the meat being spoilt?—If the meat was delivered in proper time, and it was tainted, we should not have heard anything about it; we heard nothing of the kind.

2728. If your trains were late, of course the claim would have been made?—Yes.

2729. Have you meat trains, or does the meat go by the ordinary goods trains?—We run very fast meat trains.

2730. That is to say, trains carrying nothing but meat?—Nothing but meat.

2731. Perishable things?—Perishable commodities, vegetables. If the train is a small one, we carry a few trucks of merchandise, very likely.

2732. And you carry fish?—Yes; and there is a large traffic in vegetables from Cornwall.

2733. What time do these trains, taking these perishable articles of food, occupy in the journey?—We have a train which leaves Exeter at five in the evening, and which reaches London at four o'clock in the morning. The distance is nearly 200 miles.

2734. The meat which was sent in the carriages by those trains was meat killed that morning?—Killed during the day.

2735. How long have you had these meat vans on your line?—From about 15 to 18 months, I think.

2736. I suppose the advantage to the owners of the cattle is, that they know exactly what weight goes to the market?—They weigh them before they send them.

2737. In the case of a man sending off a live beast, he would trust to his salesman?—Yes, I suppose that would be so.

2738. But where the owner of a beast sees it slaughtered, he knows exactly what it is that he is selling?—I know the animals are weighed before they are put in the trucks.

2739. Do you think that the feeder of the beast gets more, but that the butchers suffer?—That is my opinion. I have based my opinion upon the fact, that the farmers and graziers of Somersetshire have availed themselves of these opportunities to a very great extent, and have gone on, and are well satisfied.

2740. You sum it up in this way: that the farmer gains, and that the feeders of the cattle gain, but that the butchers lose?—That is my opinion.

2741. Have you any statistics as to the quantity of dead meat which you have brought up at any

any portion of the year?—I have not brought it with me, but I can give you an approximate answer in a moment. Do you mean in tons weight?

2742. Give it us in tons?—To Bristol and London from places west of Bridgwater, about 200 tons a-week, or rather more.

2743. Do you find the quantity varies accord- to the state of the weather?—No; the quantity varies, I fancy, more from the state of the markets. If there is a large market in London or Bristol, the graziers are advised to hold on until they hear again from the salesmen.

2744. Where formerly they used to send live stock up to salesmen, they now send carcasses up to salesmen?—To a very large extent.

2745. Do you find the same salesmen have taken to the dead meat trade who used to deal more in the live trade?—I am not in a position to answer that question; I believe as far as London is concerned that the system has not varied, and that the old firms still have consignments sent to them, but, as far as Bristol is concerned, it is quite a different thing.

2746. Do you think the vendors of stock down in the remote west depend on advices from London as to what quantity they should send?—I should say, to a great extent, they are controlled by the quantity they should send off at any particular time by the question of demand and supply in London and large towns.

2747. Are orders sent by letter or by telegram?—In some cases by telegram and in other cases by letter; but very frequently by telegram.

2748. Supposing there was a great demand for meat in London, do you think that by means of the telegram and your quick trains the demand can be met by the supply from your part of the country?—Yes.

2749. You have said that your traffic in live stock has very much fallen off, and that it has not re-commenced since the railway movement has been prohibited to anything like the extent it formerly took place?—Last week I was speaking to one of our largest graziers in Somersetshire, who had that morning sent 20 large Devon steers to Bristol market. At Bristol market the order is that if cattle once enter the market they are to be branded, and must be slaughtered within a certain time. The natural consequence is, that when the animal is once there the butchers have it all their own way, and this gentlemen, who is a very respectable man, Mr. Bond, said that he sold 32 prime Devon beasts at about 4 *l.* each less then he gave for them in the neighbourhood of Taunton.

2750. You used to carry lean stock into the the grazing districts?—In large numbers.

2751 That was particularly at two periods of the year, was it not?—Yes.

2752. Do you know what has become of the surplus store stock in Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, which used to come up from the grazing districts in the Spring?—I know that there are very large numbers still remaining in those districts, and that it is a very hard case for a great many people who have them in large numbers, because they cannot realise; there they are, and they cannot remove them.

2753. They are very much depreciated?—No doubt.

2754. Do you know how the grazing districts have managed to get a supply?—No; I do not think they have been able to get a supply; there is a very much larger breadth of grass about Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, than I have ever seen, and I have known those counties intimately now for the last 20 years.

2755. Do you carry any Irish animals, landed at the port of Bristol?—No; the Irish cattle principally go to the north and to London, when they are landed at Bristol; very few of them go westward.

2756. You know nothing of the traffic of the Great Western Railway up to London?—I know it by being intimately connected, as we are, with the Great Western, and in continual communication with their officers. I could give you the rates of carriage pretty nearly.

2757. We will get it from a gentleman from the Great Western Company; you have nothing to do with it?—Nothing at all.

2758. Now, with regard to the cleansing of the trucks; the floors of the trucks want renewing very frequently, do they not, in consequence of what falls from the animals?—Yes; the trucks that carry cattle require renewing much more frequently than those that do not.

2759. How often have you to re-floor your trucks on an average?—I should think a truck would last for two or three years.

2760. It is very difficult, in the present construction of trucks, thoroughly to disinfect the floors, is it not?—It is not difficult; but it requires a great deal of labour and care.

2761. The fluid gets down into the joints; is it not so?—Yes; it requires a copious supply of water, and very hard brushes, and a great amount of labour.

2762. The cleansing of the trucks is left to your subordinate officers very much, is it not?—It used to be, but since the peremptory orders we have had, the station-masters at the different stations are held responsible; and, I believe I may say, it is superintended as well as you can expect anything of the sort to be superintended.

2763. The trucks have to be shunted on to sidings?—They have.

2764. Therefore the station-masters eye cannot be always on the process of cleansing and disinfecting them?—Not always; but the orders are very peremptory: I think I may say it is practically done very well.

2765. Have you turned your attention to any mode of flooring the trucks and covering them with a substance, which would enable them to be washed out more easily?—I have thought of it, but it is a very difficult question. If you employ zinc or any other metal, the animals slip about very much; in fact, you must naturally have a rough surface to prevent that, in order to obviate difficulty in travelling.

2766. You must have a cross piece, in order that the animals may get a grip?—You must have cross pieces or you must have divisions.

2767. Have you thought about pitching or tarring the bottoms of the trucks, or asphalting them?—We did think of asphalte, but I am afraid that would soon get rotten and torn; and if once it got holey, it would be difficult to cleanse the trucks.

2768. What are you using now to disinfect the trucks with?—I cannot tell you the chemical properties, but we get it from the wholesale druggists in very large quantities. It is a powerful disinfectant, but I cannot tell you the chemical properties.

2769. When the filth is taken out of the trucks, where is it thrown?—It is taken away by people in the neighbourhood, who are very glad to get the sweepings of the sheds generally.

Mr. *J. C. Wall.*

17 May 1866.

2770. Is it used as manure?—It is used as manure.

2771. You throw the disinfecting fluid into the truck before the truck is swept out?—Yes; and after.

2772. Is there any disinfecting fluid poured over the heap of refuse after it is swept out of the trucks?—I cannot say that it is so.

2773. Has any person visited any station with which you are connected for the purpose of seeing that the disinfection is carried out properly?—I was not present, but an officer, I think from the Board of Trade, visited several of the places, and expressed himself satisfied. I happened to be in London during the time on parliamentary business.

2774. There is no person appointed by any local authority to visit the stations from time to time to see it done, is there?—No.

2775. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are these carcases of dead meat all transmitted to London, or are they left at intermediate towns?—They are left at intermediate towns; but principally at Bristol and London.

2776. Then you have not had any complaints from the intermediate places at which they have been deposited any more than from London?—No.

2777. Do you propose continuing the system?—We shall encourage it as much as possible, inasmuch as the directors believe it will prove ultimately more profitable to the company.

2778. You have found that your returns and profits are better since you reduced the rate of charge upon the dead meat?—Yes; we are in fact now considering a further reduction. The difference now is about 60 per cent. in favour of carrying dead meat instead of live cattle as far as we can make an estimate; and we shall be prepared to reduce it still further.

2779. Have you reason to suppose that no damage has been done to the carcases as they have been taken down from the slaughter-houses and packed by those who have had charge of them?—Our claims have been very small indeed We have not had any representation from any London salesman, or any other salesman, to the effect that they have found them bruised. It has not been suggested that we could stow them better.

2780. Is the carcass allowed to stiffen before it is put into the carriages?—In some cases it is, and in some cases it is not.

2781. In some cases it is sent on warm?—Quite warm. It depends a great deal on the time at the disposal of the persons who bring cattle to the stations.

2782. The perishable goods trains are all night trains?—They are night trains principally, as far west as Exeter, but from Plymouth they are not night trains, because they are obliged to leave Plymouth at two o'clock in the afternoon, or at one in the afternoon, in order to reach London in time the next morning.

2783. That is, the two o'clock trains reach Exeter by five p.m.?—Yes, they reach Exeter by about five p.m.

2784. The *O'Connor Don.*] Do I understand you to say that you gain a profit of 60 per cent. by carrying dead meat instead of live meat?—I meant to say that the payment to the Company for actual weight is about 60 per cent. in favour of the dead meat over the live cattle, which is not 60 per cent. profit, because as to the live cattle, we have no loading or unloading, nor so much invoicing and clerkage work to do. A ton of live meat would pay us 60 per cent. less for carrying than a ton of dead meat.

2785. Therefore the public pay 60 per cent. less for the carriage of live meat than for the carriage of dead meat?—Yes; the difference would be diminished; it is quite a new trade to us.

2786. You do not gain the whole benefit of 60 per cent. which the public pay in addition?—No, it is more costly to us.

2787. And it is 60 per cent. more costly to the public?—Yes, that is to say, as the rates are arranged now.

Mr. John Dickenson, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Dickenson.*

2788. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are you a Butcher at Sheffield?—I am a Butcher, but only by necessity.

2789. What are you?—I am a Cattle Dealer.

2790. You say you are a butcher "by necessity"; what do you mean by that?—Previously to the cattle disease breaking out, we used to trade in cattle, and show them at the market at Rotherham, Wakefield, Liverpool, and Manchester. We used to purchase them in Ireland, and also Scotland, and at Hull; but since the order came out, of course everybody cannot go to fetch the dead meat from the different ports, and we have had to slaughter, and have been slaughtering very largely.

2791. Your trade was entirely dispensed with by that prohibition as to the movement of cattle by railway?—Entirely.

2792. You turned your attention to supplying your customers with carcasses, instead of live animals?—Just so.

2793. Have you had to send your agents about to different places to purchase carcasses?—No. When the order came out, I used to go to Dublin and slaughter them at Liverpool. When we found we could get the foreign cattle cheaper, and thought we could work the thing better, we went to Hull, and have been slaughtering them at Hull.

2794. You have been slaughtering them at different ports for the purpose of supplying your own customers?—Yes; we have sent them to Huddersfield, to Wakefield, to Halifax, and different places.

2795. You have found great want of accommodation for slaughtering, I suppose?—There is want of accommodation, but not any difficulty. We have found room in Liverpool and in Hull for what we wanted to slaughter.

2796. I suppose the order about stopping the movement of live animals caused a great run to be made on the slaughter-houses for the purpose of supplying the markets?—Of course it did.

2797. But you were able to get your animals slaughtered?—Yes; and we have been slaughtering up to this time nearly 200 a-week.

2798. Where have you been slaughtering principally?—At Hull, for the last five or six months.

2799. Your trade has got very much into another line since?—It has entirely.

2800. Have you found any difficulty in supplying other towns?—We have found great difficulty; in fact, it is so much a difficulty, that when the warm weather sets in, we shall have to give it up; we cannot do it. The gentleman who has been last giving evidence states they have

have quick trains for meat. The company afford us very little accommodation on the North Eastern line. We had the live animals taken much quicker than the dead meat.

2801. You have heard that gentleman's evidence as to the meat taken to London from Exeter?—Yes, I have.

2802. I suppose, if you had fast trains, you would be able to continue the supply?—Yes; but they will not do it. The difficulty would be so great, that we could not send it. It is only on account of the very favourable weather we have had, that we have been able to slaughter the cattle.

2803. What line do you use?—The North Eastern; we are shut up to that: there is no accommodation, virtually. The Lincolnshire Railway comes to Hull; but they have to cross the water; and if we sent it by the Lincolnshire line, that causes an extra loading and unloading in the truck. The less we move the meat after it is slaughtered, the better it is. We have frequently had heavy losses on meat.

2804. The fact of having to cross the water confines you, practically, to the North Eastern trains?—Just so.

2805. Where are the places at which you now slaughter the animals at Hull?—At different slaughter-houses in the town.

2806. There are no means of having the carcasses put upon the line except by carting it to the station?—No; the railway company have to send their rollies to fetch it. It costs them considerably more than sending the animals alive.

2807. Supposing you had a large slaughter-house that you could use, and a siding running into it, would not that greatly facilitate the trade?—Of course it would.

2808. Supposing you had fast meat trains, then, I suppose, the difficulty would be very much removed?—All those things tend to remove the difficulties.

2809. If you had the same facilities which Mr. Wall has been describing as existing on his line, there would not be much difficulty in the matter?—There would be difficulty even then.

2810. What difficulty would there be then?—I have known weather when, if the meat was killed one morning, it would be bad the next morning without removal; and the removing of the meat is much worse than if it was set firm and then taken into the retail dealer's shop and cut up. When you begin moving it it decomposes, and much quicker in hot weather of course, as you know, than during cold weather.

2811. I suppose it depends a good deal upon whether the meat is set before it is handled?—Yes the meat is decidedly better if it is set before it is removed.

2812. In the case of the carcase you have sent from Hull to Manchester and other towns, have you sent it off before it bas been set or after?—Sometimes before it has been set, but seldom. It has been when we have been pushed a little, and when we have had a great deal to do.

2813. Have you had complaints from your customers as to the condition in which the meat has arrived?—Daily.

2814. With regard to all the meat or with regard to the meat which was sent off before it was set?—We have had complaints of both.

2815. But principally that which was sent out before it was set?—That was the worst, of course.

2816. You have no special conveniences for packing the meat on the North Eastern Railway?—None at all.

2817. How do you send it?—It has to go in a low-sided truck.

2818. Have you sent it in hampers or cloths?—We generally cloth it.

2819. But otherwise you send it in an open truck with one carcass placed on the top of another carcass?—We do not place them one on top of another. A truck would hold about eight carcasses of beasts.

2820. You do not put one carcass on top of another?—No.

2821. Have you sent carcasses of sheep?—Sheep are allowed to travel, and of course, that being the case, wherever they are allowed to go alive, the butchers will not buy the meat dead.

2822. Do you know that large quantities of sheep come into London dead?—I know they do from Scotland and other places, but there they have the advantage of trucks with hooks on which they suspend the meat, and it does keep the meat pretty well in that way.

2823. I did not know that it came from Scotland?—Yes, from Berwick.

2824. By what line?—By the North Eastern.

2825. Have they trucks in which they can suspend the meat on that line?—Yes, sheep, not beasts; they can hang a number of sheep in the waggons, and they will set as they come along.

2826. Do you know that large quantities of beasts are sent up from Aberdeen and other places in Scotland all through the summer to west end butchers?—I am aware of that, but not in very large quantities in the extremely hot weather; if you inquire of the butchers, you will find that the traffic is nearly suspended then.

2827. Do not you know that some butchers depend for their own supply on Scotland all through the summer?—The traffic is nearly suspended during the very hot weather.

2828. I suppose you will admit this, that if London could be supplied from Scotland at any period of the year, Manchester could be supplied from Hull?—If they had the same conveniences, yes.

2829. Has your business consisted solely of dealing with fat stock?—Yes.

2830. You know nothing about store cattle?—No; I have not been in the store line at all.

2831. Do you know the price of meat at Manchester at different times?—I do.

2832. Has the price of meat risen in Manchester during the last few months?—It has been about the same for some few months.

2833. Has there been a rise within the last year?—Yes; meat is dearer than it was two years ago.

2834. Can you tell us whether there has been a rise in price in Manchester?—The price is always ruled by the supply.

2835. I am asking if you can tell us whether there has been a rise in price in Manchester?—I cannot say from memory exactly the time, but meat has been considerably dearer for the last six months than it was previously.

2836. I want to know when that increase of price took place; can you tell us within two or three months?—I should say the rise took place before Christmas.

2837. Has it risen since Christmas?—Yes, there has not been much variation.

2838. Not since Christmas up to this time?—No,

Mr. *J. Dickenson.*

17 May 1866.

No, I should say there has not been any great variation; there has been, of course, a little.

2839. Do you know when the Act of Parliament was passed prohibiting the moving of live stock by railway?—If I was to refer to my books I could tell you.

2840. It was the 20th of February, I believe?—Yes.

2841. You say there has been no great rise in price since Christmas?—No, I think it was first as dear before the cattle were ordered to be slaughtered as it is now.

2842. How do you account for the price not rising as soon as live stock were forbidden to travel by rail?—I account for it in this way; in a great many parts where the disease has been bad, the animals have been ordered to be slaughtered, and they have been sent to the dead-meat markets, Manchester and other markets, dead, and that has glutted those markets; that has reduced the price of the meat.

2843. That was so before the Act was passed?—No, not to that extent.

2844. You think that after they began to slaughter the animals which had been in contact with the infected animals, the meat market was glutted?—Occasionally very much so, and at other times it has been scarce, and then the prices have fluctuated, of course; as much as 2 *d.* a-pound between one week and another.

2845. Have you had anything to do with purchasing carcasses of animals that have been slaughtered on the farms?—No, I have not; we have never slaughtered one on a farm; we have confined ourselves to Hull and Liverpool since the slaughtering.

2846. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] We were told by a witness that the private slaughter-houses of Hull appeared to be all-sufficient for the purpose of slaughtering any amount of animals which might be brought there; is that your opinion?—Yes.

2847. They are all-sufficient?—Yes, we have never found any difficulty in that respect.

2848. They are all-sufficient, but still you would desire to see a public slaughter-house; is that what I understand you to say?—No, I did not say that.

2849. I thought you did?—No.

2850. At what time did you begin to send the dead meat to Manchester and other towns?—As soon as ever we were prohited from bringing the animals alive; that was after the 20th February; for four or five weeks we slaughtered at Liverpool, and then went to Hull, and since that we have been engaged at Hull.

2851. I think you have not told the Committee that the increase in price at Manchester commenced at the time of the dead meat being so sent?—No, I think it did not.

2852. There was not an advance of price at Manchester and other towns?—I think a few weeks previously to our giving over selling them alive, they made more money than they have ever made since, but it was the uncertainty of the markets which caused that.

2853. Are you venturing to send dead carcasses now?—Yes.

2854. At this moment?—Yes.

2855. Do you think that the fact of its being necessary now to kill the cattle within a certain time after they are sent over, would have any effect upon the holders of the foreign cattle; are they less likely to send them in sufficient numbers, when they know that they must be slaughtered within a certain period of time?—I think so; it tells materially against the price they would make.

2856. Do you find the arrivals decreasing in numbers in London?—They should increase at this time of the year; it is the time of the year at which we always expect a large increase, but they have not increased during this last month or six weeks; they have been about the average. If you were to ask me the difference between meat that is slaughtered and sent from Hull, or from Liverpool, and meat that is slaughtered in Sheffield, where I reside, I can give you the difference. Dead meat that would sell for 6 *d.* a-pound in Hull, would make 7 *d.* or 7 ¼ *d.* if it was slaughtered in Sheffield; the same quality.

2857. Have you any corresponding agent on the continent, to whom you transmit communications, requesting either an increase or diminution of consignments?—No.

2858. They are simply regulated by the public notice of price, which they get through the public means of information?—Just so.

2859. As a salesman, you do not communicate yourself directly with anybody representing you on the Continent, "Send me more, or send me less"?—No, I am a dealer, not a salesman. There is only one party I sell for in Hamburgh. I am a dealer, so it is not necessary for me to communicate with them.

2860. Mr. *Graves.*] Are the facilities for slaughtering in Hull better than they are in Liverpool?—No, I think not; they are excellent slaughter-houses in Liverpool; we find no inconvenience there; they are public slaughter-houses there. In the other case, in Hull, they are small private slaughter-houses.

2861. As a rule, how long after you buy the cattle in the market at Hull, do you retain them in your possession before slaughtering them?—They are not sold in the markets; we buy them of the salesmen at the different sheds; we keep them until they send for them. Sometimes they slaughter them a day afterwards, sometimes it is two days, and occasionally three days, but not more.

2862. Have you had any instance in your experience of cattle being seized with the rinderpest after you had bought them?—No, I have not, I have not seen one which has had the rinderpest since November, I think.

2863. Mr. *Hunt.*] I do not exactly understand the statement you made made in your answer just now, that the same quality of meat would cost 7 ¼ *d.* per pound if slaughtered in Sheffield, and only 6 *d.* if slaughtered in Hull; that was your statement I think?—Yes, the quality of the meat is so much better, that the retail butcher would prefer to give 7 ¼ *d.* for the meat to have it slaughtered themselves in Sheffield. If I were a seller of meat, the meat coming from either Liverpool or Hull would make at least 1 *d.* to 1 ¼*d* per pound less than the meat slaughtered in Sheffield.

2864. The retail butchers would give less for the meat?—The retail butchers would give less for the meat that was sent dead, from 1 *d.* to 1¼ *d.* per pound.

2865. Would that be in consequence of the way in which it was dressed?—It would be in consequence of the state of the meat, it does not come in as good a condition, the condition of it is so much worse.

Mr. *J. Dickenson.*
17 May 1860.

2866. Do you mean that its condition is so much worse that it would not keep so long?—It would not keep so long, nor does it look so well, I could tell if I went into a butcher's shop whether it came dead, or whether it was slaughtered in Sheffield, without asking the question.

2867. There is a great difference in the way in which meat is dressed?—Yes, and in the care which is taken of it.

2868. Do you think if the man who had dressed the meat at Sheffield were to go down to Liverpool and dress it in his own fashion there, and the meat was sent on from there afterwards, that you could tell the difference?—We have our men to go to Liverpool to dress the meat.

2869. Do they dress it as carefully and properly in one place as the other?—We are there to look after it, and to insist upon it being done so.

2870. What happens to the meat to make it in this bad condition?—It is the removal of the meat and the shaking in the waggons. Sometimes we have had had it on the railway, and when it should have been in next morning at six o'clock, it has not come in till the afternoon.

2871. Is that the case of meat which has been sent off before it has been properly set?—We seldom send it away unless it has been properly set.

2872. If it is not sent off properly set, do you say that the condition is such on its arrival that it would be worth 1 *d.* a-pound less?—Just so. It would sell for that amount less in the market.

2873. Are you aware that meat slaughtered at Aberdeen, if removed in good condition to London, will keep for 24 hours longer than meat that has been slaughtered in London?—I should dispute that.

2874. You have had no experience of it I suppose?—Yes, I have traded in London.

2875. Have you ever tried the experiment of sending a live animal, and sending a carcase of a dead animal out of the same lot, to ascertain which would keep the longest?—No, I have never tried that particularly, but I know when I I used to bring cattle to sell alive in London, the salesmen used to say, in very hot weather, "Send all you can, for the dead meat cannot come, and it will fetch a better price."

2876. Have you many customers in London?—No; occasionally we send meat when we are a little overdone.

2877. Where do you send it to, to Newgate?—Yes.

2878. To Leadenhall?—Yes.

2879. And Whitechapel?—It has been sent to Newgate and Leadenhall, by another party; it has not been sent in my name when it has been sent.

Mr. Mark Aungier, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *M. Aungier.*

2880. Mr. *Hunter.*] You are an extensive Cattle Salesman at Liverpool?—Yes.

2881. How long have you been in the trade?—Thirty-seven years; since 1829.

2882. Does your business lay with fat or store stock?—Altogether with fat stock.

2883. Have you any suggestions to make as to any improvement that could be effected in the accommodation for animals on board vessels coming to Liverpool?—I think there have been some improvements made lately, but the ships are capable of still greater improvements.

2884. Would you wish to see vessels licensed only to carry a certain number?—Certainly.

2885. That should be under Government regulation in fact?—Certainly.

2886. Do the animals get much bruised, and knocked about?—Occasionally they do; I think latterly they have paid more regard to the speed of ships than is required, and they have built them rather narrow. Mr. Graves can inform you that a ship built that way cannot go so steadily as if it was built with a broader beam; and, I think, if they were built broader they would carry the animals better.

2887. You think a tub would be preferable?—Yes; great speed is not required for animals in vessels coming from the east coast of Ireland, because the animals can only be landed at tide time.

2888. Do the vessels that land cattle at Liverpool carry back goods to Ireland?—They do.

2889. That is a reason for their having fast vessels; the vessels are adapted to two kinds of traffic?—I do not know that that is exactly the reason; there seems to be a disposition at present that everything should go very fast.

2890. And you think sometimes things go rather too fast?—Yes.

2891. We have heard there is great difficulty in getting the Irish cattle on board the steamers, that they are very wild and not tractable; is that your experience?—They have improved very much in that latterly, for they are able to walk them all on board now.

2892. They have got greater facilities for putting them on board?—Yes.

2893. You do not mean that the cattle are improved in disposition?—I think they are a little better cultivated than they used to be.

2894. We understand that they are knocked about with cudgels to get them on board, is that so?—In some places very much so.

2895. That bruises the flesh?—It does.

2896. Have you any experience in the foreign trade?—We have sold a good number of cattle from Spain.

2897. Do the Spanish cattle come in better vessels than the Irish cattle?—I do not think they do; they are generally screw steamers. Mr. Bibbie has his ships very well prepared for them.

2898. Do they come in as good a condition as the others?—Rather better, I think.

2899. To what do you attribute that?—To having the vessels better fitted up; I cannot attribute it to anything else.

2900. We have been told that the Spanish cattle are quieter than the Irish cattle?—Very much quieter.

2901. Is that owing to their having been worked before they are sold?—Yes.

2902. They are generall older beasts, are they not?—They are.

2903. Is there any traffic in dead meat between the Irish ports and Liverpool?—Very little; there has been a little this year, but very little.

2904. Has that been in beasts or sheep?—Principally in sheep.

2905. Does the meat come over in good condition?—Very seldom. During the winter months the mutton is sent over in very good condition, but latterly they have stopped, finding the weather getting warmer, they could not do it.

Mr. *M. Augier.*

17 May 1866.

2906. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Do you know anything about the dead-meat market at all; have you any experience at all in dead meat?—No, I have not.

2907. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you any cattle from Scotland?—We have but very few; very seldom indeed.

2908. Mr. *Cogan.*] The cattle that are sold in the market at Liverpool are not allowed to be sent forward by train alive?—They are not.

2909. Are the cattle that are sold in the Manchester market allowed to be sent by rail alive?—They are to a certain distance; about 15 to 20 miles round the Manchester market.

2910. To what towns are they allowed to be sent?—To Stockport and other towns; to Staleybridge; I cannot recollect the names of all, within 14 to 15 miles of Manchester.

2911. Has that privilege been allowed during the whole time that the same privilege is not allowed in Liverpool?—Oh, no! that privilege was only granted last week to Manchester market.

2912. Up to last week there was the same restriction in Manchester as there is still in Liverpool?—Just so.

2913. Do you object to the restriction which now exists in Liverpool?—I do; it has very nearly paralysed our market; very nearly closed it up altogether.

2914. Not being allowed to sell in the market, or to send animals on alive?—Yes.

2915. You do not think it possible to slaughter the animals, and to supply those towns sufficiently?—I do not think it could be done during the hot weather; not during five or six months of the year.

2916. Have you in Liverpool made any application to have the same privilege as is conceded to Manchester?—We are about making it this very day at three o'clock; we have an interview with Lord Granville and Sir George Grey.

2917. *The O'Conor Don.*] I understand you to say that you find the restrictions placed upon the transmission of live cattle of great disadvantage to your trade?—Very great indeed.

2918. It not only deteriorates the meat, I suppose, but the cost of the transmission of the dead carcass is much more expensive than the live one?—I have heard it, but I do not know it from my own experience; the way it injures our trade is, that if more cattle than the wants of Liverpool require come into our market, we cannot send them away from there, and they must be slaughtered within four days.

2919. And the fact that the cattle that are brought into the Liverpool market must be slaughtered within four days, and cannot be transmitted from the port alive, may cause a temporary depreciation in the price of meat?—Very much so, and increase the price of meat; you will have it at a very high price at one time, and very low at another, just according as the bullocks are sent.

2920. In that way you can account for the fact that the price of meat has not risen very much in consequence of that restriction?—I cannot account for it in that way; I think it is more from the numbers of animals that have been slaughtered in anticipation of the rinderpest; many animals have been slaughtered that would not otherwise have been so.

2921. In that way a glut of meat has been brought into the markets?—Yes.

2922. That, of course, would not continue?—I should think not.

2923. And, after a time, the necessary result of these restrictions would be that meat would rise in price?—To a very high price, no doubt.

2924. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What is the ventilation on board the boats which bring the Irish cattle from Ireland?—Latterly they have had very good ventilation; formerly they had very bad indeed; wretched.

2925. Have you observed that the condition of these Irish cattle has been improving since they improved the ventilation?—I think they are much better; they are better carried than they were.

2926. Have you ever known instances in which Irish cattle have been suffocated in these boats?—I have.

2927. Have you known those instances occur frequently?—Not frequently; very seldom indeed.

2928. But less frequently since the ventilation has been improved?—I should think so; but in the whole of my experience I have not known four cases in 37 years where there was any large amount of cattle lost.

2929. Have you known or heard of their having been slaughtered on board?—Occasionally, if an accident happened.

2930. From their having got down on board and being likely to be killed by others trampling upon them?—I have known such cases.

2931. Have you known any instances of broken legs?—Yes, I have.

2932. Have those instances been frequent?—No, very seldom indeed.

2933. Have you known any instances of a similar character arising on the boats bringing the Spanish stock?—I have.

2934. Has the value of the Irish cattle been depreciated by the character of the boats in which they have come; have they been depreciated in value in the market?—I do not think they have. Practically, some companies carry their cattle much better than others.

2935. Are you concerned in the trade in pigs at all?—Not at all.

2936. You know nothing of the trade in pigs from Ireland?—I do not.

2937. Do I understand you to say you would prefer to see all vessels employed in the cattle carrying trade under Government regulations?—I do.

2938. All?—All.

2939. That is all that come into Liverpool, which are those with which you are principally acquainted?—Exactly.

2940. Would you desire to see them regulated as to the number of cattle, as cargo, according to their space and accommodation?—I would.

2941. Do you think that cattle generally are too crowded on board these boats?—Some of the steam packet companies do crowd their boats very much.

2942. Which are the most crowded?—I do not like to mention names.

2943. Then, which are the least crowded?—The City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, I think, carry their cattle best. That is my opinion.

2944. Have any of these boats means of protecting cattle on deck from the weather?—Lately they have placed what are called hurricane decks on, within the last two or three years, but formerly there was no protection.

2945. Do you find that cattle which have come as

as deck cargo arrive in better condition than they did before that protection was afforded?—Oh, very much better.

2946. Previously to that time have you known cattle a good deal affected by lying on the deck exposed to the hot sun?—No, I cannot say that, but I have known them very much affected by great cold and the sea washing over them, and frost.

2947. Is it your opinion that unnecessary exposure of that sort, either to heat or to cold, more especially, as that seems to be your point, would be to cattle a predisposing cause of disease?—I should think so.

2948. Would you consider that, after being landed, they being driven through the country as they frequently have been in droves, and lying out, under circumstances with which, I dare say, you are acquainted, that disease would be more likely to develope itself in such stock from their habit and state when they landed in consequence of previous exposure?—That would depend very much on how the cattle were treated before they were shipped.

2949. Take the time of their arrival. If they had been exposed unnecessarily, or improperly, as deck cargo, would they not be more likely, in the course of their transit to whatever their destination might be, to exhibit symptoms of disease of one sort or another?—I think they would.

2950. Do they water the Irish cattle on their passage from Cork?—They do not, on board.

2951. Do you consider it necessary they should be watered?—Scarcely, I think; the passage is not long.

2952. We have heard that the Spanish cattle, cattle that have a longer passage, are fed with compressed food?—They are; and watered.

2953. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Are any steps taken to cleanse the decks at all?—Yes, they are washed; I have never known them otherwise. As soon as the cattle are discharged from the boats, the first thing they do is to cleanse the holds.

2954. Are they limewashed?—I do not think they are; but they are washed with sea-water, and made as clean as possible.

2955. There are no other precautions that you can suggest?—I do not know of any.

2956. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you find there is any disease existing among the animals landed from Ireland, not speaking now of cattle plague?—I have not seen any for the last six months.

2957. Before the last six months?—They had; but not after.

2958. What was the nature of the disease?—Pleuro-pneumonia.

2959. No foot and mouth disease?—Yes, occasionally.

2960. What is the practice of the inspector at Liverpool with regard to foot and mouth disease; does he stop the animals?—Not for foot and mouth disease.

2961. Neither store cattle nor fat cattle?—We have had no instances.

2962. They have been allowed to go into the Stanley market?—They have with the foot and mouth disease.

2963. Of course he stopped those that had pleuro-pneumonia?—They have not been brought into the market, but have been sold otherwise under inspection.

2964. Liverpool is very badly provided with accommodation if the cattle cannot go into the market, is it not?—Very bad; in the borough there is scarcely any accommodation.

2965. That has been your greatest difficulty; not being allowed to go into the only place where cattle could stand, you did not know what to do with them?—Not for two or three weeks.

2966. I suppose if you had proper accommodation for the standing of cattle and the sale of them, you would not care so much for going into the market?—I would rather they could go into the market; there is no place in which we could dispose of them as well.

2967. Would you see any objection to there being in the market a separation of foreign and English beasts?—The foreign beasts are all inspected on their landing, and again when they come into the market.

2968. Should you see any objection to there being a separate place in the market for the sale of foreign beasts?—I do not see any objection, neither can I see any use.

2969. It would not injure your trade?—I do not think it would.

2970. Before the restrictions came into force, they stood anyhow in the market?—They did.

2971. Have you had any of the animals that have been consigned to you, slaughtered for the purpose of their carcases being sent to other towns?—I have not.

2972. Mr. *Cogan.*] From what Irish ports do cattle come into Liverpool?—They come from all the eastern ports, from Sligo, from Ballina, from Waterford, Cork, and Limerick.

2973. Do you find any difference in the condition of the cattle coming from these different ports?—I think they are better from eastern ports; that is from Dublin, and Drogheda, and Dundalk.

2974. That necessarily arises from the voyage being shorter, or from other causes, does it not?—Those ports are situated in the best feeding districts, and that would be one cause why they would come better.

2975. They are a better class of cattle?—Yes.

2976. Generally speaking, is the condition of the Irish cattle good?—Yes, in general it is.

2977. Do you sell many Scotch beasts?—Very few.

2978. Are you aware of your own knowledge what number of cattle come into Liverpool in the course of the year from Ireland?—Yes.

2979. Do you know what number came last year?—One hundred and forty thousand.

2980. Is that the total number from all parts?—That is the total number shown in our markets, 140,000.

2981. Are you aware how many of these cattle came from Irish ports?—About 120,000.

Monday, 28th May 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.
Viscount Cranborne.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Sir James Fergusson.
Mr. Graves.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Hunt.
Mr. Leader.
Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.

THE RIGHT HON. T. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. MARTIN PRATT, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *M. Pratt.* 28 May 1866.

2982. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] YOU are the Secretary to the General Steam Navigation Company of London?—Yes.

2983. What is the nature of the trade that your company carry on?—A general trade in goods, merchandise, and passengers.

2984. And in cattle?—And in cattle. The company's vessels bring cattle, sheep, calves, and pigs, from the following foreign ports: Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Tonning, Ostend, Calais, Boulogne, and Havre.

2985. Do you bring any large numbers?—The numbers brought during the last year, from the 1st January to the 31st December, were as follows: From Tonning we brought 24,901 cattle, 25,935 sheep, 4 calves. From Hamburg we brought 5,998 cattle, 109,167 sheep, 3 calves, 22,004 pigs. From Rotterdam, 31,705 cattle, 149,248 sheep, 20,334 calves, 14,423 pigs. From Antwerp, 360 cattle, 20,065 sheep, 1,551 calves, 768 pigs. From Ostend, 1,219 cattle, 7,337 sheep, 934 calves, 2 pigs. From Calais, 78 cattle, 2,212 sheep, 291 calves, 1,939 pigs. From Boulogne, 2,803 cattle, 10,935 sheep, 15,765 pigs. Making a total of, horned cattle 67,064, of sheep 325,016, of calves 23,117, and of pigs 54,901.

2986. That is during the year 1865?—From the 1st January to the 31st December 1865.

2987. Is this trade an increasing trade?—Yes.

2988. Was the trade in the year 1865 larger than in previous years?—Yes; without having the comparative statements, I may say so, decidedly.

2989. I see Tonning is one of the places from which you get most cattle?—We get the largest number from Rotterdam.

2990. But you do get a large quantity from Tonning?—Yes; from Tonning the trade only extends from July to November, but the trade of Rotterdam continues all the year round.

2991. Is that a trade in fat cattle?—Yes, they are all fat cattle from Tonning, and also, with very few exceptions, from Rotterdam.

2992. Have you many milch cows?—Yes, but I have not distinguished them.

2993. The larger portion of your trade is in fat cattle for the markets; is that so?—Yes.

2994. Have you a list of what you have done during this year from January up to May?—No.

2995. About what quantity should you suppose you have taken?—We have been restricted; the importation from Holland has been prohibited, and, therefore, it would not be a fair comparison.

2996. What do you say as to Tonning?—The Tonning trade has not commenced yet; I speak of Rotterdam. The Tonning trade does not commence until July.

2997. The trade from Tonning is only a summer trade?—Yes it commences early in July, and extends till the middle of November.

2998. What is the reason of that?—They are grass fed.

2999. It is not on account of ice in the rivers?—No; they are grass fed, and they begin to export them about that time; those brought in winter, in the other months, would be store cattle.

3000. Are those beasts which come from Tonning fat beasts?—Yes, they are all fat cattle for the market.

3001. At Rotterdam?—At Rotterdam they are principally fat cattle.

3002. And Hamburg?—And Hamburg; mostly for the market.

3003. I see you have 2,800 beasts from Boulogne; is that a new trade?—That is rather a new trade; about 18 months old.

3004. Is that for fat cattle also?—Yes.

3005. Are they French cattle?—They are French cattle, but I cannot say exactly what districts they come from.

3006. Are they generally large heavy beasts?—Very large, heavy beasts; indeed, they are the largest description of beasts we bring to London.

3007. Do the animals fetch a good price?—I have heard that the animals from Boulogne have fetched as much as 46 *l.*; one head of cattle brought by way of Boulogne.

3008. I see there are 10,900, or, in round numbers, 11,000 sheep from Boulogne; is that a new trade also?—Yes, that is a comparatively new trade.

3009. Is that a trade in sheep or lambs?—Mostly sheep.

3010. Are they in good condition?—In excellent condition.

3011. Are they a kind of animal which sells among the best butchers?—They fetch the average price, I believe.

3012. Does not your company trade with Scotland, and places along the coast?—Yes; but

but the numbers brought coastwise are comparatively very few.

3013. I ask you first whether you have a coasting trade?—Yes; we have a coasting trade to Edinburgh, Newcastle, Hull, and Yarmouth; from Yarmouth we have brought only 404 during the whole of last year.

3014. Is that a new trade?—Oh dear, no; it has been established many years.

3015. Did you never bring anything up from Scotland?—No horned cattle.

3016. What do you bring from Scotland alive?—Sheep and pigs. We have brought 418 during the twelve months.

3017. Then, is it a diminishing trade?—We never had a large trade from Edinburgh in live cattle.

3018. Do you know of your own knowledge of there being any examination of the animals as to their soundness at foreign ports?—Yes; at most of the foreign ports, the animals are examined by veterinary surgeons appointed for the purpose, either by the company, or by the authorities of the port. These inspectors reject any diseased animals which may be brought down for the purpose of shipment, and they grant a certificate as to the soundness of the animals shipped.

3019. *Chairman.*] What interest have the authorities of the port in preventing the shipment of diseased animals?—In some ports it is a local arrangement. In other ports it is an arrangement of our own, and we pay for the examination.

3020. You stated that in some cases the authorities examined them?—I believe it to be a local arrangement; but our object, of course, is to prevent diseased cattle being brought on board, and sometimes we substitute an appointment of our own if it is not undertaken.

3021. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Of course they are examined here?—Oh, yes; there is a form of certificate which the authorities give. On their arrival here, these certificates are handed to the veterinary surgeons appointed by the Commissioners of Customs, but they disregard that, of course. They have their own system of examination.

3022. In the course of the last year, have many of the cattle and sheep, or other animals, which have been brought by your vessels, been rejected as unsound or as being diseased?—Yes; there is a disease prevalent called the foot and mouth disease; they are stopped upon discovery of it, and are slaughtered on the wharf.

3023. Have you had any large portion of yours so stopped in the course of last year?—Yes; I have not the exact particulars of the quantity stopped from foot and mouth disease and slaughtered at the wharf, but I believe the veterinary surgeons are in attendance, and will give you the exact number upon authority.

3024. *Chairman.*] Have you had any cases of cattle plague?—The only one was supposed to have been in the case of three cows which were brought from Rotterdam, but we always disputed the fact that it was the actual cattle plague.

3025. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] When was that?—Three or four months ago.

3026. Mr. *Hunt.*] Were they stopped?—Yes.

3027. At which wharf?—Brown's Wharf.

3028. Who was the inspector who stopped them?—Mr. Simmonds.

3029. *Chairman.*] They were slaughtered, I suppose?—They were slaughtered after a time.

3030. What became of the rest of the animals that were in company with them in the ship?—I think they were all slaughtered on the wharf.

3031. The whole ship's cargo?—Yes; but I do not recollect exactly; Mr. Simmonds is present, and will tell you exactly the history of the transaction; there was always a doubt in our minds whether it was the cattle plague, but that is a professional opinion which, perhaps, I have no right to give; it is perfectly certain that no disease followed in the same ship, nor did it extend to other animals upon the wharf.

3032. Mr. *Hunt.*] Did you take any special pains with regard to cleansing the ship after bringing the animals over?—No; the vessel was cleansed in the ordinary way immediately after the animals were all landed, but there was nothing very special done; the system of cleansing is so complete that I do not think we could have done anything more.

3033. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Your company have vessels specially fitted for carrying cattle and sheep?—The company have vessels specially fitted for cattle, and nothing else. In other cases we bring cattle as well as cargo.

3034. Do I understand that the number of cattle you speak of are brought first in ships specially intended for that trade, and for that trade only, and that others are brought in ships which have cargo?—Exactly. There are different stations. From the Tonning station we bring cattle, sheep, and pigs, and nothing else.

3035. What are the arrangements with regard to those ships that are arranged for the carrying of cattle only?—The holds of the vessels appropriated for the conveyance of cattle are divided off by stanchions, rails, and boards, with battens to give a foothold to the animals, and they are arranged in compartments, made to hold about five in each compartment. The compartments for sheep are formed of stanchions, rails, and hurdles.

3036. Are the cattle supplied with air?—Oh, yes; particular attention is given to the ventilation of the holds.

3037. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do they stand tail to tail, or head to head?—They are all athwart ship, and, of course, tail to tail.

3038. It does not follow that they are, of course, tail to tail, because in some vessels they stand the other way, so that a man can walk down between the two rows of heads and supply them with what they require; that is not so in your vessels?—No, they are all athwart ship, with their heads to the sides of the ship. There is a third tier in some ships, and then it is immaterial which way they are placed.

3039. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are they supplied with food?—They are always fed on board, and there are large tanks of water, holding between 2,000 and 3,000 gallons.

3040. What is the average time they are kept on board?—Of course, it depends upon the stations. From Tonning, about 40 to 44 hours; it has been done in less, but that is the average; from Hamburg, the same time; from Rotterdam, 20 hours; the same time from Antwerp; from Boulogne, 9 hours; from Ostend, 11 hours.

3041. Are there any persons on board to look after them, and take charge of them?—Yes; on board the cattle vessels the shippers provide drovers, five or six in each ship, but the crew of course assist in attending to the animals, and keep the horned cattle from laying down, which is the

Mr. *M. Pratt.*

28 May 1866.

great object. If they lay down it is very bad for them.

3042. Does a bullock shipped at Tonning, and all those hours on board, never lay down?—He never lies down.

3043. What is the peculiar disadvantage of the cattle lying down?—The others will interfere with them, trample on them, and they are weakened by lying down.

3044. How are they prevented from lying down; do they all have to stand close together?—Yes.

3045. So close that they have no opportunity of lying down?—No, they cannot fall.

3046. When they land, do not they appear very wearied from that state of things?—No, on the contrary, they appear in most excellent condition. I will just instance one of our ships, the "Maas"; she had on board 570 head of cattle, we embarked them in three hours and a quarter; they were on board for 60 hours, and they were landed and walked out in 50 minutes, showing in what good condition they must have been.

3047. How are they got on board?—They are walked on board. They are first landed on the deck, then they pass down a brow or platform to the 'tween decks, and then down another platform to the lower holds.

3048. They are not slung?—No. I have here a plan of the vessel; it will show the arrangements on board the ships, which will show the stowage, and more particularly the ventilation.

3049. When a vessel arrives is it not very foul?—No. The men, of course, immediately go down to the holds to assist in walking the cattle up, and they do not experience much inconvenience. The ventilation is so perfect that most of the foul air escapes.

3050. I suppose there is a good deal of cleansing after they have landed a cargo of this sort?—Yes, of course.

3051. What is done?—There is a little difference of opinion, perhaps, as to the best mode of cleansing a ship; but the captain of that particular ship always cleanses his ship by scraping the ship, and not applying more water than is absolutely necessary. He finds that the ship is much sweeter after the scraping than it would be by thoroughly saturating the wood, from which a great evaporation would take place.

3052. Do you use any disinfecting fluid?—Yes, we use a disinfecting fluid by means of an ordinary water pot; we use chloride of zinc.

3053. Does that leave any effluvium?—I am assured that it is as sweet as possible. The system of cleansing is continued during the time of their going out again, for they take no cargo back, and by the time the vessel gets to its port it is perfectly cleansed and sound.

3054. Where are the cattle landed?—We have two landing places belonging to the company, one is Brown's Wharf, Poplar, and the other St. Katherine's Dock, near the Tower. The animals are landed immediately the vessels arrive alongside the wharf, and there they are conveniently placed for the inspection of the veterinary surgeon. Usually the examination commences shortly after the animals are landed, but not until they are all landed. This is the case unless the vessel's arrival occurs during the night.

3055. Mr. *Hunt.*] They go into a shed, do they not?—No, not into a shed; they are not all covered in, but a great portion of them are covered in; others are in the adjoining open ground. The examination is carried on by daylight only.

3056. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What are your days of arrival?—They arrive all days in the week at one place or another; some daily.

3057. What becomes of the animals when the ship arrives, and there is no market to take them to?—They take them to the lairs, I believe.

3058. And then you do not know any more about them?—No, when the animals leave us we enquire no further.

3059. Can you tell us how the freight is calculated?—Do you mean the freight only?

3060. Yes; what is the charge for bringing a bullock from any of the places you have mentioned, and landing it here free?—The freights vary. At Tonning last year the freight was 15 *s.* and 2 *s.* 6 *d.* for wharfage; that is the actual freight on the animals from Tonning to London.

3061. For the 15 *s.* you would transfer a bullock from the wharf at Tonning on to the wharf in London?—Yes, that was the charge last year, but it varies according to circumstances. From Hamburg we charge 20 *s.*

3062. Mr. *Hunt.*] Besides the wharfage due?—Besides the wharfage. At Rotterdam the charge is 15 *s.*, and that includes wharfage. There are different arrangements for different stations.

3063. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What is the price for sheep from Hamburg?—It is 1 *s.* 6 *d.*; they are very small.

3064. And pigs?—Pigs 2 *s.* 6 *d.* The freight varies at each station.

3065. Will you allow me to ask whether your prices were lowered to meet the competition of the Eastern Counties Railway?—Yes; the charges in October 1863, when the Great Eastern Company first ran their steamers to Harwich, were 15 *s.*, and the wharfage of 2 *s.* 6 *d.* was made in addition, by the direct route. They charged 15 *s.*, and there was no corresponding charge by their line of 2 *s.* 6 *d.* wharfage. We dropped the wharfage, and included it in the freight. We afterwards reduced the freight to 10 *s.*, and the Great Eastern Company followed that, and their charge, which was continued for 18 months, was 10 *s.* only. That was the freight and carriage of the animal from Rotterdam to London by way of Harwich. Our charge was precisely the same, so far as the freight was concerned.

3066. You regulated your charge to meet their charge, including steamboat and railway?—Yes, we regulated our charge to compete with theirs by way of Harwich.

3067. You stated that they come in steamboats to Harwich; I suppose you mean from Harwich to the parts to which you trade?—I should have said to Rotterdam only. They only trade from Harwich to Rotterdam and Antwerp. I was not present at the time, but I am told that when Mr. Moseley, the manager of the Great Eastern Company, gave his evidence here, he put in what he called a "comparative statement," of which I have the particulars. His statement was to this effect: Reckoning the freight at 15 *s.*, I believe he explained that the freight was 10 *s.*, but that he has every reason to expect the freight hereafter will be 15 *s.*, when they re-open their station, for the carriage of animals; and, therefore, he has placed the freight at 15 *s.* He is now giving a statement of charge on an animal brought from Rotterdam to London direct by steam,

steam, and I will give you the statement by way of Harwich. He calls our freight to Harwich 15 *s.*; our landing and wharfage charge, 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; driving, cartage, and lairage, 1 *s.* 9 *d.*; commission, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; slaughtering, 5 *s.*; and drover's charge on board, 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, making a total of 1 *l.* 10 *s.* 3 *d.* Then he compares it with the charge *viâ* Harwich, and says the whole freight or charge from Rotterdam to London being 15 *s.*, it gives half to the steamboat, and half to the railway. Therefore, he makes his freight 7 *s.* 6 *d.*, and says slaughtering, and all other charges at Harwich, 7 *s.* 6 *d.* Their conveyance, when dead, from Harwich to the London meat market, reckoning it at 8 cwt., at 1 *s.* 7 *d.* per cwt., 13 *s.*, making 1 *l.* 8 *s.*, which he calls a difference in favour of Harwich of 2 *s.* 3 *d.*; although, of course, the circumstances are not parallel by any means. If you please, I will first point out where he makes an error in his calculation. The freight is 15 *s.*, and that is correct. As to landing and wharfage, there is no such charge; we include it in the freight.

3068. Mr. *Hunt.*] But you do charge it?—We did before the Great Eastern competed; we did a regular trade, but immediately the Great Eastern Company began to run a vessel from Rotterdam to Harwich, we ceased the charge of wharfage from Rotterdam, and there is no such charge as half-a-crown for wharfage. The driving, cartage, and lairage, 1 *s.* 9 *d.*, is correct; the commission, 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, is correct; that is for selling the live animal; then he says, slaughtering, 5 *s.*, which is in reality 4 *s.*, including the delivery.

3069. You only charge 4 *s.*?—That is the charge for slaughtering.

3070. Where?—Wherever the animal may be sold for. He has introduced the item in his statement as 5 *s.*, and it is only 4 *s.*; then the drover's charge on board, 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, is not in existence; we know of no such charge, and if there is any such charge for drovers on board, it is applicable to the Harwich as well as to the London stock.

3071. Do you pay the drovers on board?—No.

3072. Who does pay them?—The owners of the cattle.

3073. Then I suppose that forms an item in the expense of bringing them?—No; it does not follow the animal; I do not know where the payment is made; we do not pay it at all.

3074. It is not included in the freight?—No; but if it is applicable to one route, it is to the other: there are drovers on board the vessel from Rotterdam to Harwich; that makes the total 1 *l.* 5 *s.* 3 *d.*

3075. Do you know that they do not include the charge for attendance on the cattle in the freight of the Harwich boats?—I do not know; but he does not state it as an item of expense at Harwich.

3076. I conclude by his not stating it, that it was included in the freight of the Harwich boats?—I should doubt it.

3077. I do not know that it was so, but I concluded it was from Mr. Moseley's statement?—I should doubt it very much.

3078. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] The competition by the Eastern Counties Railway to Harwich, lowered the carrying freight by your boats to London?—Yes, it had that immediate effect.

3079. Do you carry any dead meat?—Yes; in the winter months we bring it from Hamburg in quantities.

3080. How is it brought over?—In cloths; in sides and in quarters.

3081. In the same way as it is brought up in cloths from Scotland?—Yes; they bring it in sides as they do from Scotland.

3082. Who provides the cloths?—The shipper.

3083. Are these cloths returned to them?—I think they are, and if the meat comes in baskets, the baskets are returned; we do not provide them.

3084. *Chairman.*] Do you bring dead meat coastwise?—Yes; we bring quantities of carcases of sheep from Hull.

3085. Is that trade confined to the winter season?—Yes.

3086. You do not bring it in the summer?—Not in the height of the summer; not in the warm weather, in fact.

3087. For how long a period in the year, generally speaking, does that trade stop?—I have not the materials here to answer that question, but during the summer months.

3088. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Has it stopped yet?—I have not seen the particulars of the cargoes lately; I could tell in a moment if you would allow me to refer to them; I am told it is still coming in very small quantities, but it will be all off by the end of this month.

3089. When does it begin again?—In October.

3090. Then there is just an interval of five months?—Yes.

3091. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] The trade from Hull is in sheep?—Yes; carcases of dead sheep.

3092. Are they brought in bulk or in baskets?—They are mostly in bulk, packed in cloths, arranged round the quarter deck of the vessel.

3093. *Chairman.*] They are consigned to particular parties; they are not sent to be sold?—They are consigned to particular houses for sale; we deliver them into the market immediately on arrival.

3094. Does the Steam Navigation Company ever do any business in cattle?—No; not on their own account.

3095. You have no agents abroad who buy cattle in case you have not sufficient shipment, so that you may have them in with your own stock?—No, we never do that.

3096. When the dead meat trade stops, in consequence of the heat of the weather, do you find an increase in the live cattle trade?—No; we do not bring the live animals then either from Hull or from Edinburgh.

3097. You never do?—No; but from Hamburgh, where we bring quantities of meat, they are shipped as live animals; we do not bring them as dead meat.

3098. When the dead meat shipping stops, you find an increase in the quantity of the live animals?—Yes, but to no very great extent; it is a very uniform and even trade from Hamburgh; with respect to this comparative statement of Mr. Moseley's, I may say this item of 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for drovers' charges is not accurate; it should not have been introduced into the comparative statement.

3099. Because you say the charge there, in the one case, would also be applicable to the other?—It would be applicable to the other, and therefore I omit it.

Mr. *M. Pratt.*

28 May 1866.

3100. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you feed the drover coming from Tonning?—No.

3101. You only give him a free passage?—That is all.

3102. Mr. *Hunt.*] Are these drovers Englishmen?—No; they are most of them foreigners, from all the stations.

3103. *Chairman.*] Have you received any complaints as to the condition in which the dead meat has arrived, when you have brought it?—Those complaints would not reach us but in a general way; it is in pretty good condition. Of course it is wholly dependent on the weather and the length of the passage; in general, I believe, the parties are satisfied.

3104. Have you had any cases, within your knowledge, when the meat has had to be condemned, after arrival, as unfit for human food?—I may mention an extreme case, which occurred two months ago, where we had 83 packages of meat that were required to be thrown overboard during the passage from Hamburgh, and were thrown overboard. That was occasioned in consequence of the extraordinary delay from gales of wind, and the captain stated, in his protest, that the safety and health of the crew obliged him to throw it overboard.

3105. Without mentioning any exceptional case, such as that, is it within your knowledge that a certain portion of the meat that has been brought by you from Hamburgh, or elsewhere, has been found unfit for human food?—No; I think the rule is, that it passes.

3106. It generally passes?—Decidedly, that is the rule.

3107. How often, should you say, have you a portion which does not pass?—I cannot say exactly, but the veterinary surgeon, whose duty it is to examine the freight, is here, and can give you evidence upon the point.

3108. Supposing meat is condemned, what happens; do you take freight for it just the same?—Yes, we take freight for the meat. If we land the meat, or land the animals, we charge: but if we throw the animals overboard we do not charge.

3109. In whatever condition they are, if you put them on the quay, you claim your freight?—We consider we are entitled to the freight.

3110. Supposing the animals have broken limbs, or anything of that kind?—We have a special arrangement at one station, at Tonning; we insure the animals, and if an accident of that sort happens to them we pay for them. Of course the conditions are regulated by a policy in the ordinary way, and that is one of the conditions: that if an animal breaks a leg on board that becomes a claim for the insurance arrangement. That is only applicable to Tonning; at any other station it is a sea-risk and not at our own responsibility, unless any accident is occasioned on board by the act of the crew; that is a different thing; and for the effect of the weather we are not responsible.

3111. Is the dead meat trade which you carry on between Edinburgh and London, and Hull, an increasing trade?—No, I think not.

3112. When did it begin?—In former times vast quantities came up from Edinburgh. I am speaking now of a time before the railways; there was an immense trade in meat then, but of course the direct railways made an inroad upon our trade, and therefore it is not increasing with us.

3113. How long does it take you to come from Edinburgh to London?—We have done it in 36 hours, but that was with the finest class of ships; 40 hours is a fair average passage.

3114. I suppose you bring the dead meat in your regular passenger vessels?—Yes.

3115. What is the difference in cost now in bringing a beast from Edinburgh to London in one of the ships in the form of a carcase and alive?—That requires a little calculation. Our charge for dead meat from Edinburgh to London, delivered to the dead meat market, is 29 *s.* a ton.

3116. That is delivered to the market?—Delivered to the market, including cartage, 29 *s.* a ton. For the animals we charge 30 *s.*, but we do not bring them in fact. Our tariff rate would be 30 *s.*, but we do not bring live horned cattle from Edinburgh.

3117. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] What would be your comparative charges from Hamburgh?—Thirty shillings, and a live animal 20 *s.*

3118. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Would you carry a large bulk and a small bulk at the same price?—Yes, it makes no difference.

3119. Do not you bring large quantities of poultry and rabbits from Ostend?—Yes, from Ostend we bring very large quantities.

3120. That is all dead, of course?—That is all dead. We bring great quantities of pork also.

3121. *Chairman.*] Do you ever take any cattle the other way, from England to Holland?—No, except a few for stock to breed. We carry horses, but I leave out horses altogether in my calculation.

3122. Does it not sometimes happen that cattle are brought from Holland to the Metropolitan Market in London, and are sent back again in consequence of the prices not being satisfactory?—I only know of one instance. I never heard of but the one instance, which, I believe, you allude to.

3123. The cattle by the "Batavier"?—Yes; I never heard of any case except that.

3124. That seems to be an exceptional case altogether?—Yes; it seems to me a great mistake on the part of the owner, but that is his business.

3125. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose the "Batavier" brings over live stock as well?—Yes; I have confined my figures to the conveyance and carriage of our own vessels, but there are of course other opportunities by other vessels.

3126. Are there any Dutch boats engaged in the trade?—There were the "Batavier" and two others engaged for cattle and goods from Dort, a port a little above Rotterdam. They were foreign vessels.

3127. *Chairman.*] I suppose although your company does not itself carry on the cattle trade or speculate in the purchase of cattle, you have shareholders who reside in Hamburgh and elsewhere who are concerned in cattle purchasing?—No; we have not.

3128. You have foreign shareholders, have you not?—Very few indeed, very few.

3129. But you have some; I do not think we could count more than a dozen.

3130. Still a dozen shareholders holding a good many shares may form a very important part of your company?—That is really not the case. I say a dozen, because I am so confident of it, I do not think they exceed half a dozen, and I do not think there are many traders, they are confined to individuals out of trade.

3131. Your

3131. Your shares are sold on the Hamburgh Exchange, are they not?—No; I think there is no market on the Continent for our shares; I do not recollect a transfer passing.

3132. Mr. *Hunt.*] To whom are the cattle mostly consigned which come by your vessels?—They are consigned to salesmen. From Tonning a whole cargo of 400 or 500 would not go to more than 15 consignees. The salesmen are limited in number.

3133. Is the foreign trade chiefly in a few hands?—I think it may be said to be so on this side; there are a large number engaged on the other side, of course.

3134. There is a foreign Trade Association?—There is.

3135. Is that for the purpose of protection, or for the purpose of trade?—It is not for the purpose of trade, merely protection.

3136. You have had some animals rejected for foot and mouth complaint this year, have you not?—Yes; they were not passed, but slaughtered on the wharf.

3137. There is always a loss on animals which are slaughtered at the wharf?—It is always understood so.

3138. It is a disturbance of the usual course of trade with regard to those animals?—Yes; there is not a fair competition for the parties.

3139. Supposing that there was a market for foreign cattle to the waterside, with commodious premises and slaughterhouses there, and all conveniences, do you think that the trade would be drawn down to the waterside as to purchasers?—I have understood it would not answer. Of course the trade requires encouragement, and unless the foreigner can get a certain price he will not send his animals. Without active competition you do not get a fair average market price.

3140. Supposing the foreign market day was distinct from the English market day, do you think that would make any difference as regards the trade?—That would be left to practice; I could only offer an opinion; I cannot say.

3141. A great deal of the meat of the foreign animals is consumed in the neighbourhood of the places where it is landed?—Not that I am aware of; do you mean the slaughtered meat?

3142. Yes?—I believe the market is very restricted. The first-rate butchers would not go down to the market to buy their meat.

3143. By the present arrangement the animals are brought to the London market, and then taken down to Whitechapel and other places to be slaughtered; I mean as to the stock animals?—Yes, they all go to the market, and from thence they are taken to the slaughterhouse.

3144. They go to the market and come back again very often, very much in the same way that they came: a great many of them have to traverse the distance twice, have they not?—That I cannot say.

3145. Would you object to any regulations being made as to the number of animals your boats should carry?—No; I think we give them so much space that it could not be improved upon.

3146. Do other companies carry without giving the same accommodation, with regard to space, that you do?—I do not know what arrangements there are on board other vessels.

3147. You do not know whether the animals are too crowded in other vessels?—No, that I cannot say.

3148. Mr. *Carnegie.*] How long have you been in the habit of having cattle examined before embarkation?—Speaking from recollection, I should say certainly for four or five years; in fact, I should say it has been since the foot and mouth disease was made a cause for stopping the animals.

3149. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I think the examination of foreign cattle is not so strict as it was, is it?—Yes.

3150. But with regard to the foot and mouth disease?—I leave that to the inspectors to give their opinion upon it.

3151. You are not aware of it yourself?—No.

3152. What amount of room do you give to each beast on board your vessel?—Eight feet by two; the usual height of the 'tween decks and the holds is seven feet.

3153. You never exceeded that and never put in more beasts than you have stated?—No, the apartment is so formed that we cannot.

3154. Do you carry any on deck besides?—Oh, yes; a very large quantity.

3155. Have they any shelter?—No.

3156. Have you any stalls for your animals on board?—No; they are fastened to the sides of the ship in precisely the same way as they are fastened below.

3157. I understand you to say that a certain amount of space was given to each beast?—Not to each beast; it is in compartments, admitting five beasts each.

3158. The ship, below, is divided into compartments of 8 ft. by 2 ft.?—Yes, 8 ft. by 2 ft. to each animal.

3159. The compartments are little squares, I suppose?—Yes, to admit five animals abreast, the heads being fastened to the sides of the ships. At each fifth animal is a stancheon or division.

3160. And the same on deck?—The same on deck.

3161. In winter, do you not find great distress among your animals, from want of shelter?—No; they are landed in very good condition.

3162. Can they be landed at Brown's Wharf, and walked up at all times of the tide?—Yes; at all times of the tide.

3163. I think you mentioned that you had some "cargo" vessels, as I think you called them?—Yes.

3164. Those are not regular beast vessels?—No; we carry the animals on deck and the cargo below.

3165. Under similar regulations?—Precisely.

3166. You say you disinfect your vessels?—Yes.

3167. Is that under the charge of inspectors?—Not exactly, but they make suggestions. They know perfectly well what our system is, and they have made suggestions from time to time, which have always been adopted.

3168. They have no power of stopping a vessel, which is not disinfected from going out again?—No.

3169. Have you seen a memorial from the foreign cattle trade which was lately sent into the Privy Council?—No.

3170. They mention that they have suffered great loss from exposure to weather, and want of food, space, and rest at the wharves. I have marked the passage in the document?—It says, "The detention at the wharves occasions great suffering." The want of food, water, space, and rest is mentioned; I do not know what it means

Mr. *M. Pratt.*

28 May 1866.

by "rest." I can assure you, as to water, we have water laid on at Brown's Wharf, from the East London Water Works, and tanks provided, and drinking places.

3171. According to your opinion, as far as Brown's Wharf is concerned, that allegation is not true?—No. As to exposure to weather, they are exposed in the same way in the market, if he means exposure in that sense. As to the want of food and water, they have decidedly as much water as they can drink.

3172. Do you feed them?—No.

3173. Supposing they land on Saturday afternoon, when are they inspected?—If it is still daylight, they are inspected the same afternoon.

3174. Supposing they are landed on Saturday night?—Then they are kept till Sunday morning. The examination goes on equally on the Sunday.

3175. A gentleman here has said that the cattle are not allowed to be driven on Sunday, but, if they come too late on Sunday, they must remain until Sunday night?—That may be so; I cannot say.

3176. That is stated in a letter to the Royal Commission from Mr. Gibbon?—They would be examined on Sunday morning, and be moved immediately the proper time arrived.

3177. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] They cannot be driven on Sunday, can they?—I believe not during church hours, but that is a local regulation as regards driving; there is no loss of time from the examination.

3178. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Supposing different cargoes arrive during the day at Brown's Wharf, you have no means of keeping them separate, have you?—Yes; there is space enough; Brown's Wharf occupies an acre of ground; of course it depends upon the number.

3179. You think you would keep them separate?—We could not deliver them correctly unless we kept the animals separate.

3180. But, being separate, they are still sufficiently close that one infected animal would probably poison the remainder, would it not?—As regards separate cargoes, do you mean.

3181. Yes?—The same thing would follow in any collection of animals; we cannot keep them so separate as that each can be separate to that extent; that is perfectly certain.

3182. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are there any written instructions given to the captain of your vessels as to the particular temperature they should maintain on board the ships which bring the cattle?—No.

3183. Is there any temperature prescribed at all, or any thermometer or register kept?—They have thermometers on board, and can tell exactly; of course they keep the holds as cool as possible, and have all sorts of contrivances and ventilators for the purpose.

3184. Do you think the dead meat trade can be safely carried on from Hamburgh during the hot months?—Decidedly not.

3185. It seems you bring a great deal of meat from Hamburgh in the winter months; is not a good deal of that in the shape of cured meat?—No; that is quite a separate trade; we bring a great quantity of cured meat; we call it "bacon" for distinction.

3186. How are these carcases placed on board ship?—I think they are kept separate as much as possible; occasionally they must be piled.

3187. Are they 'tween decks?—There is no meat on deck.

3188. Is the side of one carcase placed at the side of another, or one upon another?—It occasionally happens.

3189. Without any bars or intervening frame?—There is no such arrangement; they stow it the best they can.

3190. Are they not hung or suspended?—In some instances it is so; it is a special arrangement, but that is to a limited extent; they are hung up in the middle of the vessel.

3191. As to this dead meat which you bring from Hamburgh, are you informed that it is properly stiffened and cooled before it is put on board ship?—I should think it must be.

3192. But do you know yourself that it is; do the boats which pass between the Tyne and London belong to your company?—A portion of them.

3193. There are two boats on that station?—Yes.

3194. Do they bring meat to London?—No; I do not think we bring any meat from Newcastle.

3195. Have you ever heard that other companies allow 8 feet by 2 feet 6 inches for the space to be occupied by beasts, whereas you only allow 8 feet by 2 feet?—I am not aware.

3196. That has been stated to the Committee; 8 feet by 2 feet is your allowance?—Yes, and we consider that, after many years' experience, quite sufficient. Our object is to bring over the animals in the best condition, especially when we insure them. We consider this the best way of placing the animals, and it is desirable to confine the animals for the reason I have already given.

3197. Mr. *Hunt.*] They want lateral support?—Yes, they want support.

3198. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I suppose it is a question of degree. You have been alluding to some 83 packages of meat which had to be thrown overboard, the captain having stated that it was on account of the safety of his crew. In what month of the year was that?—In the spring; two or three months ago, I should think.

3199. Was it during this spring?—Yes, this last spring.

3200. Has the dead meat which you have brought from Edinburgh always arrived in good condition?—Yes, I believe it has. They continue to send it in small quantities, and, therefore, we presume it is so far satisfactory.

3201. Sir *James Fergusson.*] It is generally brought in hampers?—From Edinburgh it is.

3202. You mentioned that the rate for dead meat from Edinburgh was 29 *s.*, delivered in the dead meat market in London?—Yes.

3203. And that the rate for live stock was 30 *s.*, delivered at the wharf?—It would be; but we do not bring them.

3204. I suppose you put an exceptionally high rate upon them, because you do not want to carry them?—It may have been so at that time. We are continually altering our rates according to circumstances; I believe it stands in the tariff at 30 *s.*; but if we found we could develope the trade by lowering the rate, we might do so.

3205. You do not think it is a high rate which discourages the sending of the cattle in that way?—No; I think not. I do not think it is exactly a port for the shipment of cattle. A large quantity comes from Aberdeen, but not from Edinburgh.

3206. What is the rate from Aberdeen to London?

London?—We do not bring them from Aberdeen; they are not our vessels.

3207. Mr. *Graves.*] You stated in the previous part of your evidence, that there was always plenty of food on board your steamers; what are the instructions given to your captains with regard to the distribution of the food?—They are really in charge of the drovers, and they use their own discretion. We do not provide the fodder.

3208. I understood you did?—No; it is entirely the senders who provide the food. If they were detained in port on the other side, then the captain would send on shore for fodder if he was in want of it, or if there was a detention likely to lead to a scarcity of it.

3209. Have you known of any instance where there has been insufficiency of food?—No, I do not recollect any.

3210. You stated that, on a recent occasion, you had to throw overboard a large quantity of dead meat; tell the Committee where that was placed?—It was placed on the deck.

3211. Was it sheltered from the weather and from the sun?—No, it was in spring time; ordinary weather. It did not occur from the heat of the weather. There was a detention of two days on the other side by gales of wind.

3212. How was it placed on the decks?—It was placed round in the middle of the decks, piled.

3213. Was there any shelter of any kind?—Yes, it was well tarpaulined.

3214. You piled one layer over the other?—Yes, and protected them by tarpaulin.

3215. It was protected from the air?—Yes, protected from the weather.

3216. If it was covered by tarpaulin, that would make it impossible for the air to get to it?—No, not entirely; you could not do that; it was protected from the sea mostly.

3217. As a general rule, do you find that any other vessels in this particular trade carry the cattle better than you?—No, our aim is to bring them in the best condition, and we assimilate the arrangements as much as possible.

3218. But you have generally got your favourite vessels in a line; have you any favourite vessel on this line which you consider carries cattle better than the others?—That is a selection to be made by the shippers and not by us.

3219. But, to your knowledge, is it so?—The "Maas," I should say, is a fair sample.

3220. Is she made of wood or iron?—Iron. She is the newest. We have some others which are being constructed on the same principle. We consider we have arrived at the perfection of a vessel.

3221. I want to ascertain the difference of the construction of the favourite vessel "Maas" from the other vessels?—It would be difficult to state it. Either the form of the vessel admits of more opportunity of ventilation, or the size of the hatchways, or something of that sort. There are a variety of circumstances which lead to that result.

3222. You say you are building other vessels on the same principle; I think the Committee would like to know what the principle is on which those vessels are to be built?—Will you tell me any one point that you will select as an improvement over another.

3223. I would rather leave it to you to describe to the Committee?—Here is a plan of the "Maas" (*producing a Plan.*)

3224. I must try to make myself clear to you. You have stated that the "Maas" is a favourite vessel; that she is of new construction, and that you are building two more upon the same principle. I think the Committee would like to know what that principle is; in what does the difference consist between the new vessels and the old ones?—You extracted the term from me a "favourite" vessel; I told you it was for the shippers to make the selection, and not the Company to publish it; but, if you press me, I tell you that the "Maas" is perhaps better than the rest, and for the simple reason of its being more modern, and everything which has been found to be an improvement we have adopted; I cannot explain it better than that.

3225. I ask you this distinctly: have you adopted any protection from the weather for the cattle coming on the deck of the "Maas"?—No.

3226. Have you adopted any ventilating fans for the ventilation of the lower holds?—The plan, I think, will show you the system of ventilation. That is one that, I think, is not adapted to the other vessels, because they each have their own. I do not know whether the plan will show the system of ventilation.

3227. You have stated that on one particular line you insure the cattle?—We do from Tonning.

3228. Do you issue any policy?—Yes.

3229. Have you a form with you?—I have not.

3230. Would you have any objection to produce one?—Not in the least.

3231. Do you include that in the rate of freight, or do you charge a separate insurance for it?—Separately; a per-centage on the value put upon it by the shipper.

3232. Will you be able to furnish the Committee with a copy of that document?—Oh, yes; I could give you an original policy upon any voyage.

3233. Is it at all usual for cattle to come consigned by your vessels to inland towns?—No; in all instances they are consigned to parties in London; we do not forward them on.

3234. So that the drovers who accompany the cattle have no reason to go into the interior with any consignments?—I can only tell you they are consigned to parties in London; I know nothing as to their ultimate destination.

3235. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I want to ask you one question as to the construction of these new vessels. In constructing them, have you had in view a greater breadth of vessel, and have you built them more for the comfort of the animals than with a view to speed, as compared with this plan, which I take to be the plan of the "Maas"?—Yes, that is the "Maas."

3236. Are the vessels that you are now proposing to construct broader bottomed?—They will be larger vessels, and therefore their dimensions will be increased; I believe they will have a foot more beam.

3237. Are they built more with a view to affording better accommodation to cattle on board than with a view to speed?—Oh, no. The number of cattle will be regulated by the space the vessel affords. There is no special object in building a vessel which will carry the largest number. We carry the largest number that the construction of the vessel will enable us to give space for.

Mr. *M. Pratt.*

28 May 1866.

3238. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] From your position as the chief officer of this company, and knowing this trade in London very well, do you think you carry on the larger part of the trade in London, Tonning, Rotterdam, and Hamburgh?—I think we import more than any other steam ship company in London.

3239. Do other steam boat companies besides yourself import into London?—Yes.

3240. Have they vessels specially appointed for the purpose?—Yes.

3241. Are they foreign or English vessels?—Mostly English.

3242. Do you know the quantity imported into London by those vessels?—No; but the veterinary surgeon, the inspector, will be able to tell you the total number that have been imported.

3243. During last year?—Yes, or for any period.

3244. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Are your vessels screw-vessels or paddle-vessels?—Principally paddle-vessels, for cattle.

3245. Are they not much more convenient for carriage of cattle?—They are more in favour with the cattle-shippers than the screw-vessels.

3246. Are the new vessels screw or paddle?—Paddle.

3247. How soon are the animals landed after arrival?—Immediately the vessel can get alongside the quay.

3248. Are they never detained a night?—No, they land during the night, at any time. They are always expected by telegraph. We know when they are coming, and are always provided.

3249. Is there any other mode of ventilation than wind-sails; have you any fans?—Yes, there are in some vessels, but there is a peculiar arrangement in this: an air-trunk leading into the funnel, carrying the draught by suction. (*The Witness explained the Plan to the Committee*).

3250. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Do you import any store cattle?—I believe but very few.

3251. You import Dutch cows?—Yes, a large number of cows.

3252. What inspection do they get abroad?—Merely the same inspection as the ordinary animals are subjected to. There is a veterinary inspector there.

3253. Is he a Government inspector?—At Rotterdam, where these milch cows are brought from, there are inspectors appointed, and paid by ourselves.

3254. Do you ever find that the animals which are passed at Rotterdam are stopped here?—Yes, we do; from foot and mouth disease.

3255. You said you had three stopped for what they believed was rinderpest?—I believe it was said so.

3256. And they were passed at Rotterdam?—Yes.

3257. Might it not happen that an animal might be passed at Rotterdam, and at Brown's wharf, and yet have the rinderpest the next day, in London?—If the animal had it in its system, and it broke out afterwards, that is a professional opinion that I cannot give.

3258. Would it be possible to have any quarantine at Rotterdam for taking the store animals, after your animals had been inspected there. Could your animals be inspected by your inspectors, or Government inspectors, at Rotterdam, and kept a certain time before embarkation?—Of course the thing is possible, but I do not see the object to be attained.

3259. It would give additional time for the disease to break out, would it not?—I think the shippers would rather oppose it.

3260. Is it not at present the case that animals are very often passed at the wharf as free from foot and mouth disease, and it subsequently breaks out?—I think it is very likely.

3261. Would not the same thing be likely to happen with rinderpest?—I think not; the foot and mouth disease is very contagious, and rapidly spreads from one animal to another.

3262. You know no reason why the same thing should not happen with rinderpest?—I know not how long the disease is in the system of an animal before it actually appears.

3263. You are not aware of any reason for preventing the quarantine at the port of Hamburgh?—I think it would be a detriment and delay to the shipment, and the animal would, possibly, get out of condition.

3264. I am now taking cows; if they were fed, where would be the detriment?—There would be an extra expense to be borne by the shipper.

3265. Is there any mode of having quarantine for cows in England?—No. We have a space on Brown's Wharf that has been applied as a quarantine; animals have been detained, but it has not been done on any large scale.

3266. Are they not driven into lairs beyond, to fields?—Yes, at Tottenham there are large lairs. We do not take any interest in the animal after it leaves the wharf; it is then out of our possession. The importers would give you more information than I can. I have left this comparative statement unfinished; I do not know whether you want me to finish it.

3267. *Chairman.*] You can hand it in?—I will, if you please. I have made this comparative statement more for the purpose of showing what would be the result of the operation of an animal being conveyed from Rotterdam to London direct, and passed to the market and sold; and, again, I have taken the instance of an animal from Rotterdam to Harwich, and there slaughtered, and the meat conveyed to London.

[*The Statement was handed in, and is as follows*]:—

MR. MOSELEY'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Rotterdam to London direct,—	£.	s.	d.	Corrected.	£.	s.	d.
Freight	–	15	–	–	–	15	–
Landing and wharfage	–	2	6	No such charge.		–	
Driving, cartage, lairage	–	1	9	–	–	1	9
Commission	–	4	6	–	–	4	6
Slaughtering	–	5	–	–	–	4	–
Drovers' charge on board	–	1	6	No such charge.		–	
£.	1	10	3	Should be £.	1	5	3
Viâ Harwich,—	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Freight	–	7	6	–	–	7	6
Slaughtering and all other charges there	–	7	6	–	–	7	6
Conveyance, when dead, Harwich to London Meat Market, 8 cwt. at 1 *s.* 7 *d.* per cwt.	–	13	–	–	–	13	–
				Add commission.	–	8	4
£.	1	8	–	Should be £.	1	16	4
Difference in favour of Harwich, 2 *s.* 3 *d.*				Difference in favour of London, 11 *s.* 1 *d.*			

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Mr. *M. Pratt.*

28 May 1866.

Pro formâ ACCOUNT SALES of One Ox from *Rotterdam* to *London* direct, and sold at Islington Live Market, and of One Ox *viâ Harwich*, and there Slaughtered and sent to the Dead Meat Market at *London*.

To London direct,—

	£.	s.	d.
1 Ox sold for	20	–	–
Freight		15	–
Droving		–	7
Keep one night		1	–
Commission, selling		4	6
		1	1
Balance—net proceeds	18	18	11
	£. 20	–	–

Viâ Harwich.

	£.	s.	d.
100 Stone at 3 *s.* 4 *d.*	16	13	4
Offal	3	6	8
	£. 20	–	–

	£.	s.	d.
Freight to Harwich	–	7	6
Slaughtering, and all expenses there	–	7	6
Railway carriage to London	–	13	–
Commission, selling	–	8	4
	1	16	4
Balance—net proceeds	18	3	8
	£. 20	–	–

Showing a loss, by excess of charges, on the transaction, *via* Harwich, of 15 *s.* 3 *d.*

Mr. ANTHONY GEORGE ROBINSON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *A. G. Robinson.*

3268. *Chairman.*] WHAT is your occupation?—I am a Shipowner and Steam Shipping Agent in London.

3269. Do the ships with which you are concerned carry cattle?—Yes, a good many of them; we carry cattle from Oporto, from Holland, from Denmark, and from Bremen.

3270. Do you bring them to London?—Yes. I have also to do with several of the steamboats that carry the cattle across Channel from Ireland to England.

3271. You say you are a steam-shipping agent; what is your particular duty?—I have several friends who are large shipowners. I manage their business as their agent here; and I am a shipowner myself; the business is entirely in my hands.

3272. Do you carry any cattle coastwise in the ships you are connected with?—In a few we do.

3273. Where from?—From Waterford and from Dublin to London.

3274. Have you any steamers running along the English coast carrying cattle?—No, we have not.

3275. Where do you bring the foreign cattle from principally?—Principally from Holland, from Friesland, from Rotterdam, from Amsterdam, from North and South Holland.

3276. From Harlingen?—Yes, we have the entire steam trade of Harlingen in our hands.

3277. Have you any account of the quantity of cattle you brought before the cattle trade from Holland was prohibited?—I have not; I have got here the account of the quantity of foreign cattle brought in last year; I have taken out the daily account of what was brought on each day and landed at the different places.

3278. You may as well hand that in, rather than read it at length?—Yes; it is too long to read through.—(*The Witness handed in the Statement.* Vide *Appendix*).

3279. Do you bring store cattle?—Yes, we do it at times.

3280. In any quantity?—The store cattle principally come from Holland. I have noticed that, until the last year or two, it has been very much guided by the state of the hay crop in Holland. When the hay crop is short they are obliged to send the store cattle away, and we bring over then immense numbers. When they have a good hay crop, so as to winter the animals, they do not send so many. For the last two years we have brought a very great number.

3281. Are your ships exclusively for the cattle trade, or are they ships carrying ordinary merchandise?—We carry merchandise in them as well; we have one or two that we use exclusively at times for cattle; at other times they carry merchandise as well.

3282. Do you take any precautions in foreign ports previously to shipping cattle, to see that they are in a healthy state?—Very great.

3283. What do you do?—In Friesland we have the cattle examined by a Government inspector, first at the inland market, which is where they generally come to, and then we have them carefully examined before they are shipped by the Government inspector. At Rotterdam and at the ports of North Holland we have them examined by a Government veterinary surgeon previous to shipment.

3284. You make an application to the authorities of the place to look at the cattle before they are shipped?—Yes; we have an arrangement with them, and we pay them.

3285. Have you had any cattle stopped on arrival in England?—A very few.

3286. What for?—Foot and mouth complaint.

3287. Have you had any stopped for cattle plague?—No, not one case.

3288. Did this foot and mouth disease begin on the voyage?—Yes, I think it did from the fatigue. They said they were suffering from foot and mouth complaint. They were principally German beasts that came down by railway to Rotterdam.

3289. Why did the inspector pass them if they had foot and mouth disease; why were they shipped?—It did not develope itself sufficiently, and they did not consider it a disease that would affect their landing here. In fact, it was not until lately that they did stop them. You may recollect the Committee which sat two years ago with reference to the Bill; they recommended that the cattle which were merely suffering from foot and mouth complaint should not be stopped. Previously to that time we were rather more particular about them than we were after, on that account. They did not stop the whole cargo; they only stopped the diseased animal itself, as they do now, and, therefore, the inspector at Rotterdam, unless the animals were suffering very much indeed, would allow them to pass.

3290. He allowed the particular animals to be

Mr. *A. G. Robinson.*

28 May 1866.

put on board, although he saw that they had the foot and mouth disease?—Yes, slightly.

3291. Would he have allowed them to come on board with the cattle plague?—No, nor with pleuro-pneumonia.

3292. Where do you bring your cattle to when they come to London?—Up to the British and Foreign Steam Wharf.

3293. Where is that?—At Lower East Smithfield, just below St. Katherine's Dock.

3294. What becomes of them then?—If it is daylight they are inspected by the veterinary surgeon, and driven to the lairs, or the market. If it is night they are kept till daylight, and then examined and sent to lairs.

3295. Where are they kept?—On the wharf.

3296. Under cover?—Yes.

3297. Are there sheds there?—Yes, the wharf is a large one.

3298. What do you do with regard to the cleansing of your ships, after each voyage bringing cattle?—We wash and clean them out. Generally speaking, where they carry cattle principally, they go back in ballast; and they are washed clean out with hot water from the engine; it is pumped down, and then the engine pumps the water out into the sea, then we whitewash them and sprinkle them with chloride of zinc and chloride of lime.

3299. Have you always done that?—We have only sprinkled them lately with the chloride of lime, but we have always washed them out.

3300. You did not use disinfectants until the cattle plague broke out?—We always used to wash them with lime water.

3301. After every voyage?—Yes.

3302. So that the holds of the ships were rendered quite clean and disinfected, in fact?—Yes, our ships are iron. We used it in order to prevent the urine from the cattle affecting the iron in the bottom of the vessels where it had run down. We always had them washed out, and were very particular about that.

3303. Have you any particular regulations as to the space that is to be allotted to each beast in your ships?—In the Dutch trade we calculate to put five in a pen of 9 feet by 8 feet. Of course, in the Oporto trade, and the Spanish trade, and German trade, where the beasts are larger, they get about four of them in 9 feet.

3304. The trade from Oporto is a small one, is it not?—Yes; we carry that on ourselves, there is such risk attending it. We purchase the cattle on our own account.

3305. In Portugal?—Yes.

3306. Have you got pens or lairs there?—No, they are all brought in pairs. They are worked oxen; they are bought in pairs, and are brought down a day or so before the ship sails, and are put on board. We have a shed there for them.

3307. Do you bring any dead meat to London?—Very little, a mere nothing. We bring a little from Holland in the depth of winter, but a mere nothing, I may say. In fact, we have a great difficulty in the summer time to keep the butter cool; it is so soft sometimes, that if a cask turns on its side it will run out; we are obliged to load it in the night and discharge it in the night, the heat is so great.

3308. As a general rule, do the cattle that you carry to England arrive in good condition?—Yes, with very little loss.

3309. You have not had any complaints of their condition upon arrival?—Oh, dear, no!

3310. How long are they on their voyage from Oporto?—From Oporto they will be four or five days to London.

3311. Do they stand all that time?—They lie down as they please. They are fed and watered, and they lie down on the deck when they are tired.

3312. Do those in the hold lie down also?—Yes.

3313. Is there room enough for that?—Yes.

3314. Do not the others trample upon them?—Somehow or other they manage not to hurt one another; they are accustomed to lie in stalls.

3315. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are now speaking of the Spanish animals?—Yes.

3316. You find a great many of the foreign animals have been worked?—With the exception of the cattle from Holland, the bulk of the animals that come over here are worked; the German and French, I think, always are.

3317. They are much quieter when they have been worked, and are more easy to be fed and watered?—All foreign animals are quiet, they are handled so much. The Dutch animals are shut up six months out of the 12, and they are in the habit of being handled by the women and children. You never see a man drive a beast in Holland; he always leads it by the head.

3318. What is the nature of your Irish trade; is it in fat or store stock?—Fat cattle.

3319. I suppose, in the case of animals lying down, if there is rough weather they get injured, do they not?—No, I do not think they do.

3320. Do not the animals trample on them, trying to keep their legs?—I do not think they suffer much; they suffer more when they get thrown down and knocked off their legs by the ship giving a heavy lurch.

3321. Do you have any loss in rough weather?—Coming from Oporto we sometimes lose a few, but from Holland very seldom.

3322. From Oporto, how do you lose them; do they break their legs, or do they suffer from sea-sickness?—They suffer from the severity of the weather, I think; they are very delicate animals.

3323. Are they not affected by sea-sickness very much in bad weather?—They do not show it if they are; they do not show it like pigs; pigs discharge their stomachs.

3324. They do not vomit, because they have four stomachs, have they not?—Yes; but you can see that they suffer.

3325. They suffer in a different way?—Yes.

3326. *Chairman.*] Is your trade an increasing trade?—Yes; it is largely increasing.

3327. You find you can always fill your ships with as many cattle as you like?—We do not always fill them; but we find it is an increasing trade, and we keep adding to our fleet.

3328. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You spoke of the animals being inspected abroad; are the inspectors who inspect them foreign inspectors?—Yes; in Holland the Dutch veterinary surgeons hold diplomas from the Government.

3329. You have nobody acting as inspector for you or your interest, or on behalf of those whom you represent?—This inspector is acting for us, and we pay him.

3330. Do you think that the inspection of cattle at foreign ports by officers appointed by the foreign Governments would be as efficient as the inspection by officers appointed by our own Government as a further check on them to secure the health of the animals you import?—I think it

it would be quite as efficient. The foreign Governments are far more strict in their regulations than we are. They think nothing of locking a man up and imprisoning him if he disobeys them.

3331. So that it is your opinion that the appointment of any officials, on the part of our home Government, would not be attended with good results?—No; I do not think it would. I think if our home Government would put themselves in communication with foreign Governments, and get the regulations which are now municipal made Imperial, there would be no necessity for it. Even now, I do not think there is any necessity for it; they are so particular.

3332. You spoke of the cleaning of your ships, and said that some of these vessels of yours did not take cargoes back, but went back in ballast; I understood you to say, that the ballast was put into the ship before she set sail, and that then you commenced the purification and washing?—The ship does not carry ballast; it goes back empty.

3333. I understood you to say it went back in ballast; I must have misunderstood you?—I spoke as a shipowner, when I said "in ballast"; it meant empty. It is a phrase of shipowners.

3334. *Chairman.*] You trade with Harlingen now, but you do not bring any cattle from there?—No.

3335. Is there any cattle plague in the district of Harlingen?—None whatever; none near it.

3336. There is no cattle plague in Friesland?—No; nor in Gröningen.

3337. Still you are not allowed to bring cattle from there?—No; we are prohibited.

3338. The Dutch Government have very strict regulations for preventing the spread of contagion from South Holland to Friesland and Gröningen?—Very. The Friesland Government and the Gröningen Government do not admit cattle into their provinces from any other province; so strict are they, that during the winter time they would not allow Gröningen cattle to pass through Friesland; we were obliged to bring them round by sea in schuyts and in sailing vessels. They allow us to embark them in the harbour, but they will not allow them to be landed in town. They do not admit any cattle from one province to the other.

3339. Do you think there would be any danger in allowing the importation to be resumed from Harlingen?—I think not the least.

3340. It is quite as free from cattle plague as Tonning or Hamburgh?—Quite; there is less risk than in Hamburgh or Tonning. In Hamburgh the cattle come in from everywhere.

3341. So that we allow cattle from Hamburgh which may perhaps have been brought from Holland?—Yes; they may have been.

3342. Have the Hamburgh authorities no regulations about the cattle plague?—I am not aware of any; we do not run to Hamburgh.

3343. Where do you run to in Denmark?—To the north of Denmark.

3344. What sort of cattle do you bring from thence?—Fat cattle.

3345. Nothing but fat cattle?—No.

3346. No store cattle?—No.

3347. Do you bring milch cows from there?—We do bring a few from Holland, but very few lately, because I rather avoided that, fearing what actually did happen; I foresaw that the cattle would get the plague after they came here, and then the Dutch would get the credit of it, and so I avoided it, I did not carry them, I stopped it some weeks previously; we brought a few in other vessels, but not many.

3348. You thought if you brought these Dutch cows they would catch the plague when they got here, and then it would be attributed to their being brought from Holland?—Yes; and I would not allow them to come in a ship with fat cattle. One day a man wanted to bring two over in a cargo where I had 400 or 500 fat cattle, and I would not allow it, simply on that account; that I knew, if they caught the plague a month after they arrived here, the Dutch cattle would get the credit of it.

3349. Mr. *Hunt.*] Where was it you forbade these cows being put on?—Harlingen and Rotterdam.

3350. Were you over there?—No, I was here.

3351. You sent over orders from England?—Yes; I sent over positive instructions not to carry milch cows with fat cattle.

3352. *Chairman.*] But you would carry them by themselves?—Yes; we carried them by separate vessels, after a time. At first we did not carry any at all, but other people brought them, and they said, if you will not carry them over other people will; you must accommodate us with our Dutch cows, otherwise we will not give you fat cattle to carry.

3353. You would rather not bring milch cows at all?—I would not have brought any if other people would not have done so.

3354. Do you believe that the cattle plague has been imported from Holland, or that the beasts which have had it took it here?—They took it here; I feel satisfied of that, They are too strict in Holland. If the cattle plague breaks out on a farm there, they kill the cats and dogs about the place. There is a gentleman I was talking to who deals largely in Hungarian cattle, and who brings them down from Vienna to Bremen; I was talking with him the other day, and he stated, that once he was travelling in a district, purchasing lean stock, and they actually took off his fur coat, in a winter month, and would not allow him to pass with it; they obliged him to leave it. They are so strict as that when there is a district proclaimed.

3355. Tell us what proportion of the cattle, which you bring in your ships to England, have been stopped by the inspectors?—I could not do so, but it is a very small per-centage.

3356. What do you call a small per-centage?—Perhaps not one per cent., not half per cent., or quarter per cent. for any cause. I had cattle stopped some years ago from Oporto for an alleged foot and mouth disease; I kept them myself at great expense, and it cost me 60 *l.* in veterinary inspectors' fees to have them examined. I had nearly every veterinary surgeon in London, and every one, except our Government inspectors, pronounced them free from the complaint; I kept them for 10 days, and not one of them showed it. I complained to the Customs, and I think to the Board of Trade, but I never got any redress. I paid over 60 *l.* for inspectors' fees for examining that particular lot of cattle.

3356.* Mr. *Carnegie.*] Is there any inspectors at Oporto?—No; I kept the cattle I have mentioned 10 days.

Mr. *A. G. Robinson.*

28 May 1866.

3357. Mr. *Hunt.*] How many years ago was that?—Four or five years ago, I think.

3358. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] How long has this system of inspection been carried out?—Since we have had the pleuro-pneumonia so bad; about three or four years ago, we have had our cattle inspected for three or four years.

3359. You have full confidence in the inspectors at the Dutch ports, have you?—Yes.

3360. What are the other Dutch ports from which beasts come besides Rotterdam?—They come from Dort, New Diep, Amsterdam, Harlingen, and other places.

3361. What place would Schiedam lie nearest to?—Rotterdam.

3362. You say that the inspectors there are men whom you can trust?—Yes.

3363. In 1865 did you ever hear anything of any cattle having been imported into Holland from this country?—Yes; there was a lot of cattle which they said brought the plague over, which were taken back from here.

3364. I think they were landed at Rotterdam?—Yes.

3365. They were inspected at Rotterdam, I presume?—I am not certain.

3366. You think the inspectors that are so particular as to cattle going out of Holland, would not inspect cattle going in?—I do not know the regulation with reference to the inspection of cattle coming in, but I rather think they are carefully inspected also.

3367. Have you ever heard the opinion stated that those animals were thought to be ill when they left London?—No, I think not.

3368. Supposing they were thought to be ill when they left London, and were passed by the inspectors at Rotterdam, would you then have equal confidence in them?—No, I should think not; I would take nothing by supposition after what I have before explained with regard to my importation of beasts; for I had positive proof of three Government inspectors declaring them to be diseased, when they were not.

3369. Do you mean to say the disease generally breaks out after they are inspected?—No; that does not follow.

3370. Supposing these animals are passed at Rotterdam as being healthy, and afterwards spread the disease in Holland, how do you account for it getting abroad?—They most likely have the disease; for the veterinary surgeons say it remains in the system for 10 or 12 days before it developes itself. They may have taken over the seeds of the disease from here, which is only presumption, because they did not know of the disease there until after those cattle arrived there.

3371. Then your confidence in the inspector is merely to this extent: that he will not let an animal pass with the disease actually apparent?—My experience of these inspectors in Holland is, that if they even suspect an animal, they do not allow the animal to pass. We had repeated cases of suspected lung disease in Holland, which they did not allow to pass.

3372. Supposing Dutch cows are passed in Holland, and passed here, might it happen that they may have the disease, but do not show it?—It is quite possible, I believe.

3373. Could any system of quarantine be carried out in Rotterdam?—No, I think not; they have no space for it.

3374. That is, there is no space at the wharves at Rotterdam?—No; nor is there in the town or anywhere about.

3375. Supposing we ascertain that the inspection at Rotterdam is only good for animals which clearly show the disease, do you think that you could not prevent the disease coming over by the quarantine?—It is quite possible to frame a quarantine at enormous expense and trouble.

3376. Where would be the expense?—You would have to have places specially built for it, and fields specially arranged, and kept away from others. There is only a ditch between the fields in Holland; and, therefore, the germ of the disease, which they say flies in the air for some distance, might affect them. You would have to keep a tremendous cordon round the place.

3377. *Chairman.*] If the disease is in the air, the poison might affect the animals the very day they came out of quarantine?—It might. I think you could quarantine them far better in England than in Holland, at least as to store cattle.

3378. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] You think that one reason for quarantining in Rotterdam would be the danger that might happen in the country from the diseased beasts spreading the disease from the quarantine trench through the air?—I do not think quarantine at Rotterdam would be efficient, on account of the difficulty, supposing the disease to be in the neighbourhood; from the difficulty of preventing communication.

3379. Do you think it can be done here?—Yes; I think in a place like London it could, because we have such space.

3380. *Chairman.*] The quarantine to be of any security ought to begin from the time the animal has been in contact with the disease. If you want to see whether the disease is going to break out, you ought to start from the time when the animal has been in contact with the poison, ought you not?—Yes, you ought decidedly.

3381. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] You imported some Dutch cows in separate vessels, I think you said?—Yes.

3382. Does that occasion any great inconvenience?—No; it happened that those particular vessels sailed on the day of the market; they do not get many cattle, on account of not coming in for the market day here, and, as far as we were concerned, it occasioned us no inconvenience; but it occasioned the importer considerable inconvenience. They arrived here too late for the market; in fact, they were not in the market at all. They were sold at the wharf, and taken to the stables, at least I believe so; I do not think they went to the market at all, because the vessel did not arrive here until it was too late to send them there.

3383. You do not think there can be any system of separating fat stock and store stock, so as to prevent infection?—No; the store stock comes very irregularly; there is not a steady demand for store stock. As I said before, it varies according to the state of the hay crop.

3384. Do the inspectors give you a report in writing?—We have a certificate signed by the foreign inspector, and legalised by the British consul on the other side, which comes over here.

3385. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You are well acquainted with the construction of vessels employed in this particular trade; could you make any suggestions, from your own knowledge, as to the construction of those vessels, that you think might be improvements in them?—We have constructed

constructed a great many, and I have brought plans of one ship we are building, and one which I have lately built, but really there is very little improvement upon the ship that we built 20 years ago; I do not see that we have improved upon it. We have a vessel here that I suppose does not lose one in 5,000 head of horn cattle in transit. I do not think that we can improve on that. Then there is another great point: if we do not bring an animal we do not get any freight. Again, if they are lost on the voyage, the shippers expect us to compensate them, to a certain extent, also, and we lose the freight.

3386. *Chairman.*] It is your interest to bring the cattle in as good a condition as possible?—Yes; because the trade is such a bare one in the import of cattle to this country, particularly from Holland, which is the largest, that if the shipper loses any cattle he is not able to bear it; his profit is so small on the transaction; the shippers of cattle are not capitalists, as a rule.

3387. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Then it would not be your opinion that it would be an advantage that such vessels should be under Government inspection in the same manner as the emigrant ships are?—No; I do not think there would be the slightest use in it. You may lay down a rule that you shall only put in so many cattle, and no more; one of those beasts may weigh 4 cwt. and another may weigh 15 cwt. or 16 cwt. We have one particular vessel in the Dutch trade which will carry from 500 to 700. We send her over to Bremen to bring those large Vienna beasts, and she is more crowded with 400.

3388. You think that the interests of the parties concerned in the trade would be a sufficient inducement to convey cattle in a fitting and proper class of vessels without Government restriction in the matter?—I do. My experience goes to show that where owners do not take care of cattle, and bring them in good condition, or where any particular vessel gets a bad name for carrying them, the evil is cured by the public refusing to ship by them.

3389. Then I presume the Committee may infer, from what you say, that there have existed and been employed in this trade, at an earlier period of time, vessels which were not at all adapted for the purpose; but that those are now in the gradual course of being superseded by more improved vessels sufficient to meet the requirements for the passage of the animals?—Yes.

3390. They have not been what they should be; but they are now improved?—When the trade was a young one; it has all grown up within a few years; and when the numbers carried were not to be compared with what are carried now; when, in fact, vessels not specially constructed for it were put into the trade, vessels not properly fitted, it was another matter.

3391. Vessels which were converted?—Yes; but now the trade has settled down into a steady regular trade; the vessels are required to be perfectly fitted, carefully provided with all means for the safe conveyance of the cattle. I do not think that any Government inspection would improve the present system.

3392. Then you say the ship constructed for the purpose is the rule, and the ship converted is the exception?—Yes.

3393. *Chairman.*] Has your trade been much affected by the regulations in force with regard to the cattle plague; I am not speaking of the import from Holland, but generally, your cattle trade?—We have scarcely imported a beast from Oporto in consequence of the regulations. When there was a chance of their being killed at the wharf we would not import one, and stopped it. It has been very much affected by the different changes in the regulations from time to time.

3394. Supposing it was a permanent rule, that all foreign fat cattle imported should be slaughtered at the port of arrival, and conveyed into the country in the form of dead meat, would that have a prejudicial effect on the foreign cattle trade?—It would.

3395. Would that lessen it considerably, do you think?—It would check it.

3396. Was it that argument that induced you to stop the trade from Oporto?—It was; the country demand for foreign animals here is increasing.

3397. For the live animal?—For the live animal; even in a place like Bristol, there is a large trade in foreign cattle from time to time, and in Birmingham there is a very large demand. For one day alone there was an order that no foreign sheep should be allowed to pass into the interior, and that made a difference of some 6 *s.* or 8 *s.* a piece in the sheep that very market day. Why it was stopped I do not know; down where I live, in Essex, our farmers have resorted to sheep in consequence of the cattle plague. They have purchased a large number of foreign sheep, and have done very well with them, and are doing well; there are thousands of them in the country; they are brought over here and sold as store sheep, kept through the winter, and sold as fat; they are selling them now.

3398. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] As to the trade in pigs; have you any acquaintance with the bringing over of pigs?—Yes; we bring a good deal from Holland in certain seasons.

3399. Is their comfort considered as well as that of the beasts, as far as circumstances allow?—Yes; they are more delicate than cattle, and they require greater care; we have to take care to put them in a place where the sea cannot get on them, and we avoid it as much as possible.

3400. They are always below deck?—No; they are generally on deck.

3401. Penned?—Yes.

3402. So many in a pen, according to the size?—Yes.

3403. I infer from what you say, they are protected from the sea washing over them?—No; not on deck.

3404. They are not protected?—No.

4405. Mr. *Leader.*] Do you import any cattle direct from Ireland to London?—A few, not many, from Waterford and Dublin.

3406. You are not aware of the condition in which they arrive in Smithfield?—They arrive in very good condition.

3407. The evidence here was, that they suffered very severely under the hands of the drovers?—I do not think that.

3408. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Could improvement be made in the arrangements for the passage of these pigs; could improvement be made in the treatment of them?—I do not think it could; the difficulty of putting pigs down below in the vessel consists in getting them down, and getting them up again, although we have ladders to walk the animals up and down; pigs are such difficult animals to handle; they get knocked about a great deal more putting them in and out than

Mr. *A. G. Robinson.*

28 May 1866.

than when we put them on the deck, and put them in the best part of the ship as we do to carry them; they lie more comfortably and get more air.

3409. Do pigs come to you from Ireland?—Not many; we bring them over in baskets from Ireland.

3410. We used to hear they were shot into the holds?—No. Years and years ago I was at Liverpool; I have been engaged in carrying cattle all my life in these boats, and at Liverpool, years ago, they carried them the same way as they are carried now. They could not shoot them down into the holds, for that would kill them; and the same thing happens there as here. The jobbers are poor, and if you kill their animals they want compensation, and we do not get the freight. We never got the freight on a dead pig 30 years ago.

3411. There are a large number of pigs imported from Ireland into this country?—An immense number.

3412. How are they shipped?—They are driven on board the vessels from some of the ports, such as the port of Drogheda and the north. From Dundalk the largest number of pigs come, and they are obliged to be driven into the holds; 30 years ago I have turned 2,000 out of a vessel.

3413. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] How is the ventilation of your ships managed; have you any special plan for ventilation?—In this plan you will see the hatchways; we have iron pipes four inches wide which go down through the stanchions into the hold. (*The Witness explained the Plan to the Committee.*)

3414. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you put the cattle with their heads to the sides?—With their heads to the sides, and these parts are wide enough to walk them up and down. This is a plan of the deck of the ship. (*The Witness described the Plan to the Committee.*)

Mr. William Simmonds, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Simmonds.*

3415. *Chairman.*] What is your business?—I am a Veterinary Surgeon.

3416. Are you inspector to the Customs?—Yes.

3417. What has been your experience with regard to the import of cattle from foreign countries?—I have had an experience of 21 years.

3418. When cattle arrive from abroad, what is your course of proceeding?—To examine them.

3419. You get notice?—I get notice, and I attend as soon as possible to examine the cattle.

3420. Describe to us what takes place?—They are landed on the wharf, and I examine them one at a time, and if any have infectious or contagious diseases, we put them on one side from the healthy ones; we put them up in a separate place; those that have any infectious disease, I order to be marked by clipping them on the hip with scissors.

3421. What do you do with those animals that have been in contact with the infected ones?—Those we deliver with the sanction of the Commissioners of Customs.

3422. Supposing a lot of beasts arrive, and a few of them have got some infectious disease, you separate those from the rest?—Yes.

3423. What do you do with those that are healthy?—We deliver those.

3424. In all cases?—Not in all cases; not in cases of cattle plague.

3425. In what cases do you not deliver them?—In excema, foot and mouth disease, and lung disease; those that we do not deliver we have slaughtered.

3426. Do you now stop all animals who have arrived in the same cargo as those animals that have foot and mouth disease?—No; only those that are affected.

3427. *Chairman.*] The rest you deliver?—The rest we deliver.

3428. In cases of cattle plague, the whole of the cargo would be slaughtered?—Yes, the whole of the cargo would be stopped.

3429. As to pleuro-pneumonia, is there the same rule?—Pleuro-pneumonia we have had but little of for many years past: our rule with regard to pleuro-pneumonia is that we should take away those that were actually diseased, and let the others go.

3430. In fact it is only in the case of cattle plague that you would slaughter all?—That is all.

3431. Have you had occasion to have all the cargo of a ship slaughtered in consequence of cattle plague?—Yes; in September 1865, the "Maas" arrived with some 200 and odd beasts; she had three milch cows, and one in calf, making four; one cow showed symptoms of the rinderpest; that was immediately slaughtered, and a *post-mortem* examination made by myself and my colleague, Mr. Holmans; there we found traces of the disease through the alimentary canal; that was properly disposed of by carbolic acid and lime, and sent to the knackers in charge of an out-door officer of the Customs. The other three cows were still detained; some few days afterwards one of the cows showed symptoms of disease and died with it; the other cow showed symptoms of disease, but subsequently recovered. The cow which was in calf, calved some few days after she was landed; she took the disease and died, and also the calf; so that out of the three cows and the in-calver, there was only one that recovered from the disease; the whole of the fat cattle were killed.

3432. And not sent to the Metropolitan Market?—No; killed on the wharf, and examined *post-mortem* by myself.

3433. And then sold as dead meat?—Yes.

3434. They were all healthy, I suppose?—They were all healthy at the time, except some few quarters, which had to be taken away: but there was no disease.

3435. What is your opinion as to the condition in which the cattle generally arrive; I am not now speaking of contagious diseases affecting them, but their general condition in reference to the treatment they have had on board?—I think, generally speaking, very good; there is, sometimes, overcrowding, but very seldom.

3436. What is the effect of their being overcrowded?—They get down, and are trampled upon; their legs get broken, and sometimes they are suffocated.

3437. Is the effect of the over-crowding to produce any form of disease which might become contagious?—No, I think not.

3438. You do not think that any improved mode

mode of treatment of the cattle on board ship would tend to lessen the chance of the spread of contagious diseases amongst them?—I think it would be advisable to have sufficient room for the cattle not to be overcrowded; it would be far better for the cattle than otherwise.

3439. But should you say, from your own observation as a public officer, that the overcrowding was so general or so serious as to need the interference of the Legislature?—I think a little more space ought to be given to them.

3440. That is not the question. The question is, is it so pressing a matter that you think the Legislature ought to interfere to compel a certain quantity of space to be given to cattle by law?—I think it would be quite advisable.

3441. Do you think it is necessary to do it?—No, I do not, according to my experience, as far as that goes.

3442. You do not think it is necessary?—I think the parties belonging to the vessels take it at their own risk if they place too many cattle on board. The General Steam Navigation Company from Tonning to Denmark, I believe, insure the whole of their cattle from there.

3443. What I want to get from you is this: whether there is a grievance now existing which it requires a legal remedy, or an Act of Parliament to prevent?—As to over-crowding, I think there is.

3444. You think there is that amount of overcrowding?—At times.

3445. But you do not think the effect of that overcrowding is to produce any contagious diseases?—I think not.

3446. What is the effect of the overcrowding?—It produces suffocation, by bullocks getting down and being trodden upon. It produces injury to the cattle, and it is a loss to the importers.

3447. It is a loss to the importers, but has no effect upon the general stock of cattle in the country?—I think not. If a bullock, sheep, calf, or pig, has a broken leg, it is right, for humanity's sake, to have them killed on the wharf, and we do so; they never go away.

3448. You would not pass an Act of Parliament to take care of the particular persons who imported cattle, if there was nothing of a public nature to be accomplished by it?—I think not.

3449. Is it not the best thing for them to suffer the loss, and to find out by suffering that loss that the overcrowding ought not to go on?—I think they do find it out; they go to each party and say, you have overcrowded the cattle, and they have to pay sometimes dearly for it.

3450. Is that not the best penalty to be inflicted on them?—If they could get them over without overcrowding them it would be better. There is a want of ventilation in the holds. A great many of them are over-crowded, and the air becomes much heated.

3451. What sort of legal regulations do you think would be desirable. How would you put them into the clause of an Act of Parliament?—I think that each bullock, sheep, pig, and calf, ought to have a certain space.

3452. Mr. *Hunt.*] And a certain space over-head?—A certain space over-head, as I wrote to the Commissioners of Customs a few years ago. I gave them my ideas about it then.

3453. *Chairman.*] What would be sufficient for a small beast would not be sufficient for a large one?—I wrote to the Commissioners as to a large beast, and a small beast also.

3454. That according to the beast shipped so should the space allotted vary?—It would be sure to vary.

3455. I suppose you would subject the shipper to a penalty if he took in more beasts than corresponded to the allotted space?—Of course I should.

3456. There would be two scales?—Yes: a small scale and a large one.

3457. Would not that make it a complicated affair?—I think not; because from Rotterdam and Spain, and many other ports from which we have cattle imported, the cattle are smaller than others. From Hamburgh and Oporto they are much larger beasts. For instance, the "Lion" might bring up between 500 and 600 beasts, if she was only loaded with cattle from Harlingen, whereas she would only bring up between 300 and 400 from Hamburgh and Bremen, because they are much larger beasts and want much larger space.

3458. Would you make any other regulations, except with regard to the space to be allotted to each animal?—I think they require both water and hay.

3459. Do not they give them hay and water?—Not at all times.

3460. Every beast should be provided with a certain quantity of hay and water, according to the length of the voyage?—I think so.

3461. Would you have any other regulations?—I would have each vessel properly cleansed.

3462. After each voyage?—After each voyage.

3463. Do you mean cleansed with some disinfecting liquid?—Yes.

3464. Would you do anything about ventilation?—I think they try, now, all they know, to get proper ventilation, and I think they are open to any suggestion.

3465. You do not think they require to be looked after, in that respect?—I think not. I think it is for their own credit, and their own pockets' sake, to have it.

3466. Would there not be considerable objection, on the part of the steam-ship interest, to this amount of Government interference with their trade?—In what way?

3467. Would they not object to be put under these strict regulations as to the way in which they are to carry on their trade?—I think not. I think the importers would allow them to have hay and water; and I think the importers would rather like to have a certain quantity of room for their cattle.

3468. You think they would not object to having these regulations laid down by Act of Parliament?—I think not. I think, perhaps, the shipowners might, but not the importers.

3469. Why would the shipowners object?—Because they would not be able to bring so many over. It would lessen the quantity on board.

3470. Might they not make it up by an increased freight?—They might do that.

3471. Still, that would have a tendency to lessen the trade, would it?—Oh, yes.

3472. Is it your opinion that the foreign cattle trade has been the cause of the cattle plague?—I do not think so.

3473. You do not think these contagious diseases were brought into the country?—I do not believe the rinderpest was brought into this country by a living animal.

Mr. W. Simmonds.

28 May 1866.

3474. How do you think it was brought in?—I think it was brought in by some other means.

3475. In the air?—No; I think more by clothes or skins, or something of that sort. We have no direct communication from any part of Russia, with the exception of Revel; and in the Revel case, the greater part of those cattle went to places where the disease has not shown itself. I believe some part of that cargo from Revel went to Manchester, and I believe there are no cases of disease there at all.

3476. Still those cattle might have been in contact with other cattle in the Metropolitan Cattle Market?—Those cattle never went to the Metropolitan Cattle Market that went to Manchester; I believe not; they went direct from Hull to Manchester.

3477. How long is the cattle plague latent in an animal before it developes itself, after it is infected, do you suppose?—I should wish for 14 to 21 days before I could decide.

3478. If a beast had been in contact with the poison you could not be sure it had not got it, unless you kept it for 21 days?—I could not.

3479. Do you think the quarantine would be a security?—I think for store cattle it would, I think for fat cattle it would not; I think the four days would be quite sufficient; four days before sending them to the market to be killed.

3480. Would you suggest that all store cattle should be kept in quarantine?—I should; they should be kept in quarantine for 14 or 21 days; I should be satisfied with 21 days myself.

3481. If the cattle plague has not been imported into this country without quarantine up to this time, why should you think quarantine necessary?—I say if you wish to have quarantine.

3482. What I want to ask you is this; you say that the cattle plague has not been imported into England hitherto in live animals so as to be spread; why do you think quarantine a necessary precaution now, if the regulations that have hitherto existed have been deficient up to this time?—I think that the quarantine might be more satisfactory to the public; I do not see why it should be more to them; it was 21 years ago, but still at the same time the public are now so frightened with this disease that I think with stores we should have a certain quarantine before delivery.

3483. You, as a professional man, ought to guide others in the matter. If the thing is not a necessary thing, because persons who know very little about it, the public generally, would be satisfied, that is not a reason why it should not be had. Is it your opinion that it is a necessary thing?—As far as stores are concerned I think it would be necessary; if we examine them they may be in an incipient state, and there may be the seeds of disease in the animals, and we could then take the proper precautions to see whether the disease was there or not.

3484. You would keep the store cattle 21 days?—Fourteen or 21; I would rather have 21 myself in order to be perfectly safe.

3485. But hitherto you think we have done without it with impunity?—We have but a very few stores only at times; they are generally fat.

3486. Would you have any new regulations with regard to fat cattle?—No; I think the regulation as to their benig killed in four days and sending them to the market would be quite sufficient.

3487. Would you make it a permanent law, that all imported fat cattle should be killed within four days after their arrival?—They are killed now without the law.

3488. But would you like to have that law?—I think so.

3489. Where would you keep all these cattle that are in quarantine for 21 days?—I should keep them at the wharves.

3490. Would you have buildings erected?—I think if there were quarantine of store cattle they would not send them, and therefore we should have but very few cases to stop.

3491. Would it not be better at once to prohibit the trade if the effect would at once be produced, and to do it directly instead of indirectly; if you think the quarantine would stop them, had you not better stop them at once rather than go to the expense of erecting all these buildings for the purpose of receiving them?—I think quarantine would stop the importation of lean cattle.

3492. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you think it would stop the import to London or to the whole country?—I think if it would stop it to London, it would stop it to the whole country.

3493. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you not think that there is great want of store cattle, and that they would come at the price?—Not if you had a quarantine.

3494. It is a question of price surely?—There is the price to pay.

3495. It is only 1*s.* a day?—Yes, 1*s.* a day and night; the wharfinger would charge so much for husbanding the animals.

3496. Would 1*l.* cover the outlay?—I should think 1*l.* would cover it.

3497. If the value of store cattle should increase in England to the extent of 1*l.* over what it is now, would they now come over there?—We have no stores, generally speaking, except from Denmark and Tonning. We have a great many milch cows come over; those are the very worst we can have.

3498. With regard to quarantine, would you except certain countries where the cattle plague is known not to exist, such as Sweden, Denmark, and Spain, from the necessity of having quarantine?—I certainly should.

3499. And as to all other store animals coming from other countries, you would subject them to quarantine, or stop them altogether?——

3500. *Chairman.*] Places that could not give a clean bill of health to the cattle, so to speak?—Yes.

3501. You would subject them to quarantine?—Yes.

3502. We have gone further than that, because we have prohibited them from coming altogether?—Yes, for the last six months we have had none from Holland; but there are places in Holland that are particularly healthy; cattle that we have never had to stop come from certain parts; the Harlingen cattle are particularly healthy; so is Nieu Dieppe, and so is Amsterdam; I cannot say the same for Rotterdam, for there is a good deal of foot and mouth disease. In former years there was pleura-pneumonia, but not lately.

3503. *Chairman.*] The foot and mouth disease might come on after a good deal of travelling, might it not?—Not in the cases I have seen where they have arrived here, because, in some cases, their feet have been right off, and their mouth in such a state that you might strip it; some of them were in a fearful state.

3504. Mr.

3504. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] The diseases which cattle are subject to have not been brought from abroad?—Not the cattle plague.

3505. Do you consider that the foot and mouth diseases were originally brought from abroad?—That was before I was appointed; 21 years ago; we have always stopped animals with foot and mouth disease.

3506. How long has the foot and mouth disease been known in this country?—Twenty-three or 24 years.

3507. That was before the general importation of cattle?—Yes.

3508. You consider the foot and mouth disease to be a disease that animals are liable to if they travel much coming from close stables; travelling in spring, for instance, after being confined in close stables; if they travel either by road or rail, do you think it would produce foot and mouth disease?—I think travelling would bring it out quicker; but where we have it direct from the farmers at different ports, we seldom have foot and mouth disease. Where they are sent to different markets, such as Hamburg and other markets, they are sure to come with foot and mouth disease, because those very markets are hotbeds for foot and mouth disease; when they come round, we have no disease at all, and they come just as fast.

3509. Do you think it desirable that the foot and mouth disease should be prevented from coming into England?—Oh, decidedly; the foot and mouth disease, they say, is a curable disease, but it has not been in the cases I have seen; they die, many of them, through excitement.

3510. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I think you said that you do not believe legislation would be requisite on the score of protection to persons engaged in the trade; but do you not think it necessary for the protection of the animals themselves, that Government regulations should be proposed?—For the quarantine, do you mean?

3511. No; I am talking of the conveyance of cattle in ships; I am not putting the question as regards the persons interested in the trade, but merely with reference to the protection of the animals themselves?—Out of humanity, of course it would be required.

3512. Have you known animals, as cargo, having suffered frequently, to any extent, from the want of hay and water?—No, I cannot say that.

3513. Have you seen cattle damaged in value, on their arrival, from that circumstance?—Yes, many thousands.

3513*. Damaged in value?—Yes.

3514. Then if they were damaged in value, they probably had suffered?—That might be caused by the voyage and roughness of the weather.

3515. Can you mention any case of any particular animals where you observed this effect to have been produced in the port of London?—Yes; the case of the "Germania," I think was one.

3516. Whose vessel was the "Germania"?—That belonged to the General Steam Navigation Company; then the "City of Norwich," the "Tonning," the "Tiger," the "Trident," and several others.

3517. Those sufferings were attributed to the want of hay and water on the voyage?—No, I do not attribute it to that altogether; I think a great part of it would be caused by the roughness of the weather.

3518. That you ascribe to the want of sufficient ventilation?—No, I think not; because the shipowners try and do all they possibly can to give them the best ventilation, and they stand at no expense; they endeavour to do all they possibly can. If you were to say to them, "Put so and so down to a vessel, to give them more air," they would do it. I must say the owners of the vessels try to save the cattle as much as they possibly can.

3519. Then we must infer that they suffered only from the passage; because it does not appear, from what you now tell the Committee, that it is clear they suffered from want of hay and water, or from want of ventilation?—I think it would be quite right that they should have hay and water; they would then be able to stand up against more exertion.

3520. Is it your opinion that the quarantining of the store stock would improve them in value?—I think not.

3521. Would not a cattle jobber coming into the market give more money for a certain number of head of beasts that had been in quarantine, for which he would receive the veterinary surgeon's certificate that they were clear from disease, than he would to buy in the dark, as it were?—I think not. I think they would fall away in value, and would not have that attention which they would receive at home.

3522. Why would they be deteriorated in value?—They would fall off in condition.

3523. They naturally would be fed?—There would be a great quantity of them, and some would be fed and some would not be fed; they would fall off in condition.

3524. Then it is your opinion, that a man wanting to buy 50 head of store cattle would not be disposed to give an advanced price for the 50 head of stock in virtue and condition of their having a clean bill of health given by you, and your passing them as sound stock?—I think not; they will pass them if they consider they are free from disease, and will chance the rest. As to milch cows, I think they ought to be stopped.

3525. Mr. *Hunt.*] You are for quarantining milch cows?—Yes, and calves under a certain age.

3526. Do you consider the milch cows would fetch a higher price at the London dairies if they had passed under quarantine?—I think they would, very likely.

3527. Why do you think the milch cows would fetch a higher price, but the lean stock would not?—They would be paid greater attention to.

3528. Why?—The parties belonging to the milch cows would pay greater attention to milch cows than to lean stock.

3529. Supposing a place was made for the purpose of quarantining all these animals, and with a sufficient supply of food and water, is there any reason why milch cows should have greater attention paid to them than the others?—If you have a proper place, of course that is sufficient.

3530. That we are supposing; we are not supposing you would subject these animals to quarantine at Brown's Wharf, but I suppose there would be no difficulty in finding space lower down the river?—I think, lower down the river; if any disease came from abroad it would be more likely to spread it by coming in contact with the grazing country. Cattle going through

Mr. *W. Simmonds.*

28 May 1866.

a grazing country would be more likely to get the infection.

3531. I am supposing there is a place for quarantining lower down the river than the present place, and that there is every accommodation for them?—It would be in the marshes then.

3532. Would there be any difficulty about that?—I think there would, in making a quarantine place of a grazing country. I think they should be kept in the towns, and so as not to go out of the towns. I think they should be kept in the metropolis, where there is no infection going on.

3533. Do you think you could not find a place down in the marshes, where they could be kept quite separate from all other cattle?—I do not know where.

3534. The Isle of Dogs, for instance?—That would be in the metropolis.

3535. Is that in the metropolis?—That is in the metropolis; there is no breeding going on there.

3536. Could you not find space in the Isle of Dogs?—I think so, if it is not already taken up by docks.

3537. If you could find a place in the Isle of Dogs, there would be no difficulty in feeding and watering milch cows and lean cows?—If you had the premises extensive enough there would be no difficulty at all.

3538. Do not you think that the purchasers of lean cattle would give a higher price for those which had the guarantee of being free from disease, by reason of having undergone quarantine, than chancing it as they do now?—I think not; I think that the expense of keeping the animals 14 or 21 days would be too great for the importer, and, therefore, he would never send them at all. I think they would lose by that means; they would not send them over.

3539. Are you aware that in some foreign countries they have such a regulation?—I believe they have.

3540. Do you know whether it stops their coming in in those countries?—I do not.

3541. Do you know that in Austria all animals coming from foreign parts do undergo a quarantine of 10 days?—I believe they do.

3542. You do not know whether great inconvenience has arisen from the practice?—I do not.

3543. Do you think it would be advisable, that instead of fat animals going to the London market they should be slaughtered down near the port?—I think it would not promote cattle coming if you slaughtered them at the port of landing, because then you would not have the competition.

3544. I am not supposing they are to be slaughtered at Brown's Wharf, but I am supposing there is a regular foreign cattle market with slaughter-houses attached at some place down the river, the Isle of Dogs or some other place, with railway communication to the principal dead-meat market direct; do you think that then there would be no purchasers of the fat stock?—There would be purchasers, but it would not put the foreign cattle on the same footing as the English cattle. I think they ought to be all landed in towns, and sent up to the one market; there they would be slaughtered in so many days, and not allowed to go out of the metropolis.

3545. Supposing the foreign market day was a different day to the market day at Islington, would that make any difference?—I think the foreigners would rather have it on the same day.

3546. Supposing it was a different day, they would have a monopoly of that day, would they not?—I think not. I think the monopoly would be on the English side.

3547. Supposing the English market day was Monday and Thursday, and the foreign market day Tuesday and Friday, the foreigner would have a monopoly of the Tuesday and Friday, would they not?—I think Monday and Thursday would have a monopoly, and Tuesday and Friday would lose.

3548. You think they would have no one to buy?—I think not; it would interfere with their trade to a great extent.

3549. You have told us you should like to see a regulation that animals should be supplied with hay and water during their passage; is that because they do not do so now?—On short journeys they do not. From Ostend, Rotterdam, Nieu-Dieppe, and Harlingen, the time is so short that they think it is not required.

3550. Would you have a regulation with regard to the passage from those ports?—I think so.

3551. Why do you think it is not required, if you say that there should be a regulation to that effect; you said that the passage was so short that it is not required?—*They* think it is not required, but *I* think it is.

3552. Would the animals come over in better condition, if they were so supplied?—I should think so.

3553. Why is it not the interest of the persons in the trade to require that that should be done?—I suppose the journey being so short, they think they may as well save the money.

3554. Do you think the meat is in worse condition, when the animal is killed, after having come over in that state of starvation and thirst?—I think so, decidedly, if it is killed at once.

3555. Then, according to that, the beast ought to fetch more money in the market if it has been well cared for during the voyage?—Yes, I think that must improve the animal.

3556. Viscount *Cranborne.*] What is your ground for saying that you do not think the cattle plague was introduced by any living animal?—The case of Revel was the only case in which they were imported from Russia, I believe. The inspectors at Hull delivered them free from disease, after a careful examination, and I, having had several cargoes from Russia, found no disease in them.

3557. Then by that you assume that it could have come from nowhere else than from Russia?—I think that the disease is a highly contagious disease, and may be brought in in many other ways than by the living animal.

3558. Is it not the fact that there is a railway communication now with Hungary, and that the disease exists in Hungary?—Yes.

3559. I believe a great many Hungarian cattle occasionally find their way to the Metropolitan Market?—A great many.

3560. You have no knowledge that the Hungarian cattle might not have come in with the disease incubating upon them?—I have an idea that the Hungarian cattle, or cattle from Russia, are quarantined in several places as they travel through for 10 or 14 days, and therefore the time that they would be coming from one place to

to another until they got to England would be over the time of incubation.

3561. Do you know of any quarantine that is imposed upon animals travelling by railway through Germany?—I am told there is.

3562. Have you any distinct knowledge of it?—Not myself.

3563. You do not know even at what frontiers the quarantine is imposed?—No, I do not.

3564. But your belief, that the cattle plague was not introduced by a living animal, is solely founded on the fact that you do not believe the Revel cattle were infected?—I believe that the Revel cattle were not infected.

3565. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you not think that with a living animal, although it may not itself take the plague, yet after it has been in contact with other animals, it might convey it to other animals in the same way as a man might carry it over in his clothes; an animal inspected on landing and found perfectly sound, and never having had the cattle plague itself, might be in contact with other animals, and not take it but yet infect others?—Yes.

3566. Is it not very possible that these Russian animals, themselves being sound and remaining sound, might have been in contact with others which had the cattle plague, and convey the cattle plague on to others in that way?—Time will show.

3567. Is time any question in the matter?—Yes, I think so.

3568. How long do you think a man may carry it in his clothes?—If the clothes are shut up in a box and not taken out of the box from the time he leaves Russia until the time he wishes to put those clothes on to go into the market and buy and sell cattle, of course you get the infection; but if you cleanse those clothes as other men would cleanse their clothes, the infection is done away with.

3569. Was there sufficient time in that case?—I think so; I think there were some 20 days between the time they were shipped at Revel and the time they got to Hull.

3570. That is not a 20 days' passage?—No, it is not a 20 days' passage; but from the time they were bought and sent to Revel and from thence shipped, and their being hayed and watered and so on, was some 20 days.

3571. The Hungarian beasts might not have been so long?—The Hungarian beasts I state, without fear of contradiction, to be particularly healthy.

3572. There never has been disease in Hungary, has there?—Yes, there has been disease there; but I assure you every animal is minutely examined, one head at a time, and the Hungarian beasts come over particularly healthy; I have had several killed in consequence of broken legs, and those have been examined *post mortem*, and I have found no disease in them.

3573. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Are you still of opinion, as I think you were on a former occasion, that you can detect the disease at a glance when the animal is only in the incubated stage?—Not in the incubative stage.

3574. Only in the fully developed stage?—Only in the fully developed stage. From Hamburg particularly we have foot and mouth disease, and they take more examination than others. From Denmark you can generally tell at a glance that there is a healthy parcel of beasts. So you can from many other places. The animals from Spain are very healthy. Harlingen, as I said before, is a very healthy place; so is Amsterdam. From some places they are the pictures of health, in other places the eye will tell you at once that there is something wrong.

3575. You would not say that the inspection alone would show the animals were in a condition to escape carrying infection with them?—Not without quarantine; but the inspection has been a safeguard in this country, and I am sure we cannot be more strict than we are; at times I have thought we are too strict.

3576. Do you not think with a larger staff you could be more strict?—I think not. The only thing is to ask the importers if we are strict enough. We have stopped 300 or 400 beasts with eczema and foot and mouth disease. It is impossible for any two inspectors—I am now speaking of myself and my colleague, Mr. Holmans—to be stricter unless you quarantine the animals.

3577. Mr. *Hunt.*] You would have a better opportunity if they were quarantined?—Yes, decidedly; it would be a safeguard to us.

3578. You must risk sometimes passing an animal with disease, in consequence of the exhausted state it is in from the voyage?—No; I think we take sufficient time about it. If we think it is necessary, after the animals have suffered from a severe voyage, to detain them till the next morning, we do so.

3579. There is great pressure put upon you not to detain them?—There is great pressure, but we are guided by our own feeling in the matter.

3580. Still it is very much against the opinion of the owners?—We do not care for that.

3581. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Did you ever calculate the time you give to each animal?—It is according to circumstances. The "Maas" arrived either last Saturday or last Wednesday; she only had 250 beasts, and it took me five hours to go through those beasts.

3582. In the course of the winter you examine them more rapidly than that?—No; I have never altered the time from the time I first commenced. As I said before, as to the Tonning beasts, and the Harlingen beasts, and the places I have mentioned, I can go and examine two of them in a minute. At other places where they come from a diseased district, where the disease shows itself from the general appearance, it takes me from 10 minutes to a quarter of an hour.

3583. You regulate your opinion by the country from which they come?—No, from the state of the animal. I see these animals land, and after they have been drawn so as to get them lot from lot, and I see them before they go away, they pass my eye sometimes 20 or 30 times.

3584. Then an inspection conducted on that principle would be clearly no security in cases where animals had picked up the disease in the course of embarkation or on the voyage?—I do not know how they could pick it up on the voyage.

3585. They might pick it up from a foul ship?—I think the ships are so cleansed that it is impossible; of course I can only speak as far as my own station goes. The General Steam Navigation Company, Phillips and Graves, and Russell's, place men on board the vessel as soon as the cattle are landed, in order to get every bit of filth out of the holds and on the deck. Some of them wash the deck, and others scrape them as clean

Mr. *W. Simmonds.*

28 May 1866.

clean as possible, and place disinfectants there. I am thoroughly satisfied, as far as the cattle ships go, that they are cleansed.

3586. What disinfectants do you use?—Each one has his own disinfectants.

3587. Each consignee?—No, each owner of a vessel.

3588. You leave that to them?—Yes.

3589. What do they generally use?—I think chloride of lime and chloride of zinc; I believe those are the two disinfectants.

3590. You strongly adhere to the opinion that it would not be just to the foreign importer, nor practicable, to separate the two markets?—I think not.

3591. Would it be possible to bring the home market to the foreign market at the water's side?—I think so, in the metropolis certainly; I think if you landed them so as to go into the market on Monday or Thursday, all fat beasts sent into the market and there sold, and then order them to be killed within three or four days, that would do; as to the stores, I should like to see them done away with altogether.

3592. You would like to see stores done away with, and milch cows quarantined?—Certainly, milch cows quarantined, and calves under a certain age; calves under six weeks old.

Mr. Stephen Giles Holmans, called in; andExamined.

Mr. *S. G. Holmans.*

3593. Mr. *Hunt.*] You have heard Mr. Simmonds' evidence?—I have.

3594. You are his colleague?—I am.

3595. Do you examine at the same wharves as he does?—No; I examine at the upper or London station, the St. Katherine's Wharf, and British and Foreign Steam Wharf. We assist each other in the event of any pressure arising. I frequently go to his station, and he comes to mine. We do it in order to help each other, if necessary.

3596. How long have you been an inspector?—Nearly nine years.

3597. You differ from Mr. Simmonds as to one point, do you not?—I differ from him slightly with regard to the foot and mouth disease.

3598. What is the point of difference between you?—I do not attach quite the importance that he does to the disease; and, at all events, I do not think the method carried out at present of stopping all animals afflicted with the foot and mouth disease in any way tends to check or stop the disease; it goes simply to place an impediment in the way of the cattle trade without, in my opinion, doing any equivalent good.

3599. You would allow all fat animals with foot and mouth disease to go into the London market?—I certainly would.

3600. In whatever stage of the disease they might be?—When they were very bad indeed, on the score of humanity only I would slaughter them. On the score of humanity I would have them slaughtered at the wharf, or taken away in conveyances. I do not think the practice at present adopted at the wharves, of stopping animals afflicted with foot and mouth disease, tends in any way whatever to exterminate the disease in this country, the disease is so prevalent and common.

3601. Do you believe it is a foreign disease altogether?—No, I do not; it is well understood that the disease existed in this country before the importation of the foreign cattle.

3602. Do you know that "foot and mouth" disease is an exact translation of the name which it bears in Germany?—Yes.

3603. Then does not that fact lead you to suppose that the disease itself is of foreign origin?—It does not; it might have visited Germany at the same time that it visited this country.

3604. Is it not your experience that when we have the translation of a foreign name for anything, that that name generally represents a foreign article altogether?—Well, to a certain extent it is so; but I can hardly say so in this case.

3605. When you find a thing in this country which has a foreign name, or a translation of a foreign name only, do you not jump to the conclusion at once that it comes from a foreign country?—It would appear so; but I am hardly certain it is a translation.

3606. But the inference is not a very unreasonable inference?—It is not.

3607. It is the general opinion of people concerned in agriculture in this country, that it is a German importation, is it not?—It is the opinion of agriculturists, but it is not the general opinion of members of my profession.

3608. Is it your opinion that rinderpest is a foreign disease?—I think it is a foreign disease.

3609. You agree with the general opinion upon this point?—Yes.

3610. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] What did you call the foot and mouth disease before?—The term we use for it is eczema.

3611. Eczema is a term that is confined to professional men, is it not?—It is.

3612. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Human beings have eczema in this country without its being imported, do they not?—They do.

3613. Mr. *Hunt.*] Have you any suggestion to make as to any improvement that might be made with regard to the treatment of cattle on board ship?—None whatever.

3614. You think they are treated as well as you could expect them to be?—As well as they possibly can be treated; it would be very desirable, certainly, if animals could have food and water, but I can hardly see how it is possible for 500 tied up in the hold of a vessel to have it; even if you legislate for them to have it, I do not see how it can be carried out.

3615. Suppose the animals were put head to head in the hold of the vessels, a man could walk between the rows of animals to feed them?—He could do that, but the probability is a great portion of the food would be wasted, and they would not be able to get it.

3616. The animals would not be able to get at the food?—They would not; they would trample it under their feet. It certainly would bo most desirable if it could be practically carried out.

3617. It is done on board some vessels?—It is done on board vessels coming with small quantities of cattle from distant places, such as Oporto, where they can be put into the hold and lie down; here it is done, and the animals are benefited by it.

3618. Do you find the food wasted in those vessels?—No. There they have an opportunity of

of eating it up; here there is a large space for them, and they can get up and lie down as they choose. When you put 400 or 500 in a vessel, packing them in in that way, I think it is impossible they could be fed and watered; I do not think it practicable.

3619. Do you think the animals are ever overcrowded on board vessels?—I have seen some few cases, but from the general fresh manner in which the animals arrive in this country I think there is nothing much to complain of.

3620. They arrive in pretty good condition?—Exceedingly.

3621. What is your opinion as to the desirability of quarantining animals at the port?—I do not see that any reason has been shown for it at present. I think if the rinderpest was imported, and I have very little doubt it was imported, it was imported direct from Russia, the place where it generally prevails. I believe if it had been imported through Germany, it must have left such traces behind it, that we should have had nothing but rinderpest coming since. We have found no case of that sort. As a rule, the cattle have been exceedingly healthy from all places, in particular from France and Spain. The only place where rinderpest has been known to have come from since it was first imported has been in the two or three cases from Holland; and, I believe, it is well understood, that it was taken to Holland from this country. All other countries from which we import cattle have been for some time past, and are at present, free from rinderpest; therefore, from my general experience of the healthiness of the foreign cattle, a case has not, in my opinion, been made calling upon us to provide more stringent measures than are already in existence.

3622. How do you think it reached Holland from this country?—No doubt from some cattle that stood in our market which were sent back again to Holland in consequence of the owner of them not realising the price he put upon them.

3623. Have you investigated that case at all?—It is pretty well known my colleague saw the beast go away from here, and he could have told you about it.

3624. Supposing the beast which took the disease to Holland had been subjected to quarantine in the port of Holland, I suppose it would be your opinion that the Dutch cattle could not have got it?—Quite so.

3625. Is it your opinion that that which would prevent rinderpest going into Holland would prevent it going into England?—Yes, of course it would; but unless you show a necessity for it I do not know what would be the use of it, and I do not at present see that there is a necessity for it, excepting as to animals from Russia direct.

3626. You would like to subject animals to quarantine which came from any country where you knew cattle plague existed?—Precisely so.

3627. With regard to the animals that come from the Dutch ports, you do not know where they come from in the first instance?—We do not.

3628. A great many of them come from Hungary?—They do.

3629. Do many of the beasts put on board at the Dutch ports come from there?—They used to do so till the trade was stopped by the Order in Council.

3630. The ordinary course of trade is that the animals come from Hungary and Germany to the Dutch ports, and that those who import them do not know what countries they come from?—Exactly.

3631. Would it not be desirable, when we are in that state of ignorance as to the place they come from, that they should be subjected to quarantine?—I may state that the cattle that are coming now, and that formerly used to come through Holland, come by the way of Bremen; and I am told it is quite a fortnight from the time they leave their homes before they get here. When I see cattle coming, as they do, so remarkably healthy—for no case has been brought to my attention of disease having been discovered after the beast has left us—I think I may take it as a pretty good rule as to the general freedom of the Continent from cattle disease, excepting in Holland; and Holland, as I said before, became infected, as it is pretty well understood, by having some of their cattle sent back from this country.

Thursday, 31*st May* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.
Viscount Cranborne.
Mr. Dent.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Graves.
Mr. Hunt.
Lord Naas.
Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Alderman Salomons.

THE RIGHT HON. T. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JAMES JOHN RATCLIFF, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. J. Ratcliff.*
31 May 1866.

3632. *Chairman.*] WHAT is your occupation?—I am a Butcher.

3633. Are you connected with the Butchers' Trade Protection Society?—Yes.

3634. Are you a member of that society?—Yes.

3635. What effect upon your trade as a butcher have the recent regulations with regard to the cattle plague had?—As far as I am individually concerned, they have had very little effect upon me at all, because I am supplied principally from Newgate Market, and buy mostly at Newgate Market.

3636. You do not slaughter on your own premises?—I do not; I have a slaughter-house, but I prefer buying the dead meat myself.

3637. But you have a private slaughter-house of your own?—Yes.

3638. Mr. *Dent.*] In what part of London are you?—In Shepherd-street, Mayfair.

3639. *Chairman.*] Were you present at a meeting of the Butchers' Association at which they passed some resolutions on the 24th April?—I was not.

3640. You have seen those resolutions?—Yes.

3641. The second resolution was to the effect that the recent legislation and restrictions have caused great loss to the trade, and unnecessarily increased cost to the public?—That affects those who live a short distance from town, say at Richmond, or that distance from the Metropolitan Market. I have no doubt, in fact I know, it has been a great inconvenience to these butchers living at a distance out of town, say eight or nine miles round.

3642. How has the loss been occasioned to the trade generally?—It is a very great deal more trouble and extra expense. For instance, I have an uncle living at Richmond, and he has been in the habit for years of having his beasts home and killing them. First he killed them in London, and then he got them as far as Hammersmith; he sends men to kill them in the afternoon, and the next morning he has to send them again to fetch them.

3643. What addition in the price of meat has been occasioned to the consumer?—I think very little. I think meat would have been nearly as dear if there had been no restrictions put upon it at all. Meat at the present time is very high indeed, higher than I ever knew it.

3644. You do not attribute that increase of price to the restrictions that have been put upon the trade?—I do not myself.

3645. When did that increase of price begin?—The increase of price has begun in this last month.

3646. What is the difference in price?—Last week sheep made, in Newgate Market, 10½*d.* per pound whole; that I know for a fact.

3647. What is the difference of price for consumption?—At the west-end of the town, although it may appear strange, I declare, upon my word and honour, we have not stocked our meat this last month. I do not believe I have got one penny towards my expenses during this last month, on account of the high price of meat. All the families are dissatisfied, and every one thinks they are paying an enormous price, at the same time we pay as much or more for the meat at market.

3648. What addition in price on mutton and beef, and so forth, is there to the consumer who buys of the butcher; how much in the pound during the last month?—There has been no rise. It has risen in the markets, but not to the consumer.

3649. Do you mean to say that you buy the meat dearer in the markets, but do not make any additional charge to the customer?—Exactly so.

3650. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] May we take it that the price quoted in the papers as the price at Smithfield Market is the real price?—Certainly not. At Smithfield and Newgate the prices are very unjust. The prices I think ought to be quoted by six salesmen and six butchers. There is no question that the salesmen put those prices in the papers to answer their purposes.

3651. Do you not know as a fact that the price quoted is larger this year than it was last year in Smithfield?—I do not know that. I know the meat is dearer at Newgate Market within the last month than I have ever known it. We have been giving 10*d.* a pound for our hind quarters of beef; 10*d.* per pound for sheep, and 10½*d.*

3652. Mr. *Hunt.*] In your last answer but one, you meant to say that the salesmen endeavoured to keep down the prices in the return sent to the newspapers?—Yes, I think so, in order to satisfy the senders.

3653. The country customers?—Yes; I think it would be more just if there were six butchers allowed to join in quoting the price, as well as the salesmen.

3654. The buyers in London, as well as yourself, have to give a higher price in Newgate than is advertised?—Yes.

3655. *Chairman.*] Have you ever considered the question of what would be the effect of prohibiting the slaughter of animals in private slaughter-houses, and compelling the slaughter in public slaughter-houses?—I do not think it would affect the people a short distance round London, as it would farther away, because I believe anyone living within three miles can be supplied from Newgate Market, but beyond that distance people find great inconvenience. When animals are killed at a public slaughter-house, you must have some one to watch them, or you lose your fat. There are a great many losses attending it. You cannot go and kill an animal when you require it, the same as you can at private slaughter-houses.

3656. You think that the inhabitants within a distance of three miles would not be affected by it, if you had these public slaughter-houses?—I think not.

3657. But at a greater distance they would?—I think they would find a great deal of inconvenience.

3658. Would there be any greatly increased traffic in the streets, of carts and horses, and people carrying this meat about, if all the slaughtering took place at certain public slaughter-houses?—I consider there would be a slight increase of traffic.

3659. You do not think there would be any material inconvenience from that?—I do not.

3660. I observe that at the meeting of the Butchers' Association they said, that if cattle and sheep had to be slaughtered at public slaughter-houses, there would be great extra expense, large loss of valuable property, increased traffic of horses and carts through the streets, and a want of proper supervision and protection being exercised by the owners?—I think the last part of it is very true. I do not think they could pay sufficient attention to their own interests at public slaughter-houses as they could at their private ones.

3661. But you do not think much of the other statement?—I do not think much of the other statement.

3662. Do you think that the metropolis could dispense with a live cattle market altogether, and that the whole town could be supplied with dead meat sent from the country?—In my opinion, what I think would be best, would be to have a separate market for the foreign cattle, both sheep and beasts and calves, and have them slaughtered close to the market; not allow any of them to come into our Metropolitan Market, and have that market alone for our own stock; I think that we should do away with a great deal of the disease.

3663. You think that it would be a security if they were always kept separate in the market?—I think so; a market established for foreign stock. A person who wanted to purchase foreign stock would attend the foreign stock market. Very few purchase in both. Either the butchers have a trade which requires the best meat, or a trade for which foreign cattle will do.

3664. You do not think that a market for the sale of live animals could be dispensed with altogether for the metropolis?—It could be done if they were to allow small markets, a few miles' distance out of town, such as at Southall or Croydon, or any similar distance around, because those butchers who require to buy would then go to those markets and purchase.

3665. Do you mean that the cattle might be bought in the small markets in the neighbourhood, and then sold, and the meat sent into London?—Yes.

3666. Do you think that London could be supplied with meat without a Metropolitan Cattle Market?—Yes. For instance, at the Southall market, already established, I believe the London buyers would go there and buy their cattle, and have them brought to their different homes and slaughter-houses, in the same way as they would go to the Metropolitan Market and buy them.

3667. But you could not rely upon a supply of meat from any distance, during the hot weather, for London; those markets where the live cattle are purchased must be near at hand?—Yes, within five or six miles round London; Southall is nine miles away.

3668. Would it not be very inconvenient to the buyers to have a number of small markets instead of one great one; would they not have less choice?—I think it would not affect them greatly. I do not think it would affect them much, because most of them attend all markets now. I think that would be best, if it is the wish to do away with the Metropolitan Market.

3669. I am not speaking with regard to any wish, but I am asking what is your opinion; would it be a good thing to do away with it?—What I consider would be best would be to have a separate market for the foreign cattle, and leave the Metropolitan Market as it is, and to allow our own things to come in and go out without any restriction; but of course the market must be thoroughly cleansed at first, because for a number of years it was not possible for a bullock to go in and out of that market without getting foot and mouth disease.

3670. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Which market are you speaking of?—The Metropolitan Market. If you only kept them alive for three or four days they would be sure to fall with it; I believe that is caused by the foreign cattle coming in. If the market were thoroughly cleansed they might go in and out with every safety, and travel everywhere without any restriction being put upon them. I think that would meet the wishes of the trade better than anything else.

3671. *Chairman.*] Your proposition is to have a separate market for the foreign cattle?—Yes, and to have them slaughtered within a certain distance of the market.

3672. Where would you have this separate market for the foreign cattle?—As near to the port of landing as possible; have slaughter-houses established in connection with the market, and have them killed there. They frequently come over in a heated state, and the animals might be perfectly sound when they first set out, but when they arrive here they are diseased; there is no question about it.

3673. Do you ever do any business yourself in foreign cattle; do you ever buy foreign stock?—No.

3674. You have had no experience, yourself, of the quality of the meat?—I have seen a great deal of the quality of the meat.

3675. You sell no foreign meat?—None whatever.

3676. Mr. *Hunt.*] You supply some of the first families at the West-end?—Yes, I do.

Mr. *J. J. Ratcliff.*

31 May 1866.

3677. And the quality of the meat which your customers expect is of the very highest?—Yes.

3678. The quality of the foreign meat that comes into the London market is inferior to the home-fed meat?—Yes.

3679. A different class of buyers buy the foreign meat to the class of buyers buying the English meat?—Quite so.

3680. Therefore you think that there would be no inconvenience or difficulty to the trade in separating the two markets?—I think not.

3681. Do you know in what parts of the town and country the buyers of the foreign meat principally reside?—In all parts.

3682. But those who buy it supply a lower class of customers?—Yes, and can afford to sell it cheaper.

3683. And therefore, practically, the foreign beasts do not compete with the English beasts, but they compete with one another?—They do not compete with the English.

3684. You do not depend only upon the dead-meat market of London for your supply?—Yes, I do.

3685. I thought you were in the habit of having meat up from Scotland?—Yes, but that comes into the dead meat market; into Newgate Market.

3686. You are chiefly supplied from Scotland, are you not?—Chiefly.

3687. With beef?—With beef and mutton, both.

3688. What part of Scotland does that supply principally come from?—From various parts: some from Inverary, some from Elgin, and some from Aberdeen.

3689. *Chairman.*] During the summer months?—During the summer months.

3690. Mr. *Hunt.*] And throughout the year you are in the habit of having beef from as far as Aberdeen?—Yes.

3691. Mr. *Dent.*] Is that consigned to you, or do you buy it in open market?—I buy it in open market.

3692. Mr. *Hunt.*] Is it consigned to salesmen?—It is consigned to different salesmen.

3693. And you go and purchase in open market?—Yes, of any salesman whom I see has anything to suit me.

3694. Had this been going on before the restrictions upon the movement of cattle?—Yes.

3695. For how long?—Ever since I have been in business; for 14 years.

3696. For 14 years you have been in the habit of buying Aberdeenshire beef?—Yes.

3697. What proportion of your whole supply comes from Scotland?—Nearly the whole of it.

3698. Is that in the summer?—Yes.

3699. In what condition does the Scotch meat come to Newgate Market?—As a general rule it comes in as good condition as the other meat. If the weather is very hot indeed, some of it is spoilt; but so is meat which is sent into the country a short distance from town.

3700. If the meat is properly dressed before it is put on board the railway, does it as a rule come very well?—Yes. If the meat is killed in the morning, and is sent to us, it will keep as long in our shops as any meat killed in the town the night before.

3701. Although it may be killed a day or two sooner?—Yes. If it is sweet in the morning we buy it; it will keep as long as if it had been killed in the town last night.

3702. Does the length of time it will keep, depend very much on the way it is dressed, and the time it is slaughtered?—A great deal.

3703. If sufficient of the inside is cut away it will, as a rule, keep very well during the railway journey?—Yes.

3704. Do you know whether the consignees of this meat from Scotland have had much loss during the summer months?—At times they have had a heavy loss. Sometimes they have had hampers of sheep sent, and when they have arrived at Newgate Market they have been quite spoilt.

3705. Is that owing to the heat of the air at the time the meat comes, or the condition of the air?—The heat of the air has great effect upon them; but frequently it is from bad packing.

3706. Do you not think, during the greater part of the year, if meat is properly dressed and packed, it can come perfectly sweet from as far north as Aberdeen?—I do.

3707. Supposing that your suggestion was adopted, and there was a foreign cattle market opened near the port of London, with slaughter-houses attached, and direct railway accommodation from that place to the dead-meat market in London, do you think that the supply would be at all decreased to the consumer; do you think there would be a less supply of meat than there is at present?—No.

3708. Do you think that, after the trade had made all the new arrangements, the trade would surer at all?—I think not.

3709. What we are told by those opposed to it is, that buyers would be unwilling to come down to the new market to the water side to purchase, and that the foreign trade would languish; is that your opinion?—I think not.

3710. A great many of the foreign beasts are bought by Whitechapel butchers, are they not?—Yes; in fact they buy some in every neighbourhood now. The foreign meat is improving very much.

3711. With regard to the Whitechapel butchers, they would be nearer the market down at the port than they would be at Islington?—Yes.

3712. Is it not a great nuisance to the inhabitants lying between Blackwall and Islington markets, that the beasts should be driven through the streets?—I believe it is.

3713. You would get rid of that inconvenience?—Yes.

3714. With regard to private slaughter-houses, have you ever, in the course of your business, slaughtered at your own slaughter-house?—Yes; I have a license at the present time.

3715. But you have given up slaughtering at your own slaughter-house now?—Yes.

3716. When you slaughter there, I suppose a great deal of the offal has to be taken away, because you cannot use it in your trade?—Yes.

3717. Tell us what it is that has to be carried away?—We do not require the sheeps' heads and plucks in my neighbourhood, and there is the inside, the paunches and that sort of thing, has to be taken away; then we pay to have the blood taken away.

3718. Of course the skins have to go away?—The skins have to go away next morning.

3719. Is it the same with regard to a bullock?—It is just the same with regard to a bullock also.

3720. The

3720. The consequence is, as to that which is killed at your own house, a great deal of that which walks there alive has to be carted away dead?—Yes.

3721. Which is no use to you in trade, but is used for manufacturing purposes?—Yes.

3722. Now, supposing you had a public slaughter-house in an open space, with accommodation for everybody, and all animals were obliged to be slaughtered there, would not you have the advantage that the offal could all be disposed of there much more easily than when the animal was brought to your own private slaughter-houses?—In many neighbourhoods they require the offal, and sell it very freely, and I think they would find a great inconvenience in having the animals killed at public slaughter-houses.

3723. The skins and hides could be collected much more readily if the animals were all killed at one building?—Yes.

2724. Instead of their having to go round to the different places to collect them, they would find them all at one place, and so far that would save the cost of collection?—Yes.

3725. Supposing you had got a place for slaughtering foreign cattle down the river, where there was plenty of space, you could have places for manufacturing the blood manure, and where you could convert the offal into things for use in the immediate neighbourhood?—Yes, I think so.

3726. The same with regard to the hides and skins; you might have tanneries erected near the place, where they could be converted without travelling any distance?—Yes, that could be done.

3727. That would be, of itself, a great advantage?—Yes.

3728. And you would get rid of the nuisance to the inhabitants of the blood and offal at the slaughter-houses?—Yes.

3729. I suppose you are of opinion, that the present dead meat markets of London are wholly insufficient?—Quite.

3730. They will not hold the meat?—No; in fact it is dangerous about 7 or 8 o'clock; you can scarcely get along in the morning.

3731. There is not sufficient room for the traffic, and there is not sufficient room for the meat?—No.

3732. Supposing a new market is provided, as is contemplated, I suppose a great deal of that evil will be remedied?—Yes; a great loss of time would be saved if the railway ran right into the market, instead of having the meat removed from the trucks into the vans, and from the vans into the market.

3733. Should you object to there being slaughter-houses at the proposed new cattle market, and at the Islington Market, also, in which all persons in the trade could slaughter, and lines of railway laid direct from those slaughter-houses into the central dead meat market?—I think the butchers living a further distance from town than myself would find it a great inconvenience not to be able to take their cattle home and slaughter them.

3734. Those that were living out of London, you mean?—Yes.

3735. I am speaking now of London and the metropolis. Should you object to butchers being prohibited from killing in the metropolis, provided butchers living in the suburbs were also prohibited?—Butchers living five miles off serve a lower class of people, and the offal is a great thing at that distance. Those who live nearer do not require the offal.

3736. You would not object to the prohibition against slaughtering upon the people living within three miles of Newgate Market, but you think that they ought to be allowed to slaughter?—Yes, I think so.

3737. What is your opinion as to the desirability of having one dead meat market in preference to having several in different parts of the town?—I think one would be preferable.

3738. Will you give us your reasons for that?—I think, if there were several, the butchers might attend one, and find nothing there; and perhaps at the one they did not attend, there would be a great deal of meat, and there would not be sufficient time in the morning to go from one market to the other.

3739. Whatever change is made, you would wish to have one central dead meat market?—Yes, I think that would be the best for every one.

3740. Are you in the habit of seeing carcases of foreign beasts cut up?—Yes.

3741. Do you think that the state of the market is at all prejudiced by the way the animals are treated on the voyage, and the way they are driven about on landing?—There is no doubt the meat suffers from it.

3742. Can you tell us in what way it suffers?—The animal is upset, and the consequence is, the meat does not eat so tender.

3743. Can you tell, upon looking at the meat, whether the animal has been so treated or not?—Yes.

3744. What difference of appearance would it show?—The meat has more of a bloody appearance.

3745. The animal is heated and exhausted by the fatigue it has undergone, and that shows itself in the appearance of the meat?—In the skin of the meat.

3746. You can at once tell the difference with your practised eye, in a quarter of a beast that has been killed in a quiet state, and a quarter of a beast that has undergone a good deal of harassment on the voyage, and been driven on board at the landing place?—Yes.

3747. The beast so treated, when it is slaughtered, will not keep so long, I suppose, as one that has been killed when it was cool?—No, it will not.

3748. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are you aware that the butchers' trade entertains serious objections, or would entertain serious objections, to the establishment of district slaughter-houses, as it were?—I think the general feeling of the trade shows a preference to their own private slaughter-houses.

3749. They are in favour of having their own private slaughter-houses?—Yes; for instance, they could go and kill a few sheep or bullocks for the next day at 10 minutes' notice if they required them, whereas if there were public slaughter-houses they would find great inconvenience in doing so.

3750. But if these slaughter-houses were systematised, and a fair fee paid by them, and those slaughter-houses placed in certain portions of the town, which would enable those in the trade, within a comparatively small radius, to get easily to those public slaughter-houses, would they not then, considering the facilities of disposing of the offal collected in one place, be very much

Mr. *J. J. Ratcliff.*

31 May 1866.

much reconciled to using those public slaughter-houses, instead of those which are now used in out-of-the-way places, and sometimes not with very good ventilation?—I think it is the feeling of the trade that they prefer their own private slaughter-houses, because, for instance, they may kill a bullock, some may have 12 stone of fat, and others 14; and if they are not there to see it killed, or have some of their men about, they may lose a great deal of the fat, and the fat would get mixed with other people's.

3751. You have spoken of the condition of the carcasses of the foreign cattle, and you say you can detect the difference in the meat, by its being flabby, and not in a desirable state for your customers. Has it not occurred that you frequently can observe the same condition of the meat in the cases of cattle which have been driven, in hot weather, through the streets of London?—Yes; it has the same effect as the other, if an animal is over-driven; because, from my small experience, I find that meat that has been killed in Aberdeen, either sheep or cattle, gives much better satisfaction to the consumer than the animal that is sent over alive. Some Scotch sheep are sent over alive, and killed in Newgate Market. I never buy them. If I do, I am sure to find some fault found by the customers; but if they are killed and then sent over, they give very great satisfaction; and I find it is the same with beasts. I have been in the habit of buying animals since I was 15 years old, and sending them down into the country, and I have found that those that are sent away dead are better than those which are sent over here alive, and killed after their arrival.

3752. Do you think that that occurs from the Scotch people taking more pains to allow the carcasses to stiffen and cool after slaughtering?—No; but because the beast is killed when it is in a quiet state.

3753. You suggest that there should be sundry cattle markets at a certain distance from the metropolis?—Yes, if the Metropolitan Market was done away with.

3754. But those cattle then would have to be driven from the outskirts of London into the centre of London, to these private slaughter-houses?—Yes.

3755. I presume you think it very disadvantageous to cattle to be driven through the streets of a crowded metropolis like this?—I consider that the meat is preferable when it is killed in a quiet state to its being over-driven.

3756. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you get dead meat from any other place besides Scotland?—Sometimes from various places in the country.

3757. From the West of England, or from the North of England?—From all parts of England, in fact.

3758. In the middle of the summer?—Yes.

3759. Have you ever had any from Bristol?—Yes, it comes from all parts.

3760. You find it travels well in the middle of summer?—Yes. A great deal depends on the packing. In some cases where they are careful with the packing, it comes in a very good condition. In other cases you would fancy when the hampers were unpacked, the only object had been to get the meat in, and as if they did not care about the condition in which it came out.

3761. You think the meat comes better from Aberdeen, where the climate is colder, than from other parts where the climate is hotter?—I think it is so.

3762. An animal that is killed in a colder climate in the north of England will travel better than an animal that is killed in the south, where it is hotter?—Yes.

3763. Do you find that the meat which comes by rail is much bruised?—No.

3764. Is not meat that travels by rail very much discoloured. I have seen meat hanging in shops that has been discoloured?—No. I have frequently seen some as to which you could not tell that it was not killed at home in my own place. They have greatly improved the packing in Scotland.

3765. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] It depends a good deal on the packing?—Yes. At Aberdeen they make them up in large sheetings from the top of the neck to the bottom of the leg, and when the sheetings are cut open they come out very nice. Some senders of sheep lay layers of cloth between the sheep, and that comes up in good condition. Other men put the sheep into the hamper bare, without any cloths at all, and the consequence is that in hot weather they are spoiled.

3766. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think there is any objection to this, that the animals brought to the Metropolitan Market should not be allowed to live beyond a certain time?—I think they should be allowed to live; but I believe it would be a beneficial thing to all if the foreign cattle were not allowed to come into the Metropolitan Market; I believe those are the beasts from which the disease comes.

3767. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the object of this Trade Protection Society, of which you are a member?—To look after the interests of the butchers, and to prevent their doing away with the Metropolitan Market.

3768. Does it regulate the price of meat. Do you all agree what price you shall put upon meat?—No.

3769. It has nothing to do with the price of meat?—Nothing whatever.

3770. Is it simply a review of the market?—It is simply a review of the market; but, I am sorry to say, we are not united enough for anything else.

3771. You talked about the rise of price within the last month; was not meat, some five months ago, and all throughout the winter, very much on the rise?—No; it was very high indeed up to October; since October it has been lower, but not to the extent that the newspapers have put down; they have done the trade very great injustice; they made the public very much dissatisfied, and I know for a fact many buyers wrote letters, and stated where they had bought the meat, and the prices of it, but not one letter appeared.

3772. Who puts in these quotations; is it a society of salesmen, or how is it managed?—They go round and ask the salesmen; and the salesmen say, put it down so and so.

3773. There is no official record?—No.

3774. Is there any return to the Board of Trade the same as there is of oats and wheat?—I do not think there is.

3775. Is there no officer appointed?—No; they go round and ask two or three different salesmen.

3776. I want to know whether there is any authorised person whose quotation is the proper quotation of the price, or whether it is left to the individual caprice of any man?—I believe it is left to two or three salesmen.

3777. Mr.

3777. Mr. *Hunt.*] There is an inspector of the market, is there not?—I do not know; it may be the clerk of the market, perhaps.

3778. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Your opinion is that foreign stock is very much inferior to English stock?—Yes; but still it is improving in quality.

3779. I suppose you have not read the evidence given before this Committee by some of the men connected with the foreign trade?—I have not.

3780. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you ever bought any French meat?—No, I have never bought any foreign meat.

3781. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] There is not much foreign meat coming to the West-end?—No; West-end butchers who supply good families would not attempt to supply foreign meat.

3782. Do you believe the foreign meat is bad from the deterioration the animals receive on the voyage?—I do not believe it would be nearly so good if they were killed without going any voyage at all.

3783. Mr. *Dent.*] Some witness talked of the Spanish beasts fetching as much as 46*l.*, is that so?—I have no doubt they have fetched that price. They are very large beasts.

3784. *Chairman.*] Do you know Mr. Crouch?—I have heard the name.

3785. He calls himself secretary to the Butchers' Trade Protection Society, of which you are a member. He wrote me a letter, in which he confidently says that he could state that it was the united opinion of the metropolitan butchers, that it would be at any time very difficult and expensive, if practical at all, and in hot weather utterly impossible, for them properly to supply this metropolis with fresh meat, unless slaughtering is allowed at private slaughter-houses as at present. I suppose you could not admit that as a correct view of the united opinion of the metropolitan butchers?—I think we could be supplied for a certain distance round London; as I said before, three miles.

3786. You do not agree with Mr. Crouch?—Not quite.

3787. Not at all; because what I understand him to say is, he thinks it would be utterly impossible to supply the metropolis with fresh meat?—He means the whole of it. I said that part of it could be supplied, but not the whole.

3788. Then you agree with him, to a certain extent?—Yes. For instance, anyone that can get home, after they have loaded their van, within half an hour, or three quarters, from Newgate, can get home in time, but anyone who has to take the meat for an hour, or an hour and a half, in the vans, would find the meat bad.

3789. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Would it not be possible for those suburban butchers to get consignments of meat direct from Scotland?—No, I think not. It would be very beneficial to the trade, if they could.

3790. I think you say you buy the meat in the market, but you do not have any consigned direct to you from the Scotch butchers?—No.

3791. Is that the general custom of the trade?—Yes.

3792. It is not customary for the Scotch butchers to consign to individuals at all?—I do not know one who consigns to individuals at all.

3793. To your knowledge has there ever been any time when you have been unable to get Scotch meat in the market owing to the weather?—In very hot weather we have found great difficulty, but by being there early, we have generally got a supply. There are certain times when things have come very short.

Mr. *J. J. Ratcliff.*
31 May 1866.

3794. Do they send much less in hot weather?—At times; after a very hot week when perhaps a little of it has been spoilt, we have found they have been very shy for the next three or four days or a week.

3795. Do you know whether they communicate much by telegraph on the subject of the meat trade to Scotland?—Greatly.

3796. Does all the Scotch meat come packed in cloths?—The whole of the Aberdeen beef comes principally in sides or three parts of the animal; the sheep are in hampers.

3797. I suppose by the term "Aberdeen beef" you include the whole of the beef from the north of Scotland?—Yes.

3798. Mr. *Hunt.*] Supposing there was a division between the foreign and English cattle markets, as you suggest, would you wish to see that market held on a different day to the Islington Market?—I do not think one would affect the other, because those individuals that buy always buy from the one market; I do not know a single individual in the private trade that buys from the two.

3799. You would see no objection to having the market on a different day?—Not at all; possibly that would meet the wishes of most of the trade to have it on a different day.

3800. You said the animal coming into the Islington Market got foot and mouth disease, in consequence of the foreign beasts coming there?—I think the foreign beasts first brought it in.

3801. But it is now very prevalent in this country?—Yes, and has been for years.

3802. I suppose the English beasts with foot and mouth disease come into the Islington Market?—If they were free from it when they went in they were sure to have it when they came out.

3803. Do many English beasts come into the Islington Market with foot and mouth disease?—No, not now.

3804. Do you visit the Islington Market?—At times.

3805. But not for the purpose of purchasing?—Yes, for the purpose of purchasing for my father, who lives some distance in the country.

3806. Is it your opinion that at this time there is more foot and mouth disease among the foreign beasts than among the English beasts?—Yes.

3807. At this period?—Yes.

3808. Do you think if a foreign cattle market was established at a part of London distinct from the English cattle market, the price of foreign beasts would be at all lowered thereby?—I think not, myself.

3809. You do not graze any beasts yourself?—No, I do not.

3810. Does anyone connected with you?—Yes, I have a brother-in-law who grazes his.

3811. Is he a farmer or a grazier?—A farmer and grazier.

3812. Do you think it would be the wish of the English grazier that foreign store stock should undergo a quarantine before they are sent into the country?—I think so.

3813. It is the impression of the public engaged in that pursuit that a great many of the diseases that have come amongst our herds have come from abroad?—Yes.

Mr. *J. J. Ratcliff.*

31 May 1866.

3814. And they think there should be steps taken against a fresh introduction of the disease?—Yes; there was a case in Northamptonshire, not long ago, of some merino sheep going down there having the small-pox; I think it was two months ago. Those were brought down from the Metropolitan Market, and the man's whole flock fell with it.

3815. That was in the neighbourhood of Weedon?—Yes; it was a man of the name of Clark. They killed them all, and the neighbours made him a little compensation.

3816. If there had been a system of quarantine, perhaps that would not have happened?—No.

3817. *Chairman.*] Have you gone into the question of the cattle plague, yourself, at all; have you formed any opinion how it arrived in this country?—I believe it was first brought over by the foreign animals, and I believe it first sprung from the Metropolitan Market.

3818. But you think it was first brought to the Metropolitan Market by foreign beasts?—I do.

3819. What facts have induced you to arrive at that conclusion?—From the condition that many of them were in when they landed.

3820. Do you think that beasts that have been landed with a disease upon them have been allowed to go to the Metropolitan Market?—Yes; they have not known it; the disease has been upon them, but it has not been sufficiently developed for them to tell.

3821. But it has been latent in them, and sufficiently developed to infect other beasts; that is your opinion?—Yes.

3822. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you made any personal inspection, yourself, of the foreign cattle you have spoken of; have you seen them landed yourself?—Yes.

3823. To any great extent?—Not to any great extent.

3824. You say that you have formed an opinion that the disease was introduced from the foreign cattle which were landed and brought into the market; I ask you the question, have you formed that opinion from your own personal inspection of them, or merely from report?—From seeing them.

3825. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you think the inspection is properly carried out?—Yes.

3826. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] You think that no system of inspection could prevent diseased animals from being landed, and communicating disease by mixing with others in the Metropolitan Market?—No; I think nothing would prevent that.

3827. Mr. *Hunt.*] Your opinion is that animals may have disease in a latent state, may pass an inspection, although that inspection is properly conducted, and within two or three days show symptoms of being in such a state as to communicate the disease to other animals?—I do.

3828. But, supposing there was a proper quarantine, that could not happen?—No, it could not happen.

3829. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Do you know any localities of London, or near London, that might be adapted to quarantine purposes?—I do not.

3830. Do you know any fields out at Bow?—No, I do not know much of that part.

3831. Do you know any instances in which foreign cattle have communicated disease in the metropolitan markets?—It would be almost impossible to tell.

3832. Do you know instances, of your own knowledge, of animals communicating disease to others from the Metropolitan Market?—I know that any beast bought in the Metropolitan Market, when they come home, are sure to fall with the foot and mouth disease; and if they are bought in the country market, they do not.

3833. Mr. *Graves.*] Do you know many instances where animals coming from Scotland have been affected with disease by being exhibited for sale in the market?—I do not.

Dr. Henry Letheby, called in; and Examined.

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

3834. *Chairman.*] Have you in the course of your calling had to do in any way with the cattle trade and its effect upon health?—I have, to a very great extent. I do not know that I have been practically concerned with respect to the influence of the cattle trade upon health; but we have a very great deal of meat sold in the City markets, and the question of diseased meat may probably be one that has an important bearing upon the public health, and the same may be said of the slaughter-houses of the City.

3835. Do they come under your cognizance?—Yes. They quite come under my cognizance.

3836. First of all, with regard to the collecting of live animals for sale in a metropolitan market, do you consider that that bears at all upon the public health of the metropolis?—No, not if it be well regulated. I think there should be a limit to the collection of animals in the metropolis. I think that encouragement should be given, as far as is possible, to the bringing of dead meat into London, rather than to the bringing of live animals; but still there must always be a certain number brought here, in consequence of the fluctuation of the public demand for meat, and there must be a means of meeting that fluctuation by the existence of a live market. I think, indeed, that a live market in the metropolis is only required to meet such fluctuations as may occur in the course of trade, from the somewhat uncertain supply of the dead meat; but, so far as my experience at the present time goes, seeing that the practice of bringing of dead meat into the city markets is becoming greater and greater every year; that, in fact, it is found that meat can be sent to the city markets from the most distant parts of England, even in the warm weather, without undergoing any particular decay or deterioration, it is a prime consideration, with regard to public health and public convenience, whether every encouragement should not be offered for the sale of dead meat, rather than for the bringing here of the live animals.

3837. You think, then, that the collecting of animals to an unlimited degree in a metropolitan market may have a prejudicial effect upon the public health?—To an unlimited degree, and to an uncontrolled degree, it may.

3838. I only want to know from you whether you consider that the collecting together of live animals in a metropolitan market for sale has a prejudicial effect upon the public health?—No, I cannot go so far as that.

3839. I am speaking of the collecting by the cattle

cattle trade of live animals in the Metropolitan Market; has that, by itself, a prejudicial effect?—Independently of the slaughter-houses?

3840. Yes?—No, I do not think so. I have seen no indication of that.

3841. Do you think that the extensive slaughtering in the metropolis, which is the necessary consequence of having a metropolitan cattle market, is prejudicial to the public health?—I do not think that well-regulated public slaughter-houses would be a serious inconvenience, annoyance, or nuisance to the public health; but I have no hesitation in saying that the present indiscriminate way in which slaughtering is carried on in all sorts of places, in crowded localities, and apart from all regulation and control, is a source of considerable annoyance, and I may go further, and say of injury to the public.

3842. Do you think that the present regulations which provide that no cattle bought in the Metropolitan Market shall be taken away into the country districts alive, but only in the form of dead meat, has, by increasing the quantity of slaughtering in the private slaughter-houses, been injurious to the public health?—No, I do not think it has been injurious, but it has created much public inconvenience. I have not seen any effect of its having injured the public health. The inconvenience that arises to the public is this; in the first place, the animals are driven to these slaughter-houses, and they make a nuisance in the public way; in the next place, the offal cannot always be at once taken away, and therefore it is frequently in such a condition from putridity as to be offensive. This indeed is often a matter of great complaint in the neighbourhood of Newgate Market, though we adopt the best regulations we can, and provide that it shall be taken away within a certain time. In the next place, there is frequently in the neighbourhood of these slaughter-houses a number of places for fat melting and gut spinning, and so on, that are very offensive, and perhaps injurious to health.

3843. You think, in fact, that the slaughtering in a crowded city in private slaughter-houses, is very injurious to the public health?—Yes, it is injurious, I think.

3844. You would recommend, I suppose, that the slaughtering should be carried on in public slaughter-houses, under proper regulations?—Under proper regulations, and with all the appliances for disposing of the offal and manure. At the present time such regulations and appliances do not exist, or they are not in a proper condition in the private slaughter-houses.

3845. What becomes of all the blood which flows from the animals, when they are killed in the private slaughter-houses?—It is disposed of in two or three ways. The sugar bakers take a large quantity for the purpose of refining the sugar. In the next place, there is a great quantity collected for the manufacture of manure; it is collected in pans, and sent to the manure makers. In the third place, the albumen of the blood is required as a mordant for certain dyes; but all the blood, or nearly all the blood is collected, and does not go into the public sewers.

3846. It does not flow into the drains and sewers of the town?—Not to any large extent, a little of it gets away in the washing of the slaughter-houses.

3847. So far as it does get away it would have an injurious effect?—Getting into the sewers it would give rise to a putrefactive decomposition, which would be very objectionable.

3848. In hot weather, if much of it found its way into these sewers, it would breed almost a pestilence?—It would cause, no doubt, very offensive putrefation in the sewers; but I do not know that a pestilence would come of it.

3849. Do you find, in the summer months, that the meat which is brought to London from the country to be sold in the meat market generally arrives in good condition and fit for human food?—As a rule, it does; but there is a great deal of putrid meat seized in the London market in the summer time. I do not know whether I have my report here, in the form of a quarterly table, of the proportion, but you may take this for an example: out of nearly 1,000,000 lbs. of meat, seized and condemned in the markets in the City, during the last five years, about one-third of it has been putrid.

3850. What has the rest been seized and condemned for?—Animals that have died from natural causes or from disease, 48,777 lbs. in five years; diseased meat, 505,000 lbs., in round numbers, and putrid meat 385,000 lbs. making 939,000 lbs. altogether.

3851. Mr. *Hunt.*] I should like you to explain the meaning of the word "putrid"; is the putrid meat the meat of animals which have been healthy and kept too long, or does it include the meat of animals which have been diseased and kept too long?—No; it means good meat that has become putrid on its road to London.

3852. *Chairman.*] Is this putrid meat, as a rule, part of that which comes to London from the country?—Yes; some of it was slaughtered in London, but most of it came from the country.

3853. We were told that when meat is slaughtered in London it does not keep so long as if it had been slaughtered even a day sooner in the country?—Yes; I think that is true.

3854. But still, the greater part of the London meat which you have had to condemn is meat that has been sent from the country?—Yes, much of it, no doubt; they have not yet got properly into the mode of packing and sending the meat from the country, particularly in summer time. If the meat is packed warm, it is sure to become putrid on the road; whereas if it is allowed to cool properly it may be sent in the hottest weather without putrefaction. I suppose nearly one-third of the whole meat of the metropolis is sent to London already slaughtered; in fact, there are about 120,000 tons, or perhaps 150,000 tons, sold every year in Newgate Market, and that is pretty nearly one-third of the total supply, although I could not speak positively as to that.

3855. About one-third of the total supply of the metropolis, you think, is brought in the form of dead meat to London?—Yes; the quantity is increasing very fast. We get it from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and the most distant parts of Scotland, and it comes here perfectly fresh even in hot weather; also from Holland.

3856. The rapid means of communication furnish facilities for this dead meat supply which could not have existed in former times?—Yes, that is so; and again, the animals are slaughtered in a better condition than when they are slaughtered in the London slaughter-houses, for they are not fevered by fatigue; they are not killed while they are in an improper condition, when in a febrile state, or when their systems are charged with food in an imperfect state of digestion; and such meat putrifies

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

31 May 1866.

putrifies less easily than the meat of animals which are killed in an improper condition.

3857. Before the cattle plague it was the custom to purchase fat beasts in the Metropolitan Market, and send some of them into the country, there to be slaughtered, but since the restrictions have been in force they cannot be sent alive, but only in the form of dead meat. Has there been a perceptible increase of slaughtering since that regulation?—I think that must be so, but I am not prepared with any exact figures on that point.

3858. You have not seen any effect produced by the increased quantity of slaughtering carried on in London?—No. I have seen this; that in consequence of those regulations, the officers and veterinary surgeons attached to the Customs and Revenue Department will not permit animals tainted with any disease, or the sign of any disease, to leave the wharves at the present time; and in some of the ports of importation they have not the proper means of slaughtering, and there has been complaint of the annoyance and inconvenience occasioned by the slaughtering of animals under those circumstances, where there has not been proper provision for the slaughtering. They have set up a place, for the moment, without any appliances at all, which has been a subject of great annoyance to the neighbourhood.

3859. Supposing the private slaughter-houses were put an end to, and people compelled to slaughter in public slaughter-houses, could you exercise a more effective supervision over the meat sold if such were the case, than you do at present?—Yes, unquestionably. There is no effective supervision all over the metropolis, except in the City of London; outside the City they can slaughter animals in the most diseased condition and sell them, and it is the subject of complaint by the butchers on the borders of the City, that they are treated differently from the butchers outside the City; practically, indeed, there can be no supervision of animals, where slaughter-houses are scattered all over different parts of London; whereas, if the animals were in the public slaughter-house, and there was an officer appointed to inspect the meat, that is to say, if the animals were inspected before they are slaughtered, and again after they are slaughtered, there must be pretty nearly perfect protection to the public, as to the quality of the meat, and that is the practice on the Continent.

3860. Then you think the consumers in the metropolis would be benefited by putting an end to the private slaughtering system, and having public slaughter-houses?—Yes; I think all parties would be benefited.

3861. The public health would be benefited?—Yes.

3862. And the consumers of meat?—Yes.

3863. But what would the butcher say to it?—Ah, there is the difficulty. You have to deal with vested interests, and with huge prejudices. I know, as matter of fact, that those are great difficulties.

3864. Have you had opportunities of seeing the system at Paris?—Yes, and I have seen the system at most of the large towns in France, Prussia, and Switzerland. The system is pretty nearly the same in all the large towns of France, and there are certain public slaughter-houses distributed around, within the line of fortifications, but outside the boulevards of Paris, and they are under careful supervision. The animals are seen when they come into the places, and the meat is all inspected after the slaughtering. There is provision made for the melting of fat and the disposal of offal at these slaughter-houses. It is the same at Edinburgh, they have exactly the same condition of things there. The fat-melters, the tripe-dressers, and all those offensive trades that are attached to a private slaughter-house, are all conducted in a proper manner, and every one has to contribute a certain sum (a very small sum, I think it is) for the use of the public appliances.

3865. How long has that system been established in Paris?—It was, I believe, established by the first Napoleon.

3866. Has the butchers' trade suffered in consequence of these state regulations in Paris?—No. There have been other regulations in regard to the butchers' trade, in Paris. There was a great monopoly some years ago; the Emperor has broken through that, but I do not think the butchers' trade has been affected.

3867. The butchers' trade is still a flourishing trade in Paris, notwithstanding those state regulations; and in Edinburgh?—Just the same.

3868. How long has the system been established in Edinburgh?—I saw it three years ago, and I suppose it must have been in existence six or seven years.

3869. Have you heard that the fleshers in Edinburgh have been affected, at all?—No; it does not at all affect them, as far as I can learn.

3870. They acquiesce in it now, I suppose?—Yes. I believe they rather like it; because at the present time it prevents a great deal of inconvenience, which they were obliged to submit to formerly.

3871. Independently of the nuisance of these different trades going on in the neighbourhood of the slaughter-houses, the fat boiling, the gut twisting, and all the rest of it, there is a great amount of labour in having to cart away, from different private slaughter-houses, offal of the different kinds, in order to be turned to account in other ways?—Yes, and on occasions like that of the rinderpest, there was no regulation in respect of the disposal of the offal, it was taken away, and cast broadcast over the land, which, I believe, had as much to do with the spread of the disease as anything; whereas, if there were proper regulations, there would be the means of disposing of that most dangerous source of infection.

3872. In fact, in case of necessity; in case of cattle plague, or any other extremely contagious disease, if you had a central slaughter-house, everything that came from the animals required to be used for manure could be properly treated before it was removed?—Yes.

3873. And there would be great economy of labour?—Yes; in every sense of the word. It must be more economical to have one well-established plant, and an economy of labour.

3874. *Chairman.*] You would allow buyers of fat beasts in the metropolis to take them away alive into the country, within a certain distance of London, or, if convenient, to have them slaughtered in a public slaughter-house?—I think it would be unwise to make any regulation with regard to what is to be done with the animal. It would be impossible, in point of fact, to make any regulation as to what is to be done with the animal bought in a public market. You can make regulations prohibiting private slaughtering, but you

you cannot make regulations with regard to the disposal of the animals.

3875. The principle you advocate would be a principle you would like to see applied to all large towns, or to towns of a certain population?—Yes; my experience extends beyond the City of London, and I may venture to say that in every large town in the kingdom, there is the same ground of complaint. The public suffer great inconvenience, and above all, there is the danger of having no supervision of the quality of meat sent into the public market.

3876. At whose expense would these public slaughter-houses be constructed?—Probably at the expense of the municipality, but they would always maintain themselves. Their maintenance would be always in themselves.

3877. But then, would not the private slaughter-house proprietors claim compensation?—No doubt; and they ought to be compensated, there is no doubt of that. You cannot break up an old trade without considering that. But, at the same time, the public would be so much benefited by the establishment of public slaughter-houses, that I do not think the public would have any objection to give a reasonable compensation.

3878. Mr. *Hunt.*] Would you not be able to compensate them out of a fund to be created out of the letting of accommodation in the public slaughter-houses for the purpose of slaughtering?—It might be so.

3879. And it would be a paying concern?—I think it would.

3880. *Chairman.*] Would it not be very difficult to estimate the loss that a man really would suffer in money, by not being permitted to slaughter in his private slaughter-house?—The mode of ascertaining that must be arrived at in the same way as railway companies arrive at the value of people's property and business; I do not know how else it could be done.

3881. Mr. *Hunt.*] If a railway company wanted to go through a slaughter-house, they would take possession of the house, and compensate the owner, I suppose?—Yes, certainly they would.

3882. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] There is a fee of 4*s.* for each animal slaughtered now?—I forget the price, but there is a fee at the public slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Cattle Market. Until recently those have not been used at all. The Corporation provided very extensive and very commodious slaughter-houses; but so strong was the prejudice of the butchers, that they would not take the slaughter-houses.

3883. What was the fee?—My impression is 2*s.* 6*d.*, but I am not sure.

3884. *Chairman.*] You would like compulsory measures to be adopted?—With regard to public slaughter-houses, compulsory measures in regard to the doing away of the private slaughter-houses should be adopted. Certainly, I have no two opinions on that point.

3885. Mr. *Dent.*] In all the large towns of England?—In all the large towns of England.

3886. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Would you make it illegal for a man to have any private slaughter-house?—Yes; for that would be the only way of dealing with the matter.

3887. *Chairman.*] Whatever slaughtering is to take place should take place only in these licensed public slaughter-houses, under the regulations of the law?—Certainly; at the present time, in most of the municipal Acts, in the Local Self-Government Act, and in the Sewers Act of the metropolis, it is laid down that it is illegal to slaughter in certain places, and a very little extension of the Act would make it apply to other places.

3888. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the inspection which the City of London has over the meat at the present time?—There is a veterinary surgeon attached to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, who examines the condition of the animals, and it is his duty to put aside those that are affected by certain diseases.

3889. Is his examination a good one?—His examination, I believe, is pretty perfect; but then, looking at the amount of work to be done, and the large collection of animals, however diligent and careful a man may be, something may escape his observation.

3890. *Chairman.*] I see the butchers say, in one of the resolutions, that if they are prevented from slaughtering in their private slaughter-houses, and have to go to a public slaughter-house, they could not exercise a proper supervision over their property, that they would not have the same control over their property that they now have when it is in their own private slaughter-houses?—The answer to that is to be found in the fact that wherever there are public slaughter-houses, the supervision is found to be very complete; there is no difficulty of the kind in reality existing where there are public slaughter-houses; there is no such difficulty in Edinburgh or in Paris, and I undertake to say there is no such difficulty in any of the large slaughter-houses on the Continent; it is a fancy, not a fact.

3891. Mr. *Hunt.*] Supposing a man went to a public slaughter-house for once in a way, to slaughter an animal, he might be under a difficulty?—No doubt.

3892. But when it had grown into a system, arrangements could be soon made for proper supervision?—Undoubtedly; there would be no difficulty about it at all.

3893. I suppose one might expect that the trade would rather re-arrange itself; you would have more of the slaughtering butchers, as distinct from the dead meat butchers?—Yes; it is quite likely we should have, to a large extent, another class of men entering the trade; at the present time the large butchers must be men of capital; they must purchase the living animals and sell them, and so, if they had the opportunity of purchasing the dead animal at once in the markets, it would bring into the field another class of dealers.

3894. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] There would be less monoply?—There would be less monoply.

3895. *Chairman.*] Have you any returns in the City, showing the gradual increase in the supply of dead meat to the metropolis, for some years past?—No; we have had a good deal of difficulty in getting at a knowledge of the dead meat sold in our city markets. At the time the inquiry was put on the part of the Corporation, before this House, with regard to the formation of the new Smithfield Market, I, with the late Mr. Pearson, took a great deal of pains to ascertain the quantity of dead meat, but there was a difficulty about it that was almost insurmountable; I believe at that time the proportion of dead meat was about 80,000 tons a year, and that is not more than five years ago; it is now double

3896. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You put it down now

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

31 May 1866.

now at 150,000 tons?—Yes, I put it down at that; we can only learn from the number of carts that come from the several railways, and we give the quantity of meat sent by the railways to the public markets; but we could get no information from the butchers themselves. Of course I am only speaking now of the City of London markets, and they are the great meat markets of the metropolis.

3897. *Chairman.*] Your experience is that it forms a larger proportion of the whole than the dead meat sold in London a few years ago?—It is nearly double.

3898. It is a larger proportion of the whole?—Yes, no doubt of it.

3899. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] There would be no difficulty, I suppose, in a private butcher hiring a portion of a public slaughter-house for his own exclusive use?—Not at all, and the slaughter-houses of the City market have been made with that object.

3900. And he might exercise as much supervision there, as if he was in his own slaughter-house?—Yes; I think so.

3901. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] I suppose the hours are limited in the public slaughter-houses?—No; the slaughter-houses are open at all times; I do not know that they are open in the middle of the night.

3902. How long are they kept open?—I really cannot say; the market inspector could tell you that.

3903. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I think these private slaughter-houses are very often in the most crowded localities, are they not?—They are mostly so.

3904. Did you give evidence before the Smithfield Committee some five years ago?—I did.

3905. Am I right in stating that the new meat market at Smithfield was partly made with reference to the public slaughter-houses at Islington?—Yes.

3906. But the object was, that the animals should be killed at Islington, and brought by the Underground Railway to the Smithfield dead meat market?—That was a very great consideration indeed.

3907. You gave evidence then, if you remember, that the private slaughter-houses, with all the appurtenances, were most obnoxious to the health of the metropolis?—Yes, we have 58 slaughter-houses in the City of London, and there is not one of them which is not more or less a nuisance to the neighbourhood.

3908. You have mentioned the blood going to the sugar refiners; where do the sugar refiners generally live, as a rule?—The sugar refiners are mostly in Whitechapel.

3909. There is a large blood manure manufactory on the banks of the Thames, is there not?—There are several on the banks of the Thames, and several at Bow Common.

3910. Where do the hides generally go to?—To Leadenhall market or to Bermondsey, and they are there bought by the tanners.

3911. If it is possible to have a foreign meat market on the banks of the Thames, would not that be better, for all these purposes, than Islington?—For foreign cattle it would be advantageous to have them slaughtered at the port of importation.

3912. That is, to have the foreign slaughter-house and the foreign cattle market separate from the others?—Yes.

3913. You think that would be an advantage to the health of the metropolis?—When I say a foreign market, I do not think it would be desirable to have another market; I think it would be advisable to have all the meat brought together, as far as possible, for the accommodation of the butchers; because the higher class of butchers have to make a choice of a large assortment of meat, and it would be well to give them an opportunity of taking their choice of the whole meat of the Metropolitan Market; it would be very advantageous to have the slaughter-houses at the place where the animals are imported, and the carcasses might be then sent to the dead meat market.

3914. I meant to say, animals could be landed there and slaughtered there, and the carcasses conveyed by rail to the central markets?—Yes, I think it would be an advantage to the metropolis in many ways; it would certainly, with regard to the prevention of the importation of disease, be of great advantage.

3915. Will you mention again the different trades that come to the public slaughter-houses?—In the first place, there is the tallow melting trade, that is, generally speaking, close to the slaughter-houses. Then we have what are called gut spinners and sausage-skin makers; they are very offensive trades, both of them. Then there are the bone boilers, although in consequence of the sanitary regulations they are driven to Whitechapel and Bow Common, and elsewhere; and there are also the collectors of the blood. All the blood is collected at once, and taken to some neighbouring place, where it is converted into a material as the first step, so to speak, of its manufacture into something else.

3916. Mr. *Hunt.*] There is another trade, the boiling down of the hoofs?—Yes, and the tripe-dressing. I forgot that.

3917. And there is the making the glue?—That takes place near the outskirts, but there is tripe-dressing and boiling of tripe in many localities.

3918. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Am I right in supposing that on the banks of the Thames you might find ample accommodation for all the trades which are at present in these crowded localities?—Yes, I think so.

3919. You were talking about having seized a quantity of putrid meat in summer in the dead meat market?—Yes.

3920. Has there not been for some years in the country a system of killing animals to prevent their dying?—Yes, a great number of animals in the last stage of disease are slaughtered to save their lives, as it is called. There is no doubt of that, and it comes, moreover, into markets where there is no supervision, and is sold for human food.

3921. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there any penalty on the man who sells such things?—Yes, the amended Nuisances Removal Act gives power to the Sanitary Inspector to seize such meat and take it before a magistrate.

3922. What is the fine?—The fine is now 20*l.*

3923. That is the maximum?—That is the maximum, but there are difficulties about it, especially in proving that the meat was exposed for sale.

3924. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Might not a good deal of the putrid meat you seize in summer belong to animals that have not been healthy when killed?—Oh yes, it might be so.

3925. Is it not the fact that a great quantity of meat of animals killed in that way comes up to London?—Yes, a great quantity.

3926. That is never detected?—No doubt, it is never detected; because, as I say, there is no proper supervision of the butchers' shops and slaughter-houses on the outside of the city.

3927. You stated that another reason for the meat being seized in the summer was, that the butchers in the country have not generally killed the animals in a proper state to keep after being killed?—Not only as to killing them, but as to packing them, letting them cool, and dealing with them properly after they are slaughtered. A great many pack them before they are cooled, and such meat quickly putrifies.

3928. If a dead meat market becomes more general, would there be any difficulty in the country trade learning how to do it properly?—No; they would soon get to know. At the present time they have learnt a great deal upon that point. We do not see so much putrid meat as we used to see formerly, in proportion to the whole quantity seized.

3929. Have you ever turned your attention to the supply of meat to the dead meat market in London?—Yes, it is a matter that has occupied my attention for some time.

3930. Is it your opinion, from what you have seen, that it would be possible, as a rule, to supply London with dead meat?—Not altogether. I think you must have public slaughter-houses to provide for any uncertainties, so to speak, of the supply in the dead meat markets.

3931. That is to say, having no live meat market but all foreign cattle coming alive being sold dead?—Yes.

3932. And the same with live animals that come up from different parts of Great Britain; they would not be allowed to go alive out of the metropolitan market?—I do not say that. I do not think you can make any regulation, except under particular circumstances, by an Order in Council; you cannot interfere with the disposal of an animal after it is sold; but you can interfere with private slaughter-houses.

3933. A fat animal could not be killed in London, except at the public slaughter-houses?—No. You could make such a regulation as that, but there could be no regulation to prohibit animals leaving the market except under such circumstances as its having disease, and being likely to propagate it.

3934. Would you have no provision of that sort for foreign fat cattle?—No; I do not think you could make a regulation of that sort. You might make regulations with regard to the inspection of animals when they are landed, but as a large number of foreign animals are bought for stock, I do not see how such a provision could be enforced.

3935. I mean a fat animal?—Yes; but who is to define exactly when the animal is a fat one, and when it is not.

3936. Could you not define it as being fit for the butcher?—I think not.

3937. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Will you tell me the cause of the great delay that has taken place in the erection of the market of Smithfield, since the Committee sat with regard to it; why has the City of London slumbered for these seven years?—I cannot answer that, although, I believe the delay rested entirely with the railways. I have been told, indeed, that the City could not commence the market before the railway had done their part of the work.

3938. Is there anything now doing to carry out the arrangements?—Oh, yes; I cannot speak with any authority on the subject, but I believe so.

3939. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you ever had occasion in any of your reports, to report fever in particular localities which you could have ascribed to the existence of these private slaughter-houses in out-of-the-way places?—I cannot say that I can speak positively to the existence of any form of fever, but I can speak to the fact of one of the slaughter-houses in London, having over it a number of poor lodging places, and that the medical officer of the union who attended the poor people of the place, again and again complained to me of the disease creating atmosphere of that slaughter-house.

3940. Some mention was made about the hides of the animals being removed to the immediate neighbourhood of Leadenhall Market. I dare say you have frequently been to that hide market, where the hides are laid out during the process of cutting off the horns, and so forth?—Yes, very often.

3941. Has it not appeared to you that that is an extremely improper place to expose those hides; and have you not frequently observed that the effluvium was extremely objectionable, and very prejudicial to health?—I have reported again and again on the improper practice that is followed in Leadenhall Market, namely, the salting of the hides. The hides are sold by weight; they are therefore anxious, before they are sold, to have them as heavy as possible. After they are sold, they have to be conveyed to the tanner in the country, and to prevent their becoming putrid, they are salted on the public way. Every hide loses on an average a quart of serocity, of the nature of decomposing blood. I have known a thousand hides so salted on the ground of Leadenhall Market, and the whole ground of Leadenhall Market is so saturated with decomposing matter, that the very wells of the neighbourhood are actually impregnated with it. It is so bad a practice, that I have again and again remonstrated, and suggested to the authorities the necessity for altering it; but I do not go so far as to say that it is an improper thing to sell hides in Leadenhall Market. I think, with proper regulations, it is a very good situation for a hide market; and, with proper regulations, it need not be an annoyance or offence to the neighbourhood; but, under existing circumstances, it is a monstrous nuisance.

3942. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Surely the Nuisances Removal Act applies to a case like that?—It does not. I have no real power to deal with it. The City Lands have control over the market, and they make regulations, but the dealers in hides break them.

3943. Would not an indictment lie for a public nuisance?—I think not.

3944. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You are aware that there are no less than five of these abattoirs at Paris?—I think there are five.

3945. I suppose your view would be this, that there should be abattoirs at certain different parts of London, taking a radius from a certain centre. You would have so many of them established, but you would not have one general public abattoir?—I would. I think I would have the abattoirs at the Cattle Market, excepting those where the cattle are imported. I do not think there

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

31 May 1866.

there are so many cattle killed in London, because the trade is mostly for dead meat, as to call for the existence of more than two or three abattoirs.

3946. You would hardly consider it possible that certain trades which have been alluded to, connected with the slaughter-houses, such as the fat-boiling and that sort of thing, could be carried on at those places; the blood, and so forth, would have to be removed, if there were more than one public abattoir, and that established on the banks of the Thames; you could not carry on these fat-boiling and other processes immediately close to and in connection with the slaughter-houses, because you would then be creating what I take it would be an offensive and dangerous nuisance to the particular locality of which that slaughter-house would be the centre?—Yes; but it would be more easy for the removal of the fat from the one central slaughter-house than it would be to gather it up from a great number; and then it would be taken to this locality, where the operation might be carried on without its being a nuisance.

3947. Have you had opportunities of seeing the condition of many of these private slaughter-houses?—Oh yes, I have had very frequent opportunities.

3948. You consider their condition bad in general?—Yes; in my opinion many of them are unfit for the work done in them.

3949. Have they been more scrupulous in cleaning them within the last six or seven months?—I do not think more so than usual; they keep them as clean as they possibly can; they carry out all our regulations in regard to the slaughter-houses as far as possible; but the situation of the places, the confined character of them, and so on, prevent the thing from being done effectively.

3950. Have you ever known a butcher kill a sheep actually within the premises or the house in which he himself was living?— They live sometimes over their slaughter-houses; in the Newgate Market slaughter-houses, for instance, cattle and sheep are killed on the ground-floor below, and it may be looked upon as the dining-room of the place as far as the situation is concerned.

3951. The man and his family inhabiting the apartment above it?—Yes.

3952. I ask the question, because I myself have seen such a thing?—Oh yes, it is so.

3953. Viscount *Cranborne.*] With reference to the processes you mention, that were carried on in the neighbourhood of the slaughter-houses, is it absolutely necessary that they should be offensive?—No; I think with proper regulation they need not be offensive. I think if the fat is melted directly it is taken from the animal, it need not be a source of annoyance; but if it is allowed to remain until it is putrid, it may be; and that is the case now, because the butchers do no not send their fat away immediately. It is gathered up, and they keep it until they have a sufficient quantity of it for the people to take away. In that way it becomes putrid, and is often a source of annoyance. Of course, it is their interest to manipulate these things while they are as fresh as possible; but still from the difficulties attendant on the management of private slaughter-houses, these things are frequently putrid before they are removed.

3954. It would be possible, I suppose, by Parliamentary provisions, to enforce the observation of such precautions as should prevent it?—I do not think Parliament could deal with the details at all. I think if public abattoirs are made, the regulations of the abattoirs must rest entirely with those having the control of them. I do not think Parliament could deal with the details connected with the treatment of these matters in the slaughter-houses.

3955. It would be necessary that that authority should in part consist of persons who had some direct charge or interest to be careful for the public health?—Yes; the municipal authorities, or the Local Board of Health, or whoever it may be.

3956. I was not here at the commencement of your evidence. Have you given any opinion as to the extent to which diseased meat is unwholesome to the human system?—I have devoted a great deal of attention to that subject.

3957. Are you of opinion that it is unhealthy?—There are certain kinds of diseases in animals which are unquestionably dangerous to the public health; parasitic diseases of animals, diseases in pork, and so on. Parasites produce disease undoubtedly in the human subject. It is a matter of doubt whether animals afflicted with febrile disease or with pleuro-pneumonia, produce any injury to the public health; it is my opinion that they do; but there are others who think that in the early stages of the disease the meat is not unwholesome, although it may be unwholesome in later stages of disease.

3958. And the same with the rinderpest?—The rinderpest, for example, and common fever, and pleuro-pneumonia.

3959. Is it your opinion that putrid meat in itself is injurious to human health?—When it is used entirely as an article of diet, I think it is. A little venison, as we know, is not unwholesome; a small quantity of putrid meat is not injurious, but if you were to make a meal altogether off putrid meat, it would be so.

3960. That is a matter of controversy in the profession?—Yes; some believe that the human stomach has great power of destroying what may be termed diseased material of meat; but there are others, who, from great observation, have come to the conclusion that diseased meat of any description, if the animal is killed in an active or acute stage of disease, is unwholesome.

3961. And the same with regard to healthy meat which has become putrid by over keeping?—Yes; it unquestionably acts injuriously on some people, although it may not on others.

3962. Mr. *Dent.*] I understood you to say that outside the boundaries of the City there was no systematic inspection of meat; is that correct?—That is so.

3963. The diseased animal might be killed by private butchers outside the City, and there would be no inspection of the meat?—It would be an accident if it were inspected.

3964. Is it not the duty of any public officer outside the City to inspect it?—Yes; it is the duty of the inspector of nuisances to make inspection of the meat; but these officers are in the first place very rarely qualified for such work, and in the next place they have a great deal to do in the inspection of pavements, houses, &c., and in looking after common nuisances, and they have no time for the inspection of slaughter-houses; therefore, practically, there is no inspection.

3965. The inspection which takes place in the City

City is at Newgate and Leadenhall Markets?—Yes, exactly; but we have inspectors to do nothing else than examine into the condition of meat in the markets and butcher's shops in the City; there are not many butchers' shops in the City.

3966. A great portion of the animals which are killed to save their lives go to the dead-meat market?—I believe so.

3967. There the meat is exhibited?—Yes.

3968. You do not find any difficulty in getting convictions; you get a good many convictions, do you not?—We do; I forget how many we have had. The salesmen give us a good deal of assistance; the salesmen inform the inspectors, now, when they open a basket of meat and find it diseased; we are much indebted to the salesmen for the way the work is performed.

3969. You think, on the whole, in the City of London there is a satisfactory inspection of meat which is sent in?—I do.

3970. But outside the boundaries of the City of London there may be a great deal of unfit and diseased meat exhibited for sale?—It not only may be, but it is so.

3971. Mr. *Hunt.*] You think that, for London, slaughter-houses at the Islington Market, and at the waterside down the river, would be sufficient?—I think so.

3972. For what radius?—I think for the whole of London: I do not know that there would be any necessity on the western side; the Metropolitan Market and Copenhagen Fields are accessible for all parts of London; possibly on the Southwark side of London it would be advantageous to have another slaughter-house.

3973. Do you think they would want another in the Borough?—That is the only place; one looks upon it in this way—there is a little difficulty in crossing the bridge.

3974. You think one would be required in the Borough?—Yes.

3975. Further out, in Kensington, do you think you would want one?—No; because the butchers at Kensington and the West-end, come to Newgate Market.

3976. We were told by a practical butcher just now, he thought there would be a difficulty if people had to go more than three miles to the dead-meat market; do you agree with that?—I do not agree with it; because it is a matter of fact that the meat in Newgate Market is fetched by butchers from all parts of London.

3977. From how far?—From the very extreme parts of London; you find butchers' carts from every part of London, standing in the neighbourhood of Newgate Market every morning.

3978. Still, some animals are slaughtered in the suburbs?—Yes; no doubt that is so.

3979. Independently of the question of London, do you think it advisable that all slaughter-houses, in all places, should be licensed and subject to regulation?—I will hardly go so far as to say that that would be necessary throughout the country; but I think it necessary in all large towns.

3980. What sized towns would you say?—We might say a town of some 2,000 inhabitants.

3981. There are villages of 2,000 inhabitants?—I admit that is a subject that requires consideration.

3982. I suppose you would put it in this way; that wherever the population is crowded together to any great extent, there you would require the slaughter-houses to be licensed?—Yes.

3983. Do you think in the large towns, such as Birmingham, Manchester, and Leeds, it would be desirable to have public slaughter-houses?—Yes, I do; I think in all the large towns of England it would be desirable.

3984. Lord *Naas.*] Do you think the establishment of public slaughter-houses in those towns, would affect the price of meat much?—Not at all.

3985. Have you examined the question closely?—Oh yes. One must look upon it by the light of the practice on the Continent and the practice in Scotland. It does not seem to affect the price of meat at all, where there is a public slaughter-house. I should be disposed to think, if it had any influence at all, it would have a tendency to diminish the price of meat.

3986. If a proper arrangement were made, the work of slaughtering being carried on on a large scale in inconvenient places might possibly put it in that position; but it might be more economically performed than in the way it is now spread over a number of places?—Quite so; and it would tend to a diminution in the price of meat.

3987. It is possible that the consumer might be benefited by it?—Certainly. He could not be worse off, and it might be he would be very largely benefited.

3988. Have you given your attention as to which is the best locality where a dead-meat market for foreign stock could be established in the neighbourhood of the Borough?—No; I did some time ago look into it, but I really forget the particulars of the inquiry, the locality should be some little distance down the river. Blackwall would be a very good situation.

3989. You do not think there would be any difficulty in finding a locality where railway and other accommodation would be available?—I do not think there would be the least difficulty.

3990. With your knowledge of the trade, do you think the butchers would, after a short time, find it as convenient to go there as to go to Islington Market?—Yes; I think, when the present routine system, as it were, is broken down, and the prejudices about it are overcome, the butchers would find it to their advantage, and would have no objection to it at all.

3991. Mr. *Hunt.*] In the event of a foreign cattle market and slaughter-house being established down in the port of London, do you think that ought to be under the control of the municipal authorities of London?—I hardly know; but I should think that might be done under the authority of Government or under the authority of the Customs.

3992. Would not the City of London lose a certain amount of the market dues which they now get?—I do not think they would. I think if the abattoirs were at the market, they might make the same arrangement with regard to the live market, as at present; and the dead meat would be sent to the City market.

3993. At present there is a certain sum paid per head with regard to every animal that enters the market?—Yes.

3994. Supposing the foreign cattle were no longer allowed to come to the Islington Market, that payment would cease?—Certainly, as far as the live animals are concerned.

3995. Would not the City of London regard with some jealousy a legislation which would deprive them of that part of the market dues?—They ought to be heard upon that point, for I should hardly like to express an opinion upon it.

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

31 May 1866.

3996. Supposing there was any difficulty on that score, that would be got over by allowing them the control of the foreign cattle market and the slaughter-houses by the river side?—Yes, no doubt of it. If the management of the slaughter-houses at the river side was put into the hands of the Corporation, it would meet the difficulty at once.

3997. Viscount *Cranborne.*] May I ask you whether you have ever instituted any experiments with respect to the numerical relations between the putrefaction of meat and the conditions under which it takes place; I mean to say, the extent to which heat or other circumstances shorten the time during which meat can be kept?—No, I have never made absolute experiments, but so far as I have had experience, I can speak rather from practical than special experimental knowledge. When the temperature of the atmosphere rises to between 62° and 70°, meat is very prone to decomposition, and very rapidly decays, and the conditions which expedite the decay are these, that the meat is packed before it is set, and the warmth of the animal starts the decomposition; another condition that affects it is, the killing of the animal while it is in an excited febrile state, or killing it when it has food in the stomach that is in the process of digestion.

3998. Are there any other conditions that accelerate it?—Not that occur to me at the present moment.

3999. Are there any atmospheric conditions?—Yes, we know the meat is disposed to putrify in electrical conditions of the atmosphere. In such cases meat putrifies; as beer sets up its fermentation, meat sets up its putrefaction under what we may call electrical conditions of the atmosphere.

4000. You have never reduced those general notions to anything like arithmetical definition?—No, and I do not know that anybody has ever done so.

4001. Mr. *Hunt.*] With regard to carcasses sent up from the country, a great deal depends on the way the inside of the animal is treated?—Yes.

4002. If the internal fat is cut out and cleaned, and the inside well wiped out, is it not less likely to turn putrid?—It is not so likely to turn putrid, but if the intestines are allowed to remain in the animal for a few hours after it is slaughtered it becomes green in the inside, and decays.

4003. Then a great deal might be done with antiseptics?—One does not like to encourage the practice of putting anything on the meat.

4004. But there are certain antiseptics which we are in the habit of putting on meat for the purpose of giving it a relish?—Yes, salt.

4005. And pepper?—Pepper and flour.

4006. And ginger?—Yes.

4007. Those things I have mentioned could not possibly be deleterious, could they?—No.

4008. Have you had any experience of the effect of charcoal on the meat?—Yes; we have made a great number of experiments with charcoal on meat. Charcoal has a tendency, when put on meat, to absorb the vapours given off, and to oxidise them. Little by little it will eat up the meat as it were.

4009. Viscount *Cranborne.*] Does it not consume the meat itself?—It may be said that it does. There is the sulphite of potash or hyposulphite of soda which might be put upon the meat, and which has a tendency to check decay.

4010. Have you known the outside limits on each side, the *maximum* or *minimum* of keeping the meat. Assuming the extreme conditions in each case, what is the *maximum* and *minimum* time of keeping the meat?—I do not think, even in very warm weather, that good meat will show any unpleasant effects of decay in less than a couple of days.

4011. How long will it keep the other way?—In cold weather it will keep three weeks or a month.

4012. Mr. *Hunt.*] In fact, there is hardly any time it will not keep in cold weather?—No.

4013. You said you thought a live cattle market was necessary for London, in order to meet any deficiency in the supply of dead meat?—Yes.

4014. Do you suppose the demand for meat in London varies much from week to week?—I cannot say the demand varies so much as the supply.

4015. But at present the trade is in rather a disturbed state in consequence of these cattle plague regulations?—No doubt.

4016. Supposing a new system was introduced, and London more extensively supplied with dead meat than it is, do you not think the supply might become regular and uniform?—It might become very regular.

4017. Supposing the London butchers were dependent on the country for their supply, in these days of quick trains and telegraphs, I suppose an order might be conveyed down to a country butcher to send up a quantity of carcasses just as quickly as it could be conveyed to a London slaughter-house?—No doubt by a proper system of that sort. There is no reason why the supply of London should not be very steady, perfect, and complete.

4018. In all large towns the demand is pretty regular, is it not?—I cannot say the demand is so very irregular as that the supply is rather uncertain. It is rather an uncertain supply than an uncertain demand.

4019. I suppose you could ascertain within a few tons, if you had the means at your disposal, what the daily demand of the Metropolis is?—Yes, I think the daily proportion of meat used in the Metropolis, is somewhere about four ounces per head per day; hardly so much perhaps, about 25 ounces in a week.

4020. I suppose in the case of a great strike, that would affect the consumption?—It must be a very large and extensive strike all over England.

4021. In the case of London, supposing there was a strike in any trade?—Yes, if there was a strike among the butchers.

4022. I am speaking of a strike among the masons and the carpenters of the metropolis; would that affect the demand at all?—I do not think that it would be observed much.

4023. Is there much variation in the consumption between the summer and the winter?—No, I think not. I think it is pretty steady.

4024. Supposing the demand is regular and the system in time settles down and becomes perfect, I suppose we might then expect the supply to be as regular as under the old system?—Yes, one may conclude so. I see no difficulty in the way of it at all. The difficulty is to start it.

4025. Lord *Naas.*] With regard to the question of killing cattle in the country, do you think that the offal that it was found impossible to dispose of in the country towns, could be brought to the large

large towns and disposed of to advantage?—It is not a common practice to send the offal to the markets of London or the country.

4026. Then if the offal could not be disposed of in that way there would be a certain loss occasioned by killing the beasts in very large numbers in districts where the non-existence of those particular trades prevented a good market being found for them?—They must be killed in large numbers not to find it possible to dispose of the offal, because it is found more advantageous to dispose of the offal in the neighbourhoods where the animals are slaughtered than in London and in large towns; and I can only imagine a case where large numbers of animals are being slaughtered and there is no use for the offal in the immediate neighbourhood.

4027. Take one description of offal. I suppose the offal could hardly be disposed of unless there was a large population of poor?— The greater part of the tripe of London is not sold immediately to the population, but is sent abroad.

4028. Where is it sent to?—It is sent to Holland and to Switzerland. A great deal of it is cured and boiled in the usual way. At least two-thirds of the tripe of the metropolis is sent abroad, therefore there would be no difficulty in disposing of the tripe wherever the animals are killed.

4029. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there a duty put upon it?—I do not know the particulars of it.

4030. Lord *Naas.*] Do you know what the value of the tripe is in comparison to the animals?—No, I do not.

4031. With regard to the other portions of the offal, the blood and so on, there would be no difficulty in disposing of that?—No difficulty; in agricultural districts the blood is always available for manure; manure works would be formed to dispose of the blood; the tongues would be salted, and they would be sent away; as to the hearts and livers, and so on, I do not know what part of the animal in fact could not be immediately disposed of in the locality.

4032. You think that if large establishments were formed, even in small towns in the country for slaughtering, these trades would immediately rise up in the neighbourhood, and persons would be found to enter into arrangements to buy the offal for the purpose of sending it away?—I think so.

4033. Mr. *Dent.*] Would it not occasion distress to the poor of London, if they were in want of the offal?—I think things would soon balance themselves. At the present time it does not pay to send the offal to London, because of the small sum realised by it; but if there is a demand created on account of the wants of the poor, it might be met at once by the offal being sent here.

4034. At the present moment it is the chief article of food among the poor, and on account of the meat being slaughtered in London they get it directly, but if the animals are all slaughtered in the country it would not be worth while to send it, to sell it at the same price as it is now sold?—The only offal the poor are likely to make use of is such offal as the lung, liver, kidneys, and head.

4035. And certain inferior portions of the meat?—The heads of bullocks, or rather the flesh taken from them, can be sold anywhere, and sheeps' heads.

4036. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Would not the foreign market, according to your plan, give sufficient offal to supply the lower class in London?—I should think so.

Dr. *H. Letheby.*

31 May 1866.

4037. Taking the foreign animals slaughtered here, they would be enough?—I think so.

4038. Are any of these diseases evident in the dead animals?—Yes, in the measles in pork it is very evident.

4039. In beasts can you detect any of these diseases in the dead animals?—We can detect diseases in the fat of meat, but we cannot always detect the particular kind of disease.

4040. You can tell that the disease has been there?—Yes.

4041. Are you aware whether the rinderpest can be detected at all?—Oh yes.

4042. If it was inevitable that all cattle should be inspected by a public officer, when dead, would not that be a check upon the inspection of them when alive?—No doubt it would.

4043. Would not that inspection be a certain amount of safeguard against infected animals being imported from anywhere?—Quite so; if they found the animals would not only be inspected alive, but again after death, and that carcasses would be condemned and confiscated if found diseased, it would be a check.

4044. If there were any danger of rinderpest or other diseases coming in from any part, would you recommend a public inspection of all dead animals as a certain amount of preventative?—Yes; under all circumstances, the dead animals should be inspected when a disease is existing in an epidemic form in the country, it should be a rule that the cascasses of all dead animals should be inspected.

4045. Would you have any rule that all animals which are sent up dead from the country should pass through a public inspection before they went into private hands?—Yes, that would be in the public dead meat markets.

4046. Would you have the rule that no animal should be sent from the country direct into a private hand?—Not for sale; that no animal should be sent into private hands for sale.

4047. That no animal should be allowed to be sent from the country to a butcher or any person having to sell it without being examined?—Yes; there would be no difficulty in that; on the continent it is done.

4048. At what other places on the continent besides Paris have you known such regulations?—I have seen the regulations in Switzerland, and some in Prussia, and I have seen the regulations from the Government of Austria, and elsewhere; they are all on the same basis; animals are inspected when they are alive and after they are dead.

4049. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are the carcasses stamped as passed?—No; a certificate is given.

4050. In Paris they are stamped?—Yes.

4051. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the relative price of meat in Paris as compared with London?—I do not know.

4052. Generally?—Generally meat is a little cheaper in Paris than in London, I believe.

4053. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Am I to understand that practically those towns are supplied very much by the dead meat market?—Yes, or if not supplied by the dead meat market, they are supplied by the butchers, who have their animals slaughtered at the public slaughter-houses.

Mr. CHARLES HICKS, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *C. Hicks.*

31 May 1866.

4054. Mr. *Hunt.*] YOU are concerned in the Foreign Cattle Trade?—Yes.

4055. Are you chairman of the Foreign Cattle Trade Association?—I am.

4056. You come to represent their interest before this Commitee?—Yes, to a certain extent.

4057. You heard Mr. Hönck's evidence, did you not?—Yes.

4058. Do you wish to add anything to that with reference to the interest of the foreign cattle trade?—I do not think he expressed his views so fully as I should have wished to have them expressed.

4059. On what points do you wish to give evidence?—Partially upon the trade of the market, and how it is carried on; and I should wish it to be shown that the trade in foreign cattle is dependent upon the whole of the custom that attends the metropolitan market, and that any system that would divide the two markets, and put us on one side, at a distance from the trade, or throw the trade in foreign cattle into the hands of a few buyers, which instead of being as we are now, with the choice of 3,000 or 4,000 people, would put us into the hands of about four score.

4060. Why do you think that you would be in the hands of a few buyers?—Because, if the principle was to be adopted that all foreign cattle should be sold two or three miles down the river and be there slaughtered in abattoirs, the whole trade of the retail butchers would no longer attend the market.

4061. We have heard to-day that it is a different class of butchers who buy foreign cattle to those who buy English cattle?—That is quite a mistake. With regard to my own trade, in three months, at the end of last year, I sold to the wholesale buyers 4-7ths of my supply; the retail butchers bought 1-5th, the contractors bought 1-7th, and the buyers from the country bought 1-11th; but it is not merely that I sell the largest quantity to the wholesale men, but they have to buy in competition with the retail men. They come and make their offers, and then it is for me to decide which customer I will accept, and these men know that if they will not give a certain price, I can dispose of them among the other buyers. Therefore, there is generally a spur behind them, and they must give a larger price than if they had the market in their own hands. If we had our foreign trade with some 3,000 head of cattle at the water side, there are only 70 or 80 buyers comprising the wholesale trade, and the thing would be entirely in their hands. They would then want to buy our best cattle at their price, and leave us with the inferior ones on our hands, but at present with the competition which exists we can sell our cattle fairly, and sell all; and any system that would send our trade away from the market would tend to depreciate the value of our customers' goods.

4062. Supposing there was a different market day for the foreign cattle market, that would give you a monopoly on that day, would it not?—Most undoubtedly; but could you suppose that a butcher wanting his one bullock or two, and living at the west end of the City, would come, we will say, 10 miles to buy his bullock, then he must come another day to see the bullock killed, and a third day to fetch the animal, and the expense and trouble would be so great that he would no longer attend our market, and by that means it would become a monopoly in the hands of the large buyers.

4063. You are supposing that under the new system the trade would go on as before; but do you not think it very possible that if animals were required to be slaughtered at the markets, the trade would be altered, and that one man would buy for slaughtering, that another man would buy the dead meat, and that the two would become wholly distinct?—Undoubtedly; that is the system in France at the present time, and the sellers of cattle find very great fault with it. They say the authorities of Paris do all they can to make the price less, and that the owners of animals receive a less price.

4064. Then do I understand you find fault with the authorities of Paris for endeavouring to keep down the price of meat?—Manifestly; it is the interest of my employer to get the highest price for his goods. They are bought at a certain price, not a cheap price; and if they did not receive a higher price here than they receive there, the trade in foreign cattle would fall away.

4065. You say the authorities in Paris do what they can to keep down the price of meat?—Decidedly.

4066. If you were not in the cattle trade, but were yourself one of the consumers of meat, you would think the authorities, on the contrary, were doing quite right in endeavouring to keep down the price of it?—I think it would be most fair for all parties that the buyer should buy as cheap as he can, and the seller should sell as dear as he can.

4067. There is another view to be taken as well as that with regard to the cattle plague?—No doubt both sides must be compared and weighed.

4068. Your opinion is, that if you were confined to the markets by the water side, the price of meat would be lowered?—It would to us, most undoubtedly. It would be an unfair advantage also to the owners of the English stock.

4069. I suppose you have given us rather a good reason for wishing to see it established?—I hardly follow you.

4070. You have given us rather a good reason for wishing to see the change take place, that it would lower the price of meat?—I think there should be no law by which a man's property should be sold for less than it is worth.

4071. Have you anything further to say to the Committee?—Yes. There was also the question of the complaint itself, and how it was brought into this country; and that has been the occasion for an onslaught upon the foreign cattle trade. I should wish to state that the attacks which were made upon the foreign cattle trade, and the statements that were made when the cattle plague first broke out, that it was brought from foreign countries here, is grounded upon entirely false premises; because if you take the present theory that the cattle complaint is such, that within two days from the time the animal is attacked or infected, the animal's blood is in a state of infection, that in two days more the complaint itself is manifest, that the animal weeps from the eyes, drops from the nose, and has the complaint, I should say this: it has always been understood and

and agreed that the cattle from such places as Sweden, Schleswig-Holstein, Denmark, Holland, France, Portugal, and Spain, were free from the complaint; that it did not exist there; and therefore, according to the theory that it could not arise of itself, it could not have come from these places, but it must have come from the distant parts of Hungary or Bohemia, where it has existed in former times. These cattle are upon the road about nine, 10, 11, or 12 days; therefore, if cattle had left those countries with the complaint, it must have been apparent before they arrived here, or they must have infected the districts upon the road as they came along. That has never taken place. Out of 100,000 cattle that have been sold here in the course of the year, there has never been found one at the place of debarcation affected with the complaint.

4072. Then you say it is a physical impossibility that we could have got the rinderpest from abroad?—According to the present theory, from the time the animal is affected with the complaint, or infected, it would be apparent in four days; whereas these animals are upon the road from nine days to 14.

4073. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Whose theory is it?—That is what I believe is the theory of Professor Gamgee and Professor Simonds.

4074. Mr. *Hunt.*] That it is only four days in a state of incubation?—Only two days, that is from the time the animal is first infected; in two days the blood is in a state of putrefaction, and that the animal shows an increase of temperature of from 2° to 3°, but in two days from that time the complaint is apparent.

4075. I was under the impression that the profession thought that 10 days was the ordinary period?—Of death.

4076. But is it the opinion of the veterinary profession that about 10 days is the ordinary period of incubation?—No; I think that would be about the time of infection and death; that after 10 days had passed an animal was supposed to be quite safe.

4077. Do you know that Professor Simonds says that the period may extend to a greater length than 10 days?—He says that, but I think the evidence he gives of it is very unsatisfactory.

4078. You do not agree with those who put it at more than four days?—No. I give no opinion myself. I merely state the opinion I have heard as being put forward by the Commissioners.

4079. Where do you find four days stated as the period?—I read it in "The Times" as an abstract from the Report of the Commissioners upon the Cattle Plague.

4080. Do you know which Report it was?—The third Report.

4081. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Did you happen to hear Mr. Simonds' evidence two days ago before the Committee?—No.

4082. Would you be surprised if he had said that he would not be satisfied with anything less than 21 days' quarantine?—I believe he did say so.

4083. Then if he said he required 21 days' quarantine, am I wrong in supposing that it shows after two days?—Upon that point there has been no opinion given which you can take with safety.

4084. Mr. *Hunt.*] Do you know of your own knowledge how long animals take coming from Hungary to the Dutch ports. The cattle that leave there come through Vienna, do they not?—Yes; and they cross the frontier at Bodenbach.

4085. That is upon the Saxon frontier. When they leave the estate of the owner there is a certificate given by a veterinary surgeon, saying that the cattle herewith are free from all complaint; there are so many black, so many red, so many dappled, and so on; that these are cattle from such an estate, or from such an owner; that they are sold to such a buyer; that they are free from all complaint, and that no complaint exists in the neighbourhood from which they come. They are then taken through the Austrian dominions, and examined after by the Saxon police at Bodenbach. Then there is a fresh certificate given at Bodenbach that they have been examined, and that they are sound. They are then allowed to continue their route, and that generally will take, from the time they leave the owner's estate in Bohemia to the time they arrive here, about 10 days. I suppose there have been sold, in the course of the year just passed, about 130,000 head of cattle and 500,000 sheep, and perhaps 30,000 calves; and there has never been found any infected with the complaint, except those few from Holland; and the complaint was taken from here to Holland in the month of July last.

4086. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I suppose you have had no practical experience in the cattle plague?—I have not.

4087. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you sell any foreign cattle to the first class London butchers?—Not to the first class butchers, but to all others.

4088. The objection would be, that if you are confined to a market by the river side, the better butchers would not think it worth while to come to buy your beasts in the foreign market?—The best buyers would be all shut out.

4089. And the wholesale buyers would get the same class of cattle?—At their own price. There would be a complete want of competition.

4090. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Have you ever heard that it was known that diseased cattle were imported in July, from Holland, very largely?—The case was this, that about the beginning or the middle of July, a salesman here received 23 head of cattle from Schiedam that cost about 19 *l.* a piece here, and after being exposed in our market for three days, he could only get 13 *l.* a piece for them. He received a telegram from the owner to send them back. They were then exceedingly ill. When they arrived in Holland, I believe they died of the complaint, and infected animals all round. After that time, a few cattle arrived from there; I believe they were all cows, but at that time all the cattle in Holland were placed under embargo, and cattle were not allowed to be sent away from any part in which disease existed. There is no doubt there were about five or six during the three months that arrived from Holland infected with the complaint, but there were exceedingly few.

4091–9. Have you ever heard that Dutch beasts are generally those that have the disease most in the month of July?—No; the fact is, that in the month of July the whole of our market was affected with this complaint, and the cattle that were exposed for sale took the complaint. Upon that there is no question. These foreign animals are very much bought by country buyers, and were taken from our market into other parts of the country. By that means they took the complaint along with them, but at the time they

Mr. C. *Hicks.*

31 May 1866.

arrived in the market for sale, they were perfectly free. I have had at my own house, where I live, some 2,000 or 3,000 cattle grazing on the land, taken from the ships to my land, and kept there till the time of their being sold.

4100-2. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where is your house?—At Tottenham. There I have my own two cows, but they have never taken the complaint; and I have never heard of any instance in which foreign cattle that have not been exposed in the Metropolitan Market have given the complaint to any others.

4103. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] May I ask this: If the cattle come cheaper on the banks of the Thames than those at Islington, would not that fact be soon found out by all butchers?—I believe that even if that were to be the case the trade would fall off.

4104. Would not the fact of cattle being cheaper in one place than the other at once attract a large number of buyers?—Most undoubtedly it would attract buyers; but there might be such difficulty in carrying on the trade that small men would not attend.

4105. But is it not the case that people always follow the cheapest market?—Not exactly so.

4106. Comparatively speaking?—Comparatively speaking. We have cattle quite as good as the English, but still buyers prefer buying the English at the higher price; they do not buy our cattle, though they are cheaper.

4107. If there were nothing but public slaughter-houses, would the same rule apply?—I think if you had any slaughter-houses of the kind, the trade would go out of the hands of the smaller men into the hands of the larger men.

4108. Does that apply to the public slaughter-houses?—If it were to be the rule; if you form only public slaughter-houses; that is the case in Paris. There are in Paris, now, 1,500 butchers; and, of them, under 500 attend those beast markets, and of those about 80 are wholesale.

4109. Are you speaking this of your own knowledge, or is it from what you have heard?—I know the custom in Paris, and I have my information from a Paris salesman. I was also about to say, that the Paris markets are attended by buyers from Rouen, Lille, Havre, and also all parts of Picardy; and that these men come to buy their cattle in Paris, and are allowed to take them away, and to slaughter them at their own homes; and the salesmen say that without they had that amount of trade they could not sell their cattle. The trade in Paris and Poissy is about 6,500 to 7,000 per week.

4110. These men come to Paris and buy the living animals, and take them to these towns for slaughter?—Yes; and it is the same here. For instance, we have the counties of Surrey and Sussex. In those counties there are no cattle bred; there are a few, of course; but Kent, in particular, is entirely supplied by the metropolitan market. I suppose we have attending our market in the autumn of the year some 200 or 300 buyers, and they very often buy and take away something like 400, 500, or 700 beasts per week.

4111. Do you mean to say that the buyers of Kent cattle at the foreign cattle market buy wholly foreign meat?—They buy mainly foreign cattle, but they buy all sorts. Kent is almost entirely supplied from our markets.

4112. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Am I to understand that public slaughter-houses in your opinion would throw the trade into very few hands?—Certainly.

4113. Am I right in supposing that if the trade is thrown into few hands, there would be more monopoly?—Undoubtedly.

4114. Am I to understand that if there is more monopoly it would raise prices?—I think not.

4115. Do you say the more monopoly the cheaper prices are generally?—If there was a monopoly of the kind you mention, it would depreciate the value of the grazing stock.

4116. If there were a monopoly, would it tend to make meat dearer or cheaper?—That is very difficult to say, but I should think cheaper.

4117. Why?—By reason of there being a monopoly. We have now 4,000 buyers.

4118. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you mean seriously to tell us that in your opinion a monopoly generally makes things cheaper?—A monopoly of buyers, not of sellers. We have now, for instance, 6,000 head of cattle on a Monday, and we have 4,000 buyers. If a man comes to buy in the market now, as soon as he begins to bid for his lot, there are two or three more immediately behind him, and he must give the price. If we had 3,000 or 4,000 head of cattle with only 60 or 70 buyers, there would be no competition.

4119. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Assuming that all the foreign cattle are bought by this small monopoly, where would the other butchers buy?—Of the wholesale men, and they would get their profit at the expense of the farmer.

4120. You suppose that a few butchers would buy their animals, slaughter them there, and send them to the dead-meat market?—Yes, no other buyers would do it; it is a very curious trade, but I believe it would be as you say; that the cattle, instead of being bought by 4,000 men, would be bought by 500 men, of which some would be retail men.

4121. What do you call a fair purchase for a retail man?—It varies; from 1 up to 15.

4122. Would it not be worth while for a man to buy 15 beasts, and kill them there?—It would all depend; but I can just give you my experience of a common slaughter-house.

4123. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You mean of a public slaughter-house?—A public slaughter-house, where the master cannot always attend. I received 19 oxen from a person in Hamburg about six weeks since. Of those, six were stopped at the wharves. I sold 13 in the market at 20 *l.* a piece, and they weighed about 100 stone each, to the best of my belief. The man I sold them to said, "You have got six down at the wharf, you may as well allow me to take charge of them as anybody else." I said, "Very well; do the best you can." He went down to get them slaughtered, and to see after the fat and offal; but when he arrived, one had been killed before. The five which he had, weighed about 98 stone a-piece, and came to 16 *l.* each. The one that nobody ever saw, that was killed for me by Heaven knows who, came to 11 *l.* 10 *s.*, and it weighed 74 or 75 stone. That was never my ox, although I could not find out who did it.

4124. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] What was the reason of the animal being killed by "Heaven knows whom," as you express it?—They were stopped at the wharf on account of their having the foot and mouth disease. I should like to make one further remark, and that is upon the cattle being killed at the wharves. My experience upon that point is very large. It is undoubtedly

doubtedly true, that the animals we have killed and sold for us, we invariably lose from 2 *l.* to 4 *l.* each upon.

4125. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The effect of your evidence comes to this, that you are very much against the public slaughter-houses?—Yes.

Mr. *C. Hicks.*

31 May 1866.

Mr. A. E. HIRSCHLER, called in, and Examined.

Mr. *A. E. Hirschler.*

4126. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] WILL you state to the Committee the nature of the evidence you propose to give?—I propose to give any evidence you ask me upon, as to how the trade is carried on in Austria, and how it is carried on in foreign cattle, so far as I am concerned in it.

4127. Are you an exporter of cattle from Austria?—Yes.

4128. Are you a buyer or breeder of cattle on your own account?—A buyer and a feeder; I am not a breeder of cattle.

4129. Where do you reside?—In Vienna.

4130. Whereabouts is your trade?—The places we feed our cattle most at are Bohemia and Moravia.

4131. We have heard from several of the witnesses that there is a very large trade in cattle coming from Hungary, exported out of Austria by the railway, and coming to England by way of Rotterdam?—They come now by way of Bremen, not by way of Rotterdam.

4132. You say you reside at Vienna, and that you are a large feeder of cattle; tell us where you feed those cattle?—There are many beet-root sugar manufactories in Bohemia and Moravia, and the environs of Vienna. We send the lean cattle to those manufactories to be fattened.

4133. They are fed up there?—Yes, always. We sell the lean cattle at a certain price, and buy at the same time the fat ones; it is generally done in one transaction.

4134. How long are they kept on the average?—We send them in the months of October, November, and December, and begin to take them away in February, March, April, May, and June.

4135. Upon an average, they are three or four months?—Something like that; it depends how they get fat.

4136. What is the age of these cattle?—It differs very much; the cattle are generally from five years to seven or eight years old; there may be some also that are older.

4137. They have been used for the purpose of draught, have they not?—Yes.

4138. What is the size of those animals, are they large bullocks?—We have many different breeds of animals. Generally speaking our animals are larger than those you find in this country. They are heavier animals generally speaking, and a different kind of breed. We have what is called the Tyrolese or Swiss breed, that is the short-horn; then there is the Styrian breed, which is considered a superior breed. The Hungarian breed is the long-horn breed.

4139. Are they as large as our English and Scotch beasts?—Decidedly they are.

4140. Do you reckon by the stone?—I can tell you by the English weight. We have animals imported which weigh, I should say, from 80 to 120 stone; because if they were smaller it would not pay to send them here.

4141. The Committee want to gather from you, not only what the course of trade is as regards these cattle, but what your sanitary regulations are; and how the regulations affecting the transit of these animals through the country are conducted. You have brought us to the place where they are fattened. They are fattened at these beet-root sugar manufactories?—Yes; out of the offal. First the sugar is made from the beet-root, and afterwards, with what remains, they are fattened.

4142. Who buys these cattle, are they the butchers from Vienna?—No; the export dealers mostly buy them, those who send cattle to foreign countries.

4143. After the animal is sold, describe to the Committe what is the course of dealing with the animal supposing it is bought for export?—After the animals are bought for export, they are put into the railway, and sent through Germany.

4144. Germany is rather a wide field?—They go by Passau.

4145. That is in Bohemia?—No, it is in Germany, in Bavaria. It is the frontiers of Austria and Bavaria.

4146. How long are the animals on the transit?—My cattle leave Vienna every Saturday and arrive on the next Saturday morning.

4147. That is seven days?—Yes.

4148. Lord *Naas.*] How do they come?—They go from Vienna without stopping to Eisenach; I am able to tell you the towns.

4149. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where are these animals fed and watered during the seven days?—At Eisenach; that is at a distance of 36 to 40 hours from Vienna railway travelling; they are taken out of the railway waggons there, and fed and allowed to remain there for about 12 hours.

4150. Whose duty is it to see to these animals?—It is my duty.

4151. You have nothing to do with the State regulations?—At Passau, the frontier of Austria, there is a State regulation.

4152. Is that a regulation of the Custom-house?—No, it is a sanitary regulation; as well we have to give a kind of passport for our cattle, to state where they come from, and that they are all sound, and so on.

4153. Would there be the means of stopping the animals if they were not sound?—Most decidedly.

4154. Are there officers employed by the State to stop those animals?—Yes, of course they would be stopped; the regulation is this: if there is the slightest danger or disease in the country, they would not be allowed even to travel through Austria; for instance, in these stable-fed animals, if they have the slightest suspicion of anything of the kind, that very district is not allowed to send any cattle away; a cordon is drawn round it. In Germany, where there were some places of suspicion, there was no cattle trade at all; one district was closed up from the other.

4155. At whose expense are those cattle fed during these 12 hours?—It is done at my expense.

4156. What is the charge for feeding each animal?—About 1 *s.* each a day.

4157. Are they put in lairs or turned into a field?—They are generally put in stables; I have not been to Eisenach myself, and I do not know

Mr. *A. E. Hirschler.*

31 May 1866.

know what the accommodation is there, but my men tell me it is first-rate.

4158. Are these trains made up entirely of cattle?—Entirely. We have a separate train for our transports; we have from 16 to 20 waggons of cattle. We have to mention it about 12 hours before, and a train is put at our disposal.

4159. Are the waggons your own, or are they furnished by the railway?—They are furnished by the railway.

4160. What becomes of the cattle after they get to this place where they are watered and fed?—They are put into waggons and we send them to Gestemunde, a port near Bremen. They generally arrive about Wednesday morning, early, and they are well fed and watered. As far as I am concerned, I have an extra regulation to give them some corn there, and then they are embarked on board ship.

4161. When are they embarked, on the following morning?—They generally leave there on Thursday according to the tide; sometimes at eight o'clock and sometimes at one. They arrive in London generally about eight or nine o'clock on Saturday, or on Friday night.

4162. Are these vessels at Bremen fitted up entirely for the carriage of cattle?—Yes, most of them.

4163. Fitted up with stalls?—Yes; most of them are made for the trade.

4164. What port do they come to?—They come to London; my cattle, for instance, come to St. Katherine's and Dublin Wharf, and to Blackwall generally.

4165. What is the expense of sending these cattle from the place where you say they are fed, to this port?—I can only tell you the expense from Vienna. The distances are so different from Vienna.

4166. Just take Vienna for the starting point?—From Vienna they come for 5*l.*; in fact I always put 5*l.* upon the original price.

4167. The 5*l.* from Vienna to London includes everything, the freight of the vessel, the expense of feeding them, and every single thing?—Yes. Then we must take the damage we have by some cattle breaking their legs, and accidents that will happen.

4168. As a general rule, have your cattle been subject to any accidents?—I can say, I generally lose one on an average in every transport, by the breaking of its legs.

4169. How many come at a time?—I send 140 or 150; you may say about one per cent.

4170. Is that generally from some accident on board the steamer, or by railway?—It is generally in embarking or disembarking at the railway; by putting them into the railway carriages, or letting them out.

4171. Have you heard whether there is great difficulty in unshipping them from the different trucks, and getting them in again?—No, there is no difficulty whatever.

4172. We have been told, that in England there is a great deal of difficulty in getting the cattle out of the trucks and putting them in again?—It is an expense and trouble; the cattle get knocked about; you cannot call it a difficulty, but the animals suffer very much by it.

4173. Have you any means of watering or feeding the animals in the trucks?—No.

4174. They are always taken out?—They are always taken out.

4175. In Germany have they adopted the means of watering and feeding them?—I have not heard.

4176. We need not follow the course when they come to London, we merely want to know the arrangements through your country; do you find any difficulty in taking these animals out for 12 hours and having them fed?—No, I do not.

4177. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you feed the animals in the boats during the passage, with hay and water?—Yes; of water they get very little.

4178. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you any inspector at Bremen, on your own account; you are the shipper of the cargo?—Yes, we have a doctor, who inspects all the animals before they are shipped.

4179. In the State of Bremen have they also an inspector?—They have not; it is for our security we have them, in order that no animal with mouth disease should enter the ship. They would be stopped in London, and therefore it is our interest to have them very carefully examined.

4180. You say, upon an average, one per cent. of your animals receive some injury: that loss always falls upon you?—Yes.

4181. What is the price that you generally receive for these animals upon their arrival in London?—In London, for bullocks, the price according how the market is, is from 18*l.* to 28*l.*; 28*l.* is the price I realised to day for some fine beasts. It depends entirely how the market is; but I believe I am very near the mark when I say from 18*l.* to 28*l.* is the price for the primest.

4182. Do they range generally from 85 stone up to 125 stone?—Yes.

4183. Mr. *Dent.*] Is that the stone imperial or the London stone?—The stone which the butchers use here; the 8lbs. That is the way they always sell in London.

4184. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you had much of this foot and mouth disease among your cattle?—In Austria, very little; scarcely any: in fact, I have only had it once with cattle coming here.

4185. How many years have you followed this trade?—This is the first year I have followed it in London, but I sold previously to dealers who went to London.

4186. Did you sell them to Germans or to Englishmen travelling about?—It was a very curious sort of trade. For instance, when it began that Holland and northern Germany supplied England with meat, they had to go further south to supply themselves with meat.

4187. You mean that the Dutch had to go further south?—Not the Dutch exactly, the northern Germans. The trade is now carried on directly from Vienna to England. I believe I was among the first who had a direct trade from there.

4188. You have some very fine pasture land down on the Hungarian side?—Yes.

4189. All about Buda and Pesth?—Our finest pasture land is in Styria, in the mountains.

4190. Can you fatten animals on the grass?—Yes, but we cannot send those animals here.

4191. Why not?—Because they cannot stand the journey; they lose too much in condition.

4192. You think the animals fattened on the beet-root stand the journey better?—Decidedly.

4193. Lord *Naas.*] They get some corn besides?—Yes 2 lbs. of corn a day, and sometimes we go as far as 20 lbs. a day.

4194. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Indian corn —maize?—

—maize?—Sometimes Indian corn, and sometimes something else.

4195. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are there large breeding establishments, or are they brought up generally by the small proprietors?—By the small proprietors.

4196. There are not three or four large landed proprietors?—Yes, in Hungary there are large landed proprietors, but in Austria proper our cattle are mostly bought at the large fairs, where there are 3,000 or 4,000 head of cattle.

4197. Lord *Naas.*] Do you send any cows?—No; all oxen. No milch cows can be sent; it is too long a distance.

4198. What is the furthest point of Hungary, or to the east of Vienna, that these cattle come from?—The furthest point would be Grosswardein, a railway station.

4199. But still the cattle that would be brought to Grösbaden would come some little distance on foot?—No; because further east they have not so good a place as further west. The finest breeding country lies exactly between Grosswardein, and Pesth. There we have it again, and also in Transylvania. But that is too far for cattle to travel, and there is no railway going there.

4200. Are they subject much to pleuro-pneumonia, the lung disease, in those districts?—No.

4201. Very little?—Very little.

4202. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you got the rinderpest in your country?—We had it in some parts about three or four years ago.

4203. Lord *Naas.*] Have you ever had rinderpest in these places where the cattle are fed upon the beet-root and the corn?—Not to my recollection; but I must say there was enormous care taken there. For instance, I know instances where those who attended to the cattle were not allowed to leave the stables, and they did not allow even their wives to visit them. They took the very greatest care.

4204. Where was that?—In those beet-root stables.

4205. What towns are they near?—They are near Brünn, in Moravia, and all over the country, in order to produce in the agricultual districts manure, and so on, for the soil; therefore they are scattered about.

4206. Are there any of these in Hungary?—Not further down in Hungary; on the frontiers there are some.

4207. It is not common at Hungary?—Not further down than that. On the frontiers of Austria there are some beet-root factories.

4208. There have been cases of the cattle plague having broken out in these beet-root manufacturing places?—I do not know of it. I do not like to say no, because there might have been, but I am not aware of it.

4209. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do I understand you to say, the first time you knew of the rinderpest was four years ago?—Yes, I think so. I think 1861 was the first time. There were all sorts of precautions taken.

4210. How was it considered to have had its origin there?—There are many reasons given, but I think one has been as wrong as the others, or perhaps as right.

4211. I should like to hear some of them?—Some said it was in the air; some said it was imported from a place in Turkey, or on the borders of Russia and Turkey; then it was proved that it could not be imported from there, because the districts bordering there were free from it, and in others far away they had it; it was very irregular in its course, and I dare say it was in the air.

4212. When you had the rinderpest there, was the export of cattle stopped throughout Austria?—It was stopped. When the rinderpest broke out there were such precautions taken that meat went up to enormous prices, and there were beasts to be had for almost nothing in those particular districts; one district in itself prohibited any importation from the neighbouring districts, and, therefore, cattle could not be removed for the time being. They put a sort of cordon round every district and at the farms where cattle were diseased, or at the stable where cattle were diseased. Nobody was allowed to enter; and they would not allow me, for instance, to take away a pelisse with which I was travelling; they would not allow the pelisse which I wore in cold weather to pass, and I had to leave it in the district, although it was not of sheepskin.

4213. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose your pelisse was a sheep skin?—No; it was a very fine pelisse, too. It was a sort of Russian sable.

4214. Lord *Naas.*] What district was this in?—In Croatia; and I was going from one district to another.

4215. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Can you give us any theory of your own about this rinderpest?—No, I cannot, indeed. I have seen people keeping their animals alive in small districts where there has been rinderpest, and other people, where there has been scarcely any rinderpest, have lost all their animals at once; I do not know the way it came; nobody else caught it, but perhaps the person who had the very best and most properly kept stables. I can say, as a matter of fact, they have got rid of it in about 18 months, and it was only in consequence of their severe measures.

4216. Do you know anything of the regulations of Vienna, as regards public slaughter-houses?—Yes.

4217. Tell us what they are?—In Vienna we have a market similar to the one you have in England.

4218. A live cattle market?—Yes; only a live cattle market.

4219. No dead meat market at all?—No dead meat market at all; beasts are brought to the cattle market, and there are public abattoirs close to it.

4220. Are there any private slaughter-houses allowed?—No; it is now about 15 or 20 years since they have been abolished.

4221. It is a penal thing to have any private slaughter-house?—It used to be the case that every butcher had his own slaughter-house, but since the new market was established, and the abattoirs, they are all killed there, and the meat brought into town in carts.

4222. The police would stop any private slaughter-house?—Of course they would not allow it. We have got strict police regulations.

4223. That has only been established 20 years?—Yes.

4224. Have you heard objections made on the part of the people of Vienna against it?—I am too young to remember it at the commencement. I dare say they did at first.

4225. Have you heard it said whether it has raised the price of meat, or had any effect on the supply of meat?—I have not.

Mr. *A. E. Hirschler.*

31 May 1866.

4226. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is there only one market at Vienna?—Only one market.

4227. Is that for cattle, sheep, and pigs?—Yes.

4228. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the population of Vienna?—650,000 inhabitants.

4229. Mr. *Dent.*] Is there any rinderpest in Austria proper?—No.

4230. Has there been this winter?—No; there has not been for three years, I should say. There are all the statistics about it.

4231. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Were there not some cattle lost in Vienna in the year 1864?—There might have been in some places.

4232. In a place called Kliesdorff?—That is near Vienna.

4233. Is the rinderpest there?—Not now. There might have been some cases of rinderpest there in 1864.

4234. Do you send any Hungarian cattle or German cattle to Holland?—No; we used to send them *viâ* Holland to England.

4235. Now you send them entirely by Bremen?—Entirely by Bremen, Gestemunde, and Hamburg; but individually we send them by Gestemunde.

4236. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there any prohibition in Holland against sending them?—This country prohibits it.

4237. It has been since the prohibition of this country?—Yes, since the prohibition of this country. We never send cattle to Holland. Holland does not want any cattle to be sent there.

4238. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Holland has a superabundance of cattle?—Yes, of course.

4239. Mr. *Dent.*] In coming from Vienna, what frontiers have they to pass?—In the way they travel now, they pass only the Zollverein. They go through the Zollverein.

4240. At the Zollverein frontier there is a stringent examination?—Yes. If there is the slightest suspicion of rinderpest being in Austria, they are not allowed to pass the Zollverein. In Austria the same thing is done.

4241. They would not stop them for foot and mouth disease, or for pleuro-pneumonia?—No, they would not, I think; but there would not be such cattle found with foot and mouth disease. The case has never occurred yet.

4242. Mr. *Carnegie.*] They have no food or water except at Eisenach and Bremen?—They have not.

4243. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are the form of your cattle trucks the same as ours. Have you observed whether the cattle trucks in England are identically the same kind of cattle truck as you have in Germany?—Yes.

4244. There is no improvement, they are much the same?—Yes, they are much the same. I should think, on the whole, the cattle trucks in England are better.

4245. You stated the markets in that part of the south of Germany; what are the markets in which live stock are gathered together from the principal farmers in Austria?—There are a great many fairs in Austria on certain days. The days are not fixed. For instance, the first Monday, or third Monday in certain months, there is a fair at such and such a place, and so on. It is regulated by the months. We resort to those fairs to buy, but mostly store cattle.

4246. Are they very large fairs?—Some of them are very large fairs indeed. There are as many as 4,000 or 5,000 head of cattle at some.

4247. That you call a large fair?—Yes.

4248. That is only like our weekly market?—Yes; but you must remember that we have every week three or four or five fairs like this in the different provinces.

4249. Is that every week, or twice a month?—You might say almost every day in the week there is some fair, and we are, of course, obliged to send different people to the different fairs. One takes one province, and the other the other, to buy store cattle at.

4250. But they get a quantity of cattle over and above the wants of the population?—Yes.

4251. Cattle for export?—Yes. We have not been tried yet. The trade is only beginning now; but up till now the influence was not so large, so that we could say we had got enough cattle. The draft upon Austria from England and Germany has not been felt yet.

4252. You say that you sold cattle in the market to-day at a price of from 18 *l.* to 28 *l.* Are those the cattle that come from those distant parts?—Some of the cattle I have to do with are Styrian cattle. They come from near Vienna. But when I say 28 *l.* that is an exception, even for such cattle.

4253. What is about the average price for lean cattle at the markets you speak of?—The prices vary so much that it is difficult to say.

4254. I wanted to ascertain whether they were large or small beasts?—They are very large beasts; you might say that the lean cattle are from 1,000 to 1,400 lbs. alive, or something like that.

Tuesday, 5th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Dent.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Graves.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.

MR. HUNT, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. BENJAMIN BLOOMFIELD BAKER, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *B. B. Baker.*

5 June 1866.

4255. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Meat Contractor, are you not?—Yes.

4256. You take Government contracts for the supply of meat?—Yes.

4257. What do you supply for Government?—Both beef and mutton.

4258. Do you supply the victualling yards?—I supply the victualling yards, and the army and navy.

4259. Will you tell us what you supply at present under your existing contracts?—My largest contract, at present, is for the troops at Aldershot; say four tons daily of meat; independently of that, I supply about 20,000 people and different institutions

4260. Do you supply any victualling yards down the river?—I supply 5,000 men at Dover.

4261. I thought you also supplied Deptford?—The Deptford victualling yard contract is finished; we used to supply them. We supply three months there for the whole 12 months supply, and they pickle it. We supply 5,000 beasts in three months.

4262. And you supply about 20,000 people besides?—Twenty thousand or 30,000 people and institutions, such as Colney Hatch Asylum and Middlesex Prison; large public institutions, asylums, and blue-coat schools.

4263. Do you supply the trade besides?—No.

4264. Do you purchase live animals, or do you purchase carcases?—Both.

4265. Where is your place of business?—In Newgate Market.

4266. Have you a slaughter-house?—Yes, I hire.

4267. How many beasts on an average do you kill a week yourself?—Perhaps 60.

4268. All at one slaughter-house?—Not always; chiefly; I cannot kill them always at one slaughter-house.

4269. With regard to the dead meat you buy, where do you purchase it?—Generally in Newgate Market.

4270. Where do you purchase your live animals?—At the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

4271. Do you purchase them there solely?—Nearly solely.

4272. Do you principally buy foreign animals or British animals?—Mostly foreign.

4273. Do you purchase of any of the gentlemen who have been examined here as witnesses, Mr. Hönch and Mr. Hicks?—Yes.

4274. Have you done so for many years?—Yes.

4275. When you purchase carcases, do you purchase foreign carcases?—Yes, chiefly; those that have been killed in London by other people.

4276. You do not buy the carcases of many English beasts?—No, not many.

4277. With regard to sheep, do you buy chiefly foreign or English sheep?—The English sheep I buy mostly dead; foreign sheep alive.

4278. Are the English sheep that you buy, sold in Islington market alive, or do you have them up from the country dead?—Partially; in hot weather there is very often mutton from the Metropolitan Market. In cold weather they come from the country to take advantage of the market.

4279. What is your opinion of the existing slaughter-houses in the metropolis; do you think that they are convenient?—Yes, I am sure they are very convenient.

4280. Should you object to slaughter-houses being attached to the Metropolitan Market?—Solely, do you mean?

4281. Yes?—I should.

4282. What would be your objection to it?—In the first place, I should be tenacious about killing there on account of getting my numbers; and I am bound under penalties to get a certain number killed for the morning supply, under contracts for differ institutions. I should never like to trust to it; in fact, I would not, unless I saw how things would work; but at present I could not depend upon them or trust the men.

4283. You think you could not trust to getting them slaughtered there?—No.

4284. Why not?—Because there would be many other people trying to do the same thing, and I think it would want all the exertions of master and men to crowd on and get the animals killed within proper time.

4285. Supposing there was great accommodation made for the slaughter-houses; supposing there was double the accommodation for slaughtering that now exists in the whole of the private slaughter-houses in London, would there be any difficulty then?—Yes, I think so.

4286. How so?—There would be the time of killing, and so many little things connected with it, that it would want the master's eye there continually, not only to order the thing to be done, but to see afterwards that it was done.

Mr. *B. B. Baker.* 5 June 1866.

4287. Do you personally superintend the killing at your own slaughter-house?—No, I place it under a certain man, who I know will do it, and then sometimes I have to go round once or twice to see if it is done.

4288. Your slaughtering takes place under the supervision of a man whom you can trust?—Yes, and I go myself two or three times a week.

4289. You yourself very properly take general superintendence?—Yes.

4290. What would prevent your doing that, supposing there were large slaughter-houses attached to the Islington market?—There would be the distance, for one thing.

4291. As regards supervision, I mean, you say you could not trust to things being done properly; why not?—It would entail the consequence that my confidential man would have to be there continually, to see that it was done, and it would be my business to go up there just to say, is so-and-so all right; because things are so risky with me, that I might lose a very large and very good contract if things were neglected.

4292. You would have to make, in fact, fresh arrangements?—Quite.

4293. They are making preparations for erecting a market at Smithfield, are they not?—Yes, a dead meat market.

4294. Do you propose to transfer your seat of business to that market when it is completed?—I think so.

4295. You think you shall?—I think so.

4296. Supposing that there was direct railway communication from the Islington market to this new dead meat market; I suppose that would do away with a good deal of the difficulty that you anticipate?—I do not think it would. Do you mean, in bringing the slaughtered cattle down to the dead meat market?

4297. Yes?—No. If I killed my own cattle up at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, I should certainly send vans for it, rather than put it in the railway truck.

4298. Supposing that the railway trucks could run right into the slaughter-houses, with sidings into the meat market, should you then still wish to use vans?—Unless I could command the railway truck to bring it into my place at a certain time, I should.

4299. Supposing you could have a meat truck to run into the slaughter-houses at Islington, and to run into your premises at the new market, I suppose then you would not use vans?—No, not unless it would be to expedite it; that would be the question.

4300. I mean, if you had the control?—Yes, if I had the control, and could say, do this, and do that, at the particular time I liked.

4301. Under present arrangements you have to cart the meat from your slaughter-house to your premises at Newgate Market?—Yes; in fact, I cart it to the Nine Elms station, which is its destination for Aldershot camp.

4302. You do not bring it into Newgate Market again?—Some, I do.

4303. There is great difficulty with the traffic, is there not, in the approaches to Newgate Market?—Yes, there is a little difficulty there.

4304. Is there not very great difficulty; a great block in the morning?—Yes; the approaches are narrow.

4305. So that now you carry on the trade under very great difficulties as regards traffic?—It is rather difficult; that will be obviated at the new market as to the approaches.

4306. You say you are in the habit of having sheep up from the country, ready killed; what parts of the country do they come from?—Generally, they are Northampton sheep; and in the winter, from Yorkshire. In summer time we are very tenacious about buying such sheep. This morning I tried all round the market a great many times, and found a great many tainted.

4307. In consequence of the weather?—Yes; I bought some and sent them back again; I could not see with the first cast of my eye that they were not quite sound.

4308. Where do those sheep come from that you found tainted this morning?—I think they mostly came from Devonshire. We can generally judge where they come from from the appearance of them.

4309. How long had they been killed, do you think?—About four days.

4310. How long had they been in the market?—They came in yesterday.

4311. Is not that an unusually long time to elapse?—No; they might have come into the market yesterday after the morning trade was over; probably they did.

4312. Yesterday was Monday; do you suppose they were killed on Friday?—No; I should think on Saturday.

4313. When would they be forwarded; on the Monday?—Yes, I should think so; they might have been killed late on Saturday night, or on Sunday morning.

4314. Do you think they were sent by rail?—I should think perhaps they got them on the line on Monday morning very early, or on Sunday late.

4315. When would they be in Newgate Market?—They might have been there at eight or nine in the morning; they could have been there at six in the morning, and they ought to have been there at six.

4316. This morning, you say, you found them tainted?—Yes.

4317. You would have had no opportunity, I suppose, of buying them yesterday, if you had wanted them?—Yes.

4318. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is not the great market on the Monday?—Not the dead meat market; that is the live market. It is not a very great market on the Monday morning. Butchers generally clear out, as well as they can, on the Saturday. In the market on Monday, in the summer time, there is generally a great drop, and they cannot keep the meat longer than Tuesday, because it is necessary it should be taken up and put on the gridiron directly, very often.

4319. *Chairman.*] Were these sheep far gone?—Yes; particularly the hind quarters.

4320. Had they been properly dressed?—Yes, I could see nothing wrong. In fact I did not detect myself they were gone, and I did not suspect it until I got them to my own place, and my man called my attention to one of the hind-quarters. I had to return them.

4321. Have you found that to be the case this year before to-day?—Yes.

4322. Frequently?—Not very frequently; now and then.

4323. Not often?—Not often.

4324. But, as a general rule, sheep come very well from the country if they are properly set before they are packed?—They could always send

send them. I have a right to suppose I could see for myself whether they are right or wrong before I buy them. That is the way, I say, I do not buy them often.

4325. Do you often reject those which you would otherwise buy?—Yes, frequently; in summer time we pass over a great deal.

4326. I suppose it is the case that the animals killed in London will not keep very long in hot weather?—Not so long, but better than country meat sometimes. If you kill in the country I should impress on everybody killing them to kill them in the cold weather, and let a draught of air go through the meat for 12 or 14 hours. Sometimes the meat will keep longer than meat killed in London.

4327. It is the case in the country that they send the meat off before it is set?—Sometimes the butchers have resorted to that practice.

4328. It depends very much upon that fact, does it not?—Yes; if they can get the meat once to set it is very beneficial.

4329. And then it will keep very well?—Much better. There are risks attached sometimes; sometimes the meat will not set, but if the meat can be set and kept for 12 hours, as I have said, it will keep considerably longer; on the other hand, you may kill a ripe bullock that will never set in the summer time.

4330. In consequence of the state of the atmosphere?—In consequence of the nature of the bullock. For instance, I killed 15 beasts to-day intending them to go to Aldershot camp to-morrow morning. I said to my man, if there is a hot-natured one do not send it; if there is a loose one do not send it, because if you do it will stink to-morrow.

4331. Is that in consequence of the state of the animal's blood, when it is killed?—No, I do not know that it is the blood; it is in the nature somewhere.

4332. The nature of the animal, or the treatment it has been subjected to?—The nature of the animal.

4333. And is that so with a perfectly healthy animal?—Yes; the most healthy animal, in fact.

4334. I suppose you are of opinion that animals that have been killed while cool will keep much longer than those that have been driven about before killing?—Yes, certainly; we always keep them, and never kill a bullock at once. If I buy any beast here in London, I never think of killing the beast to send away into the country on that day. I let it rest. I see that it is properly fed and watered, and I keep a man solely for that purpose. I let them lie comfortably and not be fatigued, so that they cannot be overheated.

4335. You remember the time when the Act of Parliament came into force prohibiting the movement of cattle by railway?—Yes.

4336. That was the 20th of February?—Yes.

4337. I suppose when the prohibition was in force the foreign cattle had almost a monopoly of the London market, had they not?—Yes, pretty nearly.

4338. Very few British beasts came in?—No.

4339. What was the effect of that upon the price of the foreign animals?—Well, they were higher certainly.

4340. Had you to give a higher price for animals at that time?—Yes.

4341. What is your opinion as to the possibility of having a foreign market and slaughter-houses attached down at the port for imported animals?—I think it would be most inconvenient, and must be attended with more expense, which must be paid by somebody in the end.

4342. Where would the expense lie?—The expense would be in having two markets. You would lose the benefit of one, for when we are large buyers we want to be at the market the whole time. We could not run from one market to the other. Supposing there were a small supply of beasts, and there were a certain number of buyers at a certain market. We should be bound to give high prices, because we could not afford to run up to the other markets to see how they were there, and then return again; otherwise we should lose all chance of the cattle; others would step in and buy them.

4343. Supposing there were telegraphic communication between the two markets, would you be able to learn the prices and the number of beasts in the two markets?—We should know the number, but the trade wants watching; to be a large buyer you must always be watching, otherwise you would lose your turn.

4344. If there were telegraphic communications between the two markets, you would know the number of beasts?—We should know the number of beasts then as we do now.

4345. Do you think you would have to give a higher price?—Yes, decidedly.

4346. A higher price for the foreign beasts?—Yes, and for the others also, whatever market you attended.

4347. The dealers in the foreign animals seem to think they would get a lower price for their beasts. You do not agree with that?—No, I do not quite agree with that. I think it would sometimes militate one way, and sometimes the other.

4348. You think sometimes you would have to give more, and sometimes get them much cheaper?—That might be so, possibly.

4349. Do the same persons buy the foreign animals, as a rule, who buy the home-fed animals?—Not as a rule.

4350. As a rule, a different class of customers buy the foreign?—The rule, perhaps, may be so.

4351. As you principally buy foreign animals, I suppose you would not so much mind having a different foreign cattle market?—Yes, I should mind it more, because I am sometimes obliged to leave the foreign cattle, and fly to the English cattle. Otherwise, if I continued solely among the foreign cattle, I should raise the price, particularly when I had contracted to supply such places as Deptford, where I want 500 beasts a week.

4352. If you do not get the foreign beasts now, you have the option of going to the other side of the market?—Yes, on the same ground. Perhaps I buy a few on one side. Then I return to the foreign market, and if they find they cannot get on, they will be glad of me as a customer. If, however, I find on the other hand their market rising, I go and make an advance.

4353. What would be the effect of having the foreign cattle market on a different day to the English?—I think it would be bad altogether.

4354. On what account?—I think for the same reasons. I, as a large buyer, would feel it very much against me, if I was in full swing of contracts.

4355. Do you mean there would not be the same

Mr. *B. B. Baker.*

5 June 1866.

same competition?—I do not know about the competition.

4356. You would say, as a buyer, that would be against you, is that your opinion?—It would take double the time to do it. I could not do so much business; I could not take so many contracts. Instead of taking three or four very large contracts, I should have to say, No, we cannot do this. Monday is quite sufficient for buying; we do not mind giving up the whole of that day for buying; but to have three or four days buying, we could not do it.

4357. If there was a distinction between the two markets, you would prefer having them for the same day?—Do you mean if they were miles apart?

4358. Yes, I am supposing there were a market and slaughter-houses, and every convenience for slaughtering animals, down by the river side. Supposing that that was established, should you prefer having the market on the same day as the Islington market?—I should prefer not.

4359. You would prefer having them on a different day?—Yes, because I could not attend the two.

4360. But you think it would be against you as a buyer to have a distinction between the two markets, and have the two separate markets?—Yes, it would be, if I wanted to do the same amount of business I do now.

4361. I mean as regards prices?—It would be, if I were to want such a thing as 500 beasts a week, it would be against me.

4362. It would be against you as regards prices?—I think so.

4363. As to those who are concerned in the cattle trade, it would be against them as sellers?—Yes.

4364. It could not be against you as buyer, and against them as sellers, at the same time, I suppose?—I do not know that it could not be. It would take up the men's time, and men's time is so valuable.

4365. Do you mean you would get more, and they would get less?—I should fancy it would militate against us both, because you would lose so much of your time. We should not know where we could do the business, and those few hours lost going about the market would be invaluable, in fact.

4366. Where do you send off your meat from; principally from Nine Elms?—Yes.

4367. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] That is for Aldershot?—Yes; and the Bricklayers' Arms Station for Dover.

4368. *Chairman.*] I supppose, as regards the Aldershot contract, it would be more valuable for you to have animals slaughtered down at the port?—No, down at the camp, if I could. They used to slaughter them at the camp.

4369. Why was not that continued?—On account of the prohibition of the movement by railway.

4370. In consequence of the cattle plague regulations?—Yes.

4371. You only mean since the regulations as to the cattle disease came into operation?—Yes.

4372. With regard to that, has the stoppage of live animals being removed by rail been very much against your trade, and have you found great inconvenience from it?—I have found great inconvenience in supplying Aldershot Camp. I was down there last week, and the chief commissary said to me, "We cannot have all dead, Mr. Baker; why cannot I have all alive?" I said, "I cannot send you any alive." "Oh," he said, "I must have all alive;" and he went so far as to say, "If it is not sent alive, I shall buy at my own expense." I said, "You cannot do so; if you do, you cannot get them removed; it is contrary to the law; and if you say you will get them removed, and charge me with it, I must appeal to the laws of my country."

4373. You put yourself under the protection of the law of the country immediately?—Yes, if they persisted in my doing a thing which the law said I should not do.

4374. Have your contracts been of less advantage to you in consequence of the prohibition?—Yes.

4375. You have not yourself made so much profit?—There is more expense in sending them down dead meat than live meat.

4376. The expense has been in carting the meat to the railway station?—Yes, and the rail expenses. A bullock used to go down alive for 3 *s.*, and it now costs something like 7 *s.* or 8 *s.*

4377. But then you do not send the same weight as you would have had to send alive, because you retain the offal?—Yes.

4378. That is about one-third?—Yes.

4379. All that you send now is meat which forms a part of your contracts?—Yes.

4380. How did you dispose of your offal when you killed at Aldershot?—I sold it all by contract. It used to come back to London.

4381. Then, I suppose, if it all came back to London, there must have been considerable loss somehow if it had to go down and come back again?—Yes, they make about 1 *s.* a bullock.

4382. It was not an economical arrangement, because one-third of the meat that went down came back again?—Still making a bargain to sell the offal in London, a party yesterday offered me 1 *s.* only difference. I asked him the question, and he said it only makes 1 *s.* a bullock difference, if you sell it at Aldershot or in London.

4383. To you?—To me. He offered me 1 *s.* a bullock more.

4384. Then did he bring up the offal for 1 *s*?—That is excepting the hide; the hide costs 8 *d.*, making 1 *s.* 8 *d.*

4385. Did the hide come back?—Yes.

4386. And that cost 8 *d.*?—Yes.

4387. Making 1 *s.* 8 *d.*?—Yes.

4388. Then you have to add that 1 *s.* 8 *d.* to the 3 *s.*, making 4 *s.* 8 *d.*?—Yes.

4389. What do you say the carcase would cost going down there?—It costs first, 4 *s.* to kill it, which it used not to do. The soldiers used to kill it in the camp. I pay 4 *s.* for that, and they will not allow me anything for it.

4390. Was it in the terms of the contract that the soldiers should kill?—Yes.

4391. That was a peculiar circumstance, owing to your supplying it to the camp, but what you send to Colney Hatch, I suppose the inmates of the asylum are not allowed to kill?—No, it is already killed for them.

4392. With regard to Colney Hatch, do you ever kill down at Colney Hatch?—No.

4393. You always send carcases?—Yes.

4394. How do you dispose of your offal in London?

London?—We send the hides to be sold, and we send the skins to the hide salesmen.

4395. Some person takes all your hides?—Yes, and another party takes all the fat.

4396. Do they go to Leadenhall Market?—I believe they do.

4397. What becomes of the blood?—Another person takes all that.

4398. And the horns, and so on?—The horns, the tripe, and so on, go to another person.

4399. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] The hides and tips go to one person, I suppose?—Yes.

4400. *Chairman.*] The different parties who take these things from you bring their own carts and take it away?—Yes, at a certain time they call for them.

4401. What does the blood go for, for sugar refining, or for manure, or what?—I think for manure.

4402. Where does that go to, do you know?—I have understood to Bow.

4403. It has to go some distance from your premises?—Yes.

4404. I suppose it is not an economical arrangement, is it, that all these things should have to be carted away from where they are carried, and to be placed at some distance for the purpose of manufacturing?—If they did not fetch them I should have to send them.

4405. Supposing you had a slaughter-house in a less populous part, and there was plenty of space to carry on these different trades connected with different parts of the offal to be turned to manufacturing purposes, there would be a considerable reduction in the expense of so connecting them?—Yes; providing your tripemen lived near to the place, and your tanner lived near to the place, and your hide salesman, and your tallow-chandler, and melter.

4406. If you had all these trades in the immediate neighbourhood of the slaughter-houses there would be a considerable saving?—Yes, I should think there would be a little saving in the carriage.

4407. And there would also be a saving of nuisance?—There would be a concentration of nuisance.

4408. There are great complaints in crowded places as to the smell that arises from the boiling down of fat, and the tripe-dressing, and gut-twisting, is there not?—I have not heard of any.

4409. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do I understand you to say that your only objection to these public slaughter-houses is in consequence of the increased running about you have spoken of, and the increased time it would take?—That is one thing; but of course there are many other objections if I were to state them.

4410. What is your objection; I thought you told the Chairman that was the only objection?—That is, as far as I am concerned.

4411. I suppose you represent the feelings of the trade?—No, I do not know that I do that.

4412. Do you belong to the Butchers' Trade Protection Association?—No. As a contractor, I am not affected as the butchers might be. Butchers would be affected, perhaps, worse than I should by this scheme.

4413. Will you tell the Committee what the objections are?—Do you mean what I believe the objections of the butchers would be.

4414. Yes?—I think that would be a great objection as to the time, and I do not know that it could be done; because from the Thursday to the Saturday they would want 2,000 bullocks killed; I fancy it would take something like 1,500, or 1,600, or 1,800 men, as slaughter-men, supposing they were all to be killed in one spot. It so happens, now, that a butcher may alter his mind in two hours, according to the weather, as to whether he will kill an ox or not. He may say, If my ox is killed now, and my requirements are only so-and-so, I shall have part of it spoiled. If the weather is a little clear in an hour, he might kill the ox; he may save part of the ox from these little considerations, that is, by having it within his own compass; but if he has to send to a place two miles off, or it may be four, or five, or six miles, he would not be able to get that ox killed at his own time to save those little things.

4415. Then you think it would be impossible for him to fulfil his engagements?—I think so.

4416. What are the terms in which your contracts run?—For six months.

4417. At a given price?—At a given price.

4418. What is the proportion of foreign meat that you buy; the proportion of foreign to English?—I should think five-sixths.

4419. Can you give us any idea as to the relative price of the foreign to the English. We have had different accounts in this Committee. As a general rule, is the foreign price lower than the English?—Yes.

4420. How much in the pound, a halfpenny?—From a halfpenny to three farthings. I should think fully three farthings.

4421. Is that from its being a worse description of food?—Yes; it is not quite so tasty or so silky and nice as the English meat.

4422. Do you know whether there has been any great panic in the foreign trade of late; have there been any weeks when there has been no supply at all of foreign meat coming in?—Do you mean an over supply, or an irregular supply?

4423. A very much lessened supply of foreign meat coming in within the last six or seven weeks; have you known that?—Yes, there has been.

4424. What do attribute that to?—I attribute it a great deal to the chance of getting them passed at the wharf, for one thing.

4425. Have you found any meat which you have been obliged to reject on account of the foot and mouth disease?—No.

4426. Never in the course of your experience?—Of late years I have not.

4427. When you say "of late years," do you mean the last two or three?—Yes, I have not found any.

4428. Should you be able to detect it. Would your eye distinguish it at once?—Yes, by a little examination. I have seen it in the summer time among English beasts.

4429. I am asking you as to the meat you have bought, which you say is dead meat; have you ever been able to discover in that way any traces of it?—No.

4430. Have you made any application to the Government to be allowed to bring cattle alive to Aldershot?—No.

4431. You are aware that there are attempts now being made to get beasts taken by railway again?—Yes; I did sign a petition to get them from the Metropolitan Market.

4432. I understand you to say you have made an application?—Yes; I did that so as to go as far as Portsmouth, Aldershot, and Plymouth, because I do not see how they can send dead

Mr. *B. B. Baker.*

5 June 1866.

meat down to Plymouth. I never before missed tendering for the navy, and I missed yesterday with reference to the Victualling Yard at Plymouth; I let it go. I came away from Somerset House, and I said, I dare not fill up the tender; I could not do this dead meat contract.

4433. What has been the result of those applications to be allowed to take cattle alive?—I have not heard.

4434. Have you been a member of any deputation which has gone up to the Board of Trade on this subject?—No, not for this purpose.

4435. You did sign a memorial to the Board of Trade?—Yes.

4436. You have had no answer to that memorial?—No, I did not present it.

4437. *Chairman.*] Perhaps you could let us have a copy of that on another occasion?—I will.

4438. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you know whether similar memorials are coming from other parts of the country, to relax the rules?—Yes.

4439. You have spoken of the Plymouth tender; would not Bristol and some other places be more likely than London to tender for the supply of Plymouth?—No; I do not think they would get a tender from Bristol.

4440. We have heard there is a very large meat market at Bristol?—Yes, but the thing would be so hazardous. I do not think there would be a man at Bristol who would for a moment attempt such a thing.

4441. What is the amount of supply that is wanted for the Plymouth Victualling Yard?—About 70 beasts a week.

4442. That is merely for the yard, and has nothing to do with the ships?—Oh yes; it is for the ships; it goes from the yard to the ships.

4443. Has it ever occurred to you to have beasts landed at Plymouth yourself, and kill them at Plymouth, and supply the yards there?—Yes, it has occurred to me, but I have only done it once, and for this reason. A vessel holds about 300 or 350 beasts, and they would only take about 100 beasts; you could not land two weeks' supply.

4444. The supply would be about 100 for a week?—Yes, occasionally; about, say 70 on an average.

4445. And the cargo would consist of upwards of 300; therefore you would have upwards of 200 on hand?—Yes.

4446. Mr. *Dent.*] And no competition?—And no competition; it is so in all the ports; there is just a supply for one-third of a vessel.

4447. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you ever had any cattle from Ireland?—I have not.

4448. Your experience has principally been in foreign meat?—Yes.

4449. There is a great quantity of English meat comes into Newgate Market, besides foreign meat, is there not?—Yes.

4450. Is there any separate department where the foreign meat is killed, or is it all mixed up together?—It is all mixed up together.

4451. Mr. *Dent.*] You were asked a question, whether Plymouth might not be supplied from Bristol; have the London contractors usually been able to compete successfully for the Plymouth contracts?—Yes, for the last four or five years, all has fallen into the hands of the London people.

4452. If you supplied 70 beasts per week, you would send them down there alive to be slaughtered?—Yes, under the old regulations.

4453. If you had dead meat to be supplied, it would have to be supplied every morning, I suppose?—Yes.

4454. When you supply the camp, and when you supply Plymouth in ordinary times, it is not a daily supply; you send it down once a week, I suppose?—Yes, once or twice a week.

4455. You have it delivered into the hands of the camp authorities, and they are answerable for its being fresh for the soldiers?—I keep men to watch it down there.

4456. With regard to your Deptford contracts, you say you supplied 500 beasts a week there?—I believe it was 330 at Deptford per week; 110 every other day.

4457. What time of the year does that take place?—That was from January until the last day in March.

4458. Have you anything to do with the slaughtering of those beasts?—Yes.

4459. You slaughter them all?—Yes.

4460. At Deptford?—Yes.

4461. Those are all bought at the Metropolitan Market?—Yes, nearly.

4462. You are not an importer of beasts yourself?—Yes; I imported two cargoes to Deptford.

4463. Were those bought by an agent abroad for you?—Yes, at Oporto.

4464. At present you send down every morning to Aldershot?—Yes.

4465. Where do you keep those beasts before you slaughter them; at your own lairs?—Yes.

4466. You buy foreign cattle very largely?—Yes.

4467. Have you found much disease among them?—No.

4468. Have you found any?—Yes, we found a little foot complaint; that is a disease, I suppose.

4469. Have you found any of them suffering from the rinderpest during the late weather?—I have not found them so; but I have had one or two which have been obliged to be killed afterwards.

4470. After you have bought them you have suspected them?—I have suspected they had it in an incipient state.

4471. That is what I meant. I did not suppose you would buy them in the market while they were actually suffering from the disease?—I have seen an animal poorly, and judged that it might be then coming on. If we see one hang its head we order it to be killed.

4472. Mr. *Holland.*] In slaughtering you allow a certain number of hours to elapse before you send away the animal?—Yes.

4473. About 12, I think you said?—Yes, I think 12 hours.

4474. If the market were a single market, and butchers had to send to the market, and they lived two, three, four, or five miles away, they would have to take into consideration the number of hours, would they not?—I do not quite understand the question.

4475. You stated the inconvenience of a butcher living a certain number of miles away from a single market, and you also stated that it was necessary to have the animals sent, and that they would be about 12 hours?—Yes.

4476. Then the butcher, in giving an order for the slaughter of an animal, would have to take

take that into his calculation?—Yes, he would have to know that it was killed at a certain time.

4477. In giving an order for an animal to be killed, it would be to his interest to take into consideration the number of hours that it would require to set?—Yes, and more than that; he must have a man there to watch for that time. I was dreadfully afraid this morning of hearing that a day's supply to the camp had been spoiled on account of the dead meat going down there.

4478. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] On account of the state of the atmosphere?—Yes.

4479. *Chairman.*] That has been very prejudicial to the keeping of meat for the last two or three days?—Very much so for the last two or three days.

4480. Rather unusually so?—Yes.

4481. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is all the meat inspected by some Government officer?—Yes; the Commissary General has three officers in the camp to inspect at one o'clock in the day. The order is issued the next morning.

4482. For all the meat to be ordered for the day?—Yes.

4483. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] How many slaughter-houses have you; have you more than one; I understood you to say you went round to two or three?—I had two when I had the Deptford contract; I have only one now. For a short time, perhaps for three or four weeks, I delivered dead meat at Deptford. It was not a very large quantity then; instead of 300 a-week I delivered 100 a-week.

4484. If you had only one slaughter-house, what would be your objection to having a shed set apart among a number of those other slaughter-houses?—Only my place of business.

4485. Supposing you change your place of business, and brought it nearer, it would be equally convenient for you to kill an animal, supposing you killed in the immediate vicinity, and where the foreign cattle are landed?—I should want it to be near my place of business.

4486. Supposing foreign animals were slaughtered where they are landed, and that was near your place of business; you say you deal with foreign animals; supposing they were slaughtered adjoining the place where they landed, you might have your slaughter-house there, and remove your place of business there?—That is according to where it was; for instance, if it was down at Blackwall I should not think of removing my business down there, I would rather remove it up more north.

4487. Nearer the Smithfield Market?—Yes; it is central where it is now, and it would be central in old Smithfield, where they are going to erect the new market, that is the only central place.

4488. If you buy at both markets you must get your animals brought to the slaughter-house at a considerable distance either way; you would have a considerable distance to bring them from the foreign wharf where they are landed?—Yes, but still we could drive them in the cool of the evening, at a certain time, and that would not hurt them, for when we got them to our own place they might rest as long as they liked.

4489. In fact, you are in favour of a central market, into which both English and foreign cattle could come?—Yes, decidedly.

4490. And you are against the centralisation of slaughter-houses?—Yes, I think the centralisation of slaughter-houses would be perhaps more inconvenient for other people than for myself; it would be inconvenient for me to kill at a greater distance, and for supplying Aldershot. I should not want to be at the slaughter-houses all day to look at the different things if it was at that great distance, and I should be compelled to contract my business.

4491. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] As a buyer of imported cattle, do you think that the supply, that is, the number of the foreign cattle, would be lessened, if it was required that all of them should be slaughtered at the place of debarkation?—I feel sure it would.

4492. Why do you think so?—Because, at present, the very idea of anything being slaughtered there deters the foreigner from sending. I have sometimes myself been down and bought some cattle there which have been touched with the foot complaint; I think the party, the owner, was saying, they would lose him so much, and said, "I will not send any more for a month, Mr. Baker." I said, "I hope you will continue sending some, they are very good, and they come into our market." But he said, "They come in at a deterioration of price."

4493. You think they would be averse to sending them, because they would be obliged to take the price of the day, and if there was a very large supply in the market that day, the cattle would be depreciated in value in consequence?—Yes.

4494. Do you send orders out to any agent on the Continent representing you, stating that you require so many beasts; is that your course of proceeding; do you telegram to the Continent, saying, send so many beasts?—No; I only get them to keep me advised about the price, and when I think it will allow a scope to import, I give an order.

4495. Can you calculate, at present, upon your demand being complied with from the other side of the water, in point of numbers?—No, I cannot.

4496. The consignments, in point of fact, are independent of any order that you might yourself give?—Yes.

4497. The supply is regulated by the demand on this side of the Channel; they have the prices, and they are so regulated?—Yes, that is it.

4498. Then, you think that if the cattle were slaughtered at the time of debarkation they would no longer be satisfied, inasmuch as they could not be regulated by the ascertained prices at this side of the water, and they would be more scrupulous, and perhaps, therefore, shorter in the number consigned?—Yes.

4499. Do you rent the slaughter-houses that you use at present?—No, I do not, at present.

4500. Then, are they of your own erection?—No, I contract to pay so much each.

4501. For each beast?—Yes; when I am very busy I contract with them, and still keep the whole of the slaughter-house to myself; that is, because I will not have a large quantity of other people's beef hanging up with mine, so that I cannot get proper ventilation.

4502. The Committee understand that, as a Government contractor, you are in a very large way of business; but does it appear to you that the establishment of slaughter-houses in districts of London would be disadvantageous to the butchers' trade in those different districts?—Yes, I think so.

Mr. *B. B. Baker.*

5 June 1866.

4503. Do you think that such a system would be as disadvantageous to them who were in a much smaller way of business as it would be to yourself?—I think so.

4504. Why?—I think there is more difficulty in regulating their demands, and providing for their demands, than my own. I know what I really want, and I know what I must be prepared to supply; but they are regulated by their trade, which differs, particularly in the summer time, and particularly between the Friday and the Sunday. It wants very great care and attention from the private butchers, between Friday and Monday morning, otherwise they would spoil a great deal of meat. They may lose 10 *l.* or 20 *l.*, and it may take some days to get back that week's profit, I think. Therefore I think they would find a greater difficulty than myself; because I should have a chance of looking on at other people who killed, and not being my own; and seeing a few beasts hanging up, I might make an offer for them, and purchase them; whereas a butcher buys his three, or four, or five, or six beasts alive, and it requires greater care when he kills them; because he might not consume the whole of one of them for two or three days, and perhaps spoil a quarter of it.

4505. Would not that equally apply to his trade if they were killed at a public slaughter-house instead of a private one; he renting a portion of this public building, it would be under his own control if he rented it, the same as his own private existing slaughter-house?—Yes, excepting that it might be a great distance from his house or his shop. It might be some distance from his trade, and he could not bring his trade to the slaughter-house. I think that would be the difficulty with a butcher.

4506. But in the butcher's business the slaughter-house is, in some cases, below the premises in which he lives, surely that is very objectionable?—Yes, that is bad. I do not know of anything of the kind myself.

4507. If a butcher living in, we will say in Mount-street, has his slaughter-house in Oxford-street (and I happen to know a case of that sort), and that slaughter-house is as far off of him as the New-road from Mount-street, surely the difference of the distance from the New-road to Mount-street would not be an objection to him in his trade, as regards the transport of the dead carcase; supposing that the New-road were about the site of a slaughter-house, for that district, that distance could not affect it?—Not so much, but it would be a difference to a butcher who lived a mile the other way from Mount-street.

4508. But I am assuming there would be one slaughter-house for one particular district, taking a centre and a radius of not more than a certain distance?—It is according to what radius you would take.

4509. A radius which would embrace a certain tract in London, and that the beasts should be exclusively slaughtered there?—Yes.

4510. *Chairman.*] You apprehend great inconvenience to the trade, as I understand from your evidence, if you are confined to public slaughter-houses?—Yes.

4511. Are you aware that in many of the continental capitals they are confined entirely to public slaughter-houses?—I am told so.

4512. Do you know that it has been the case in Paris since the year 1810?—I know it has been so; I was not aware how long.

4513. Are you aware it is the case in Paris?—Yes; I am told it is.

4514. And you have never heard there is very great inconvenience to the trade there, have you?—I have never asked the question at all. I have always thought that the consumption was so little, as compared with London, that that was the cause why there was no inconvenience from it, if there was none.

4515. The French army is vastly larger than the English army, is it not?—I think it is.

4516. I suppose if the contractors supplying the French army were confined to public slaughter-houses for slaughtering the cattle, the English contractors could supply the English troops in the same way?—One would think so.

4517. You are aware that it is the general rule, in foreign capitals, that there should be public slaughter-houses only?—I believe it is on the Continent.

4518. One would naturally infer that what could be done in one capital could be done in another?—Yes; but I think that if the quantity of meat that is consumed in London more than in those places, could be ascertained, that would make a difference.

4519. Supposing you were confined to public slaughter-houses, I suppose you would have telegraphic communication between the slaughter-houses and the dead-meat market?—There ought to be, and no doubt there would be.

4520. I suppose it would be just as easy, supposing you employed a slaughterman at the public slaughter-house, to telegraph to him to kill 10 oxen, as it would be to send a message now?—Yes.

4521. The inconveniences you spoke of would most of them be removed if an entirely new system were inaugurated with all the modern appliances?—A great many of them might.

4522. In fact, with reference to any change, I suppose the trade concerned in the change always suffers at first, until the trade settles down again?—That is very evident.

4523. With regard to supplying Plymouth, you say that only 100 beasts were wanted at Plymouth, and that those vessels bringing them would carry 300?—Yes.

4524. Would there be any objection to a coasting vessel coming round and landing the quantity that was wanted at each port?—That would entail expense; of course, it could be done in that way, if it could be done, at less than in the other way.

4525. Supposing these restrictions on the movements of cattle were likely to be permanent, I suppose new arrangements would be made?—Yes, I dare say there would be. It is very seldom that one contractor has two ports. If one contractor had the whole, he might do it.

4526. Do not you think, supposing these restrictions were likely to be permanent, the importers would land 100 beasts at Plymouth to supply one contract, and another 100 at Portsmouth to supply another?—I have never heard a person make an offer of that kind.

4527. But these restrictions have only been in force for a certain time, and are expected not to be permanent?—I have often put a price down to a gentleman for 100 beasts to be delivered at a certain port at a certain price.

4528. And have you never got an answer to it?—No.

4529. Have

4529. Have you since these restrictions have been in force?—No.

4530. Do you think if these great restrictions were removed from the cattle, you would find that offer responded to if you made it?—You would have to put out a very tempting offer, and one that you could not afford.

4531. This is Dr. Letheby's evidence with regard to the proportion of meat used in the metropolis: "It is somewhere about an ounce per head, hardly so much, perhaps, about five ounces in a week; in Paris it is about three ounces in a week; I think we are about double that." Have you turned your attention to that, as to the quantity of meat that is consumed by the inhabitants of the different capitals?—No.

4532. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you supply Woolwich?—Not now.

4533. How are the troops at Woolwich supplied, do you know?—They are killing their meat there now; that being in the Metropolitan Board of Works district, the cattle travel down there.

4534. Are they killed in slaughter-houses down there?—Yes, in the Government slaughter-houses.

4535. Not supplied from Deptford?—No.

4536. *Chairman.*] How do they get across the river?—When we speak of Woolwich the Army is there, and at Deptford there is the Navy.

4537. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I do not know whether there are arrangements made by the victualling yard there as to supplying live meat as well as dead meat?—They never send anything from the victualling yard to the army, only to the navy.

4538. With regard to the slaughter-houses, supposing it was thought right that there should be public slaughter-houses, it would not do to have slaughter-houses at only one corner of London to supply all this great metropolis?—No, it would not.

4539. You would require slaughter-houses planted at different districts of London for the convenience of the inhabitants living there?—Yes, in preference to one.

4540. There is a prejudice about one market, is there not; there is an idea in the trade that one market is a right thing with a view to establishing the price?—Yes, one live market.

4541. Do you think that you could supply the whole of the capital with dead meat from one set of slaughter-houses at the live cattle market?—No, I do not.

4542. Why not?—I do not think they would get it all killed in proper time.

4543. You could not get it killed and distributed?—No; particularly for the two or three days at the latter end of the week in summer time.

Mr. *B. B. Baker.* 5 June 1866.

4544. There are about, on the average, 6,000 beasts per week killed?—About 6,000 or 7,000.

4545. And about 3,000 sheep?—Yes.

4546. You think they could not be all slaughtered at one market?—No, I think it could not be done without spoiling some of them.

4547. You do not think that in a large capital like London, with 3,000,000 of inhabitants, you could supply the whole of it with one central set of slaughter-houses?—No; I do not say it could not be done, but I should think not.

4548. I suppose the establishment of the slaughter-houses alone would be something very large?—Yes, of course it would be.

4549. Then whatever the opinion might be with regard to private slaughter-houses, it would be requisite that there should be slaughter-houses planted at some points round London, convenient for the inhabitants, with a view to provide them with wholesale killed meat?—Yes.

4550. Were you ever at Paris?—Yes.

4551. Do you know the abattoirs at Paris?—I am not well acquainted with them.

4552. You do not know whether there is more than one set of abattoirs?—I am not certain about that; I think there are more.

4553. I believe they are planted around Paris, in various places?—Yes.

4554. Do you know the number of slaughter-houses in the City of London at the present time?—I do not.

4555. According to the table I have before me, there are 58 in the City of London; and 5,400 sheep, 1,800 beasts, 420 pigs, and 4,000 calves, are on an average received here every week?—Yes.

4556. I suppose if there were 58 slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Market, the same number of animals could be slaughtered there?—Yes, there is no doubt about that.

4557. It is only a question of accommodation, is it?—The slaughter-houses and the lands to do it, will be of course only a question of accommodation.

4558. It is only a question of having accommodation enough, and as regards removing the meat, it is a question of having sufficient railway accommodation?—Yes; and the question is in what state would the meat be after it had been removed.

Mr. JOHN GIBLETT, called in; and Examined.

4559. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Cattle Salesman in the London Market?—Yes.

4560. And have been so for 38 years?—Yes.

4561. Do you receive cattle from different parts of this country?—Yes; from every county in England.

4562. And also from foreign countries?—Yes, from almost every place from which cattle are sent.

4563. You sell on commission?—Exclusively; I never have any of my own, under any circumstances.

4564. Do you get cattle from France, Germany, Spain, Denmark, and Portugal?—Yes.

4565. They are consigned to you to sell on commission?—Yes, entirely.

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

4566. You have heard the questions that have been put to the last witness with regard to the desirability of having slaughter-houses attached to the Metropolitan Market; what is your opinion on that?—I feel quite sure that it is impracticable, without an immense expense, at any time; and in summer I am quite satisfied it is absolutely impossible to supply so many people with meat in proper condition.

4567. Let me understand you. Do you mean that it would be impossible to slaughter animals at the Metropolitan Market and to supply London?—In summer it would be impossible, and at any

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

5 June 1866.

time it would be impracticable, except at an immense expense. I can state my reasons in detail.

4568. Give us the reasons, if you please?—I have no hesitation in affirming, and it is the opinion of the trade, that every ox is worth, on the average, taking the large oxen and the smaller ones together, about 30*s.* a head more to be killed on the butcher's own premises and under his own inspection, where he feels his property safe, than those which would be killed in public slaughter-houses. Sheep and lambs would be worth quite 3*s.* a head more killed on their own premises than at public slaughter-houses. This is received as the opinion of the whole trade. Taking the calculation of the number of stock that comes to the market, or something below the number, say 6,000 oxen per week, 30,000 sheep, 500 calves, and about 1,000 pigs, and you would find that, according to the calculation we have made, it would come to 14,000*l.* in a week, which extra amount the public would have to pay, and then they would not be supplied with meat in a proper condition. It is the butcher's interest to guard against nuisances, although there may only be a few slaughter-houses in the City of London; the City of London is but a speck compared to the suburbs of London. It is the butcher's interest to guard against all kind of inconvenience as to the slaughter-houses. In his own premises he could employ his young men to see that the meat is killed properly. He could take care of his own property, which he has a right to do, and without being compelled by law to send it to a public slaughter-house, where he cannot identify it. When I say he cannot identify it, he cannot identify the fat, and it is sometimes scarcely possible to identify the meat after it is killed. These are some of the reasons. Some oxen carry 20 stone of fat, some only five; and it is proverbial, I am sorry to say, that these common persons, who are entrusted to kill the oxen, are in the habit of robbing the butcher of the fat; while, if he has it on his own premises he could take proper care of it. He can do that which he has undertaken to do, namely, supply the public with good and proper meat, in a clean and wholesome state. He can make a just and proper use of the offal, in a clean and proper state, for it is comparatively useless if the offal has to be sent a great distance in the way you sometimes see it carted about. These are some of the reasons. I feel it is my duty, having stood in a public position for 40 years, to bear faithful testimony to the honourable way in which butchers conduct their business. They certainly have very much improved and are improving in intelligence. I have done a large amount of business with them for the last 40 years, and I have hardly lost anything through the butchers; the business is done in perfect good faith between us; we have no receipts passed; they get up very early in the morning and are a most industrious class. They have the meat at their own houses in a beautiful and good state, and it would be a confiscation of their property to take away the power of killing the meat on their own premises.

4569. Have you inquired at all into the system of public slaughter-houses in other countries?—I have been to Paris, and I am aware, by report, there is not only one, but four public slaughter-houses there.

4570. There are five in Paris?—I thought it was four.

4571. Are you aware that there is that system also in the city of Edinburgh?—Yes, but not entirely so. They are not entirely abattoirs in Edinburgh. I think they are private slaughter-houses.

4572. No, I think they are public slaughter-houses?—Some of them are let to private individuals there.

4573. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The evidence before us was that they were all public slaughter-houses. I suppose a private man may hire them?—Yes, I believe that is the case.

4574. *Chairman.*] They may hire private slaughter-houses at the public abattoirs?—I believe that is the case in Edinburgh.

4575. You would not object to having these public slaughter-houses, provided individuals could hire portions of them?—Oh yes, it would be very inconvenient to the butchers; very much so indeed.

4576. Why do you think that the butchers of Edinburgh would submit to it, but not the butchers of London?—I presume they are bound to submit to it; but I have seen most disgusting instances in Edinburgh of the meat being trailed along the public streets, and also the offal.

4577. When was that?—When I have been in Edinburgh, on several occasions.

4578. About what year was that?—I have been there eight or ten times in several years.

4579. Was it in the course of the last ten years?—Yes, in the course of the last five years.

4580. The Edinburgh Slaughter-houses Act, prohibits the slaughtering of any animal, or the dressing of any carcase within the bounds of the police, or the distance of one mile within such bounds elsewhere, than at the slaughter-houses established under the Act?—Yes, that may be so; some are let to private individuals.

4581. Do you think a system which is good for Edinburgh would be bad for London?—It could not be applied with such ease in London as in Edinburgh, because the suburbs of London extend such an immense distance. How could persons in the south of London go to public slaughter-houses in the north, or three millions of people be thus supplied.

4582. No, but supposing there was a public slaughter-house on the north side of the river, or two or three, you would not object to that?—I object to the principle of the meat being consigned to other people's care, where it would not be safe.

4583. Why do you suppose that; what is there to prevent a man there hiring the use of a public slaughter-house for the month or the day, and having men there to look after it?—It would be very inconvenient for him to send men to kill it at so great a distance, very; and there would be an immense number of carts used to carry the dead meat to and fro, and the carts are a thousand times worse nuisance in London than all the oxen that ever traversed it.

4584. At the present time the butchers from the suburbs go with their carts to Newgate Market; that is the common practice of London. All the local butchers of London, or in the suburbs, cart away their meat from Newgate Market?—Yes, and a great nuisance it is to have so many carts in London; but a butcher going to the

dead

dead market cannot always depend upon getting the best meat; with every intention to purchase the best meat, they cannot get it. Many personal friends of mine are most anxious to have the best meat, and they cannot always get it at the dead-meat market, and they do not get it. I do not know one that deals exclusively in the dead-meat market who can always serve the richest customer with the best meat, or the poorest with sweet meat, and I have been connected with business all my life. I was a butcher in Bond-street when I was a boy. There is also one other point I wish to speak of, and that is, if you will allow me, I wish to speak of the transit of cattle. I consider that many of the laws are very unnecessary and useless as regards the restrictions.

4585. You mean the temporary restrictions?—Yes.

4586. We are not inquiring into them?—It is a most important matter if you knew the situation in which the butchers are placed.

4587. We are not inquiring into the temporary restrictions owing to the cattle plague, but to the permanent arrangements of the trade?—Allow me to speak of the butchers of Kent, for instance.

4588. We are only concerned with the transit of cattle, and how they are treated during the transit. Have you anything to say on the subject, as to whether they ought to be supplied with food and water during a railway journey?—I do not think it would be desirable to give them much water; a little food on long journeys from Scotland, but not much water.

4589. Do you think if they come up from the north of Scotland they ought to be fed during the journey?—A little hay would be desirable.

4590. And no water?—Too much water would be worse than none at all.

4591. I suppose too much of anything is a bad thing?—No doubt.

4592. But still they would not eat much hay, if you gave them no water during the long journey, would they?—They might, but not much, I presume.

4593. Do you think it necessary to supply animals coming from the north of Scotland with water, as a rule?—It is not absolutely necessary, but it is desirable.

4594. Would they come in a better condition for killing, if they were supplied with water?—No, they would not.

4595. Then why do you think it is desirable to give it?—For the sake of humanity.

4596. You think it is cruel to keep the animals without giving them water for so long?—Yes; where they are detained sometimes at railway stations most unnecessarily and unfairly, I think in such cases water should be given them, most certainly.

4597. How would you suggest that should be done?—By the man who is in charge of the cattle taking water to them when they stop.

4598. You would water them in the trucks, would you?—Yes.

4599. We have had contradictory evidence as to the possibility of doing that; do you think Scotch cattle would drink water out of buckets in trucks?—I think they would; I am sure they would if they were thirsty.

4600. Are you acquainted with the way in which cattle are treated on board the steamers?—Yes.

4601. Have you any suggestion to make as to the improvement of their treatment?—I know it is the practice for gentlemen who send me a quantity of cattle, Mr. Robinson, for instance, who was examined the other day, to send the best hay he can find with his steamers, and give them water on the passage; he has large quantities from Oporto, fine oxen, worth sometimes nearly 30 *l.* a-piece, or at all events 26 *l.* or 28 *l.* a-piece, and we shall be more dependent upon the trade from abroad now than ever we have been before.

4602. Do you suggest any alterations as to the treatment of animals on board ship?—I would suggest that his plan be universally adopted; I think it is very desirable that hay should be sent with them, and some water.

4603. Do you think they have sufficient space allotted to them in the holds of the ships?—In some cases I believe they have not; I think there ought to be due inspection in that case.

4604. Would you approve of a law that vessels should be licensed to carry a certain number, and only a certain number?—I would approve of an inspector being appointed to allow vessels of a certain size to carry a certain number of beasts in proportion to the size of the beast.

4605. You would approve of vessels being licensed to carry a certain number?—That can hardly be done, inasmuch as some animals are twice the size of others that come from the same country; some animals sent from Tonning are worth 14 *l.*, and others worth 35 *l.*

4606. You would leave it to the inspectors to say what number of animals should go on board?—Yes.

4607. Do you not think that system would be liable to abuse?—I think the owner is interested in having no more sent than could be sent safely; and the larger importers go down with the cattle themselves.

4608. Now, to go to another subject: have you considered the question of the quarantine of foreign animals?—Yes.

4609. What is your opinion upon that?—I think to quarantine fat animals would be most unjust and unfair. As to fat animals pronounced by competent inspectors to be sound, to keep them crowded together until they necessarily become heated and subject to the foot and mouth disease, would be most unjust. They would depreciate so fast that it would be quite unreasonable.

4610. I do not think anyone has suggested quarantining fat animals, except for a few hours?—I have had it suggested to me through the Privy Council.

4611. There has been a suggestion here that fat animals should be quarantined for a certain number of hours; do you see any objection to that?—I think it is undesirable. I do not attach any importance to the foot and mouth complaint; in fact, I consider nature has provided that as a remedy against more serious illnesses. I do not believe it is a complaint at all; I believe it is the effect of fever in the animal.

4612. Do you not think it is catching?—Yes, I think it is catching.

4613. Then how can you say it is not a complaint if it is catching?—It is not a complaint in itself, but it is the effect of fever in the animal; it is, no doubt, caused by fever engendered in the animal.

4614. Do you mean to say another animal can catch the effect without catching the disease?—One

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

5 June 1866.

—One animal can catch the fever from another animal.

4615. The other animal catches the fever from treading on the ground on which the first animal has trodden; is that your view?—Very likely; not only by contagion but by atmospherical influence.

4616. Then how do you say it is not a complaint?—I do not say the foot and mouth disease is a complaint itself; I believe it is the effect of fever in the animal. I believe, from extreme heat, change of air, and atmospherical influences, the animal becomes affected, and by change of diet he becomes heated in the system; and I think this is a remedy which nature has provided, to prevent it attacking some vital part. I wish all those animals affected with the cattle plague had had foot and mouth complaint; I think they may have escaped. I am sure that in the case of the lung complaint, where they had the foot and mouth disease, it sometimes had the effect of saving them. It is a curative process, provided by nature, the same as gout in a human being.

4617. Has the foot and mouth disease been always known in this country?—Yes; some 35 years ago, before any stock came from abroad, I have seen 40 oxen a day killed in Smithfield Market, because they could not walk out to the nearest slaughter-house; and those slaughter-houses were in close contiguity to Smithfield Market.

4618. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Where did they come from?—From Norfolk and most counties in England; Norfolk beasts used to be very much affected, and the Scottish particularly; in fact, foreign animals are more sound than English, Irish, or Scotch.

4619. *Chairman.*] What is your opinion of having one market in the metropolis for all animals, foreign and domestic?—I think it is very desirable and very necessary; our supply depends on the market price being determined, and it is absolutely necessary that the trade should meet with an active competition, which you could not do if you had many market places. It is not a market place which constitutes a market, it is the active competition which constitutes a market, and if you had several market places, it would be seriously against the interest of the public; that is my conviction.

4620. Explain what you mean by its being against the public interest; do you mean that the price of animals would be raised?—There would not be that facility of trade altogether; the market price would not be quickly determined; sometimes you would be left in England with only half the quantity you required.

4621. Would it be as against the buyer, or against the seller?—Against the seller; against the buyer and against the public without a doubt. That which is against the interest of the seller and the interest of the buyer is against the public; it must be.

4622. How could it be both against the seller and against the buyer?—Because it is convenient for the buyer to come where he can within a short time learn the actual market price, because the buyers that come to one market want some foreign beasts or some sheep, some of one kind and some of another. The majority of the buyers (say, two-thirds of all that come to the market) buy stock of a different character, and not all of it from the English. As to having a market down at the water side for our foreign cattle, I have come to the conviction in my own mind, that it would be a serious evil: it would increase the price of meat; it would partly prevent the foreigners from sending, and be more disadvantageous to the English interests than to the foreigner, for the majority of the buyers would attend to the foreign market. I believe we are more dependent now on foreign supply than we are upon the English, and will be for some time. Yesterday I saw one man who had 20 good French oxen at 33 *l.* 10 *s.*; I had a quantity worth about 29 *l.* each, and so we have every week; in fact, the trade from France is increasing very much. Some of the cattle only two years old are worth 25 *l.* each. Every year our trade from France is increasing, and that is why I impress on the Committee the propriety of having every arrangement made for the traffic so sent. From France, where there has been no cattle plague at all, what can be the harm in allowing the beasts to come free from Southampton? The trade is going to commence from Normandy in about six weeks; they are not able to come across at present from Havre or Honfleur to Southampton. As a practical man, I say there would not be any harm at all in allowing those oxen to come by rail from Southampton into the public market; neither do I believe there would be any harm in allowing free traffic of stock from the public market into a town. If Honourable Members knew the painful position in which the trade is placed, they would know more than I am satisfied they do at present. I have lately come up from Kent, and there they do not know what to do for meat. In many counties in England they do not create one-twentieth part of what they want to consume. A man came up last week and bought a heifer of me at 7 ½ *d.* lb.; he came 34 miles to buy it; 34 miles to go back, making 68, and then sent his man to have it killed and again to bring it home; so that it was three times 68 miles to get that one heifer, which cost a crown a stone. By the time he got it home, it stood him in no less than 9 *d.* a lb.; and if he could have sold most of it at 10 *d.*, he would have lost by it.

4623. But all that is owing to the trade being disturbed by the temporary restrictions connected with the cattle plague, is it not?—Yes; and I believe that many of those restrictions are no good at all. Many places in England require an immense quantity of meat.

4624. Now you say that; have you heard of any customers being unable to get a joint of meat since these restrictions have been in force?—Do you mean the consumer.

4625. Yes?—I have; it is a common matter. They have not meat enough in many places.

4626. Will you tell us any town in which the supply has fallen short?—I was at Sevenoaks, in Kent, the other day, and I went about to see what I could there. It was not a matter of pleasure to me to go and make these inquiries. One party assured me he had come from Newgate Market, where he had bought some legs of mutton the morning before, and at eight o'clock that morning the legs were quite green. He said, "I gave 10 *d.* a pound for these legs of mutton; did you ever know such a cruel thing in your life."

4627. Where had these green legs of mutton been killed?—I do not know; he bought them the morning before in Newgate Market.

4628. But how do you trace the greenness of these

these legs of mutton to the restrictions?—Because he could not get his sheep down to the country alive, and he was obliged to go and buy the dead meat at Newgate Market.

4629. Let us follow this out. How far is Sevenoaks from the metropolitan market?—It is about 24 miles from the metropolitan market.

4630. How did this mutton come down?—By railway. When it is sent off by railway, they do not always get it in due time; they promise to let them have it sometimes, and do not, and then it perishes. The other man I went to, at the same time, had got a very middling piece of beef; I said to him, "When you came to us, you used to have very good meat;" "Yes," he said; and allow me to tell you how he was circumstanced with regard to this middling piece of meat.

4631. Do not go into that. Is there any law in force to prevent sheep travelling by railway?—Yes.

4632. Then tell us what the law is?—They could not get them away from the Metropolitan Market then; the railway refused to carry them.

4633. But what law is there to prevent sheep travelling by railway?—There was a law, I believe.

4634. When. What law was there to prevent sheep going down by railway to Sevenoaks?—It was the case, that the railway refused to carry them, either because there was a law, or under a misinterpretation of the law.

4635. What was the date of your visit to Sevenoaks, when you found this man there who complained of these green legs of mutton?—It happened to be at the time of the steeple-chase, about a month ago.

4636. Can you tell us of any law which prevented the Sevenoaks butcher getting a sheep down alive to Sevenoaks?—This man complained that he could not; as regards the beef, I know he could not.

4637. Then, I presume, he was a very ignorant man, and had not taken the trouble to inquire?—I cannot undertake to say that.

4638. Will you undertake to say that, with regard to these sheep, he could not have taken them down alive?—As regards the beasts, he could not.

4639. I am not speaking of the beasts; you told us that the legs of mutton were green at Sevenoaks, and that the reason was that this man could not get live sheep down there in consequence of the restrictions; now, I want to know, what restrictions the law put a month ago upon the sheep travelling by rail?—He said he could not get them down.

4640. Do you think he told you accurately?—I do not generally meet with men whose word I doubt.

4641. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is it not a likely thing that he was trying to get the dead meat cheaper at Newgate Market than he could have got it alive in the country?—Yes, and quite right too. The next butcher I went to see, the meat cost him 11½*d.* a pound; and while they are depending upon buying meat in the country they will be charged almost anything for it.

4642. Is it not more likely that the butcher, at Sevenoaks, hearing that the meat was cheaper in London tried to buy the dead meat in London, supposing he could get it cheaper than buying live meat in the country?—Very likely.

4643. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are there not farmers in the neighbourhood of Sevenoaks in the habit of selling sheep to buyers?—Yes; I know that there are, but they have not got the beasts to sell.

4644. We are confining our attention to sheep; you said there was a man came to London to buy legs of mutton, and they turned green; he came here to buy them because he could not get them at Sevenoaks; are there not some farmers in Sevenoaks who would sell sheep to the butchers?—Yes.

4645. Then the man who came here and bought the legs of mutton, might have had the live sheep sent, and killed them and hung them up in his shop, if he pleased?—If he had paid a most exorbitant price, instead of buying them in London, and coming to one market as I should recommend.

4646. Do you think that all sheep should go through the market to supply Sevenoaks?—No; I advocate freedom of trade.

4647. If any butcher is able to buy sheep in the country, and send them to his own slaughter-house, is it not his own fault if his legs of mutton turn green, in consequence of his coming to Newgate Market for them?—It is not his own fault. He cannot depend upon where the sheep are killed.

4648. But if he has the power of buying them alive and killing them at his own slaughter-house, is it not his own fault if his legs of mutton turn green which come from Newgate Market?—If he has to pay 11½*d.* per lb. in the country, there is no wonder he prefers coming to London.

4649. Do not you know, sir, if you know anything about Sevenoaks, that at Tunbridge, close by, there is a large market for dead and live animals?—Yes.

4650. Do you mean to say the butcher could not go to Tunbridge market if he pleased?—I am quite content that he should.

4651. You are stating this as an instance of the hardship of the law, and I do not see that it is of any earthly avail. You say it is a hardship that this man was obliged to come to London and buy these legs of mutton which turned green. Then the moment I ask you, you say he did so because the market of Kent was not supplied with meat?—I alluded more particularly to the oxen.

4652. But we are not talking of oxen now; we are confining our attention to sheep. Tunbridge is a large market, and I think the prices there are cheaper than in the London market. He comes to London and buys dead meat, and the meat turns green; whereas, if he had pleased, he could have bought better live meat in the country; that is rather the fault of himself?—He was obliged to do so.

4653. *Chairman.*] I thought you said just now you did not wish to see animals slaughtered in London, but that people ought to be able to slaughter in their own private slaughter-houses?—Certainly.

4654. Then why do you want to drive the Sevenoaks butcher to Newgate Market, instead of allowing him to slaughter at his own slaughter-house?—I do not; but I suppose he wanted more legs of mutton.

4655. Let us understand. Do you wish every butcher to be able to slaughter at his own slaughter-house?—Yes, certainly.

4656. You say this Sevenoaks butcher could not

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

5 June 1866.

slaughter advantageously at his own slaughter-house, because he could get it cheaper in London? —I do not know, as a fact, that he could get it cheaper.

4657. Why did he get it then; why was he obliged to have recourse to Newgate Market. You said it was in consequence of the dear prices of meat in his own neighbourhood; and now you say it was disadvantageous for him to come up to Newgate Market?—I suspect he wanted more legs of mutton than he wanted sheep.

4658. The probability is, that he bought some very cheap legs of mutton and over-kept legs of mutton in Newgate Market, with the view of being able to part with them before they got worse. That is the explanation of the Sevenoaks story?—Possibly, as regards the sheep; but as regards the beasts, you will allow me to explain it.

4659. All this arose out of the question I put to you to name any place where consumers could not have a supply of meat in consequence of the restrictions. We have asked the same question of a great many persons, and they have been unable to name any town in this country where they could not get it?—I would go on to say that there are many towns in Kent that cannot get any good beef at all unless they went to the London market.

4660. Now, I ask you to name any place in this country where the consumers have been unable to get a good supply of meat?—Meat includes beef.

4661. Take beef or mutton?—I will take beef, if you please. They have in Kent something like 1,000 or 800 oxen a week from our Metropolitan Market, and they have done so for years. Most of the people that go out of London to the watering places in Kent have their meat follow them from London.

4662. Do they get it alive or dead?—They used to have it alive, almost invariably.

4663. Since these restrictions have been in force, how have they been supplied?—Sometimes they go a considerable distance, and buy oxen in the metropolitan market, and have them killed at the painful inconvenience which I have been endeavouring to describe. They send men to kill them, and then send men to fetch them back again.

4664. Have you known any place in Kent in which there has been any deficiency in supply? —Yes, in most places in Kent. There is not one-twentieth part enough for their consumption.

4665. Has the price risen in Kent since the 20th of February?—Yes; the price is very high.

4665*. I want to have the particulars. You say the price has risen since the 20th of February. The 20th of February is the day when the prohibition of meat being sent by railway came into force, and it lasted until the 16th of April. From the 20th of February till the 16th of April no lean cattle could be moved by rail. Now, between those dates, did the price of meat increase in any place you know of in Kent?—In the Isle of Wight.

4666. No; you picked out Kent. Point out any place in Kent where the price of meat rose between the 20th of February and the 16th of April?—I really do not know what the charges were.

4667. Then your statement that the price of meat rose in Kent you cannot establish?—I beg your pardon, I did not say the price of meat had risen in Kent.

4668. But you said they could not get one-twentieth part of what they wanted?—Yes, and no doubt the price has risen.

4669. If you cannot get a twentieth part of what is wanted, does not the price always rise? —Yes, and no doubt it did.

4670. Now, can you name any place in the county of Kent where the price of meat rose between the 20th of February and the 16th of April?—I am not so well acquainted with Kent as to be able to answer the question.

4671. Are you so cognisant of the circumstances in Kent as to be able to say they could not get a twentieth part of what they wanted?—Yes.

4672. If you know so much about Kent, that you know they were short nineteen-twentieths of the actual supply they wanted, can you not say whether the price of meat rose?—I cannot undertake to say the price they used to charge or do charge; I know that in some parts of Kent the price was higher.

4673. You stated they could not get one-twentieth part of what they wanted, but yet you cannot tell me whether the price rose in Kent. We do not want general statements here, but practical information. How is the price of meat in Kent or any other part of the country affected by the restrictions in consequence of the cattle plague?—There are many persons connected with the trade can tell you exactly; there is a petition that has been laid before you now from Kent upon that subject.

4674. We shall see the petition bye and bye, and find out what it says; but you stated to us that they did not get in Kent one-twentieth part of the meat they wanted. Can you establish that position?—Yes.

4675. How can you do so?—From their testimony, and from the fact that they came up here to buy the meat at extreme prices, and the assumption is natural, that they found the meat at home very much higher in price.

4676. You tell us they have not got one-twentieth part of what they want?—No, nor have they had for some years.

4677. Is it possible they could not have had one-twentieth part of what they wanted without the price rising considerably?—I have no doubt it did rise considerably.

4678. Can you give me any town in Kent in which that was the case?—I should say in all the towns.

4679. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Take Sevenoaks, what has been the rise in Sevenoaks?—I cannot say what is the price.

4680. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You came here to give evidence, and your evidence is worth nothing, unless you can give us facts within your own knowledge; you say the price has risen. We must take it relatively to what it was six months ago, and what it is now?—I can only say they came to the London market and bought it at much higher prices.

4681. But the London market has not risen much during the last few months?—Yes, it has been sometimes 4 *d.* or 6 *d.* a stone more than has been quoted in the papers, and the papers are not a correct criterion.

4682. *Chairman.*] How are the quotations supplied to the newspapers?—Most improperly.

4683. I am not asking you whether they are supplied right or wrongly, but by what means they

they are supplied?—I know but one gentleman who supplies the quotations for the London market.

4684. What is the nature of his trade?—He is connected with the papers, and his name is Herbert; he used to come at eight or nine o'clock in the morning, and I used to give him all the information in my power, and he came to me on several occasions when I had got 200 or 300 oxen to sell, and wanted to know the exact market price of the day at that moment, before any were sold. I said unless you can make it convenient to come at some later time, I decline to give you the information. I never saw him, except on the great market day at Christmas, only at about eight or nine o'clock in the morning; as regards the quotations in the other papers, I do not know who supplies them; I know that they are most erroneously and improperly quoted.

4685. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you mean to tell us that what we see quoted as being at Smithfield Market, beef so much a stone, and so on, is erroneous?—Without a doubt it is erroneous in many cases.

4686. You are prepared to state to the Committee that that information is entirely erroneous?—In many cases it is erroneous; I will not say it is altogether so.

4687. You say meat has risen 4*d.* a stone lately?—Yes; it has risen more occasionally, more than ½*d.* a lb.; I knew it to rise in one week 1½*d.* a pound or 1*s.* a stone.

4688. Was the statement in the paper then accurate or not; did the papers follow that rise in price?—No, not to the full extent.

4689. We want to come to facts; will you specify the time when the meat rose, and the amount; and then tell us exactly the statement that was made in the papers, and we shall be able ourselves to form some idea of it?—No, I cannot from recollection tell you the amount.

4690. Can you tell us any instance where you know that meat has been selling higher than what has been stated in the papers?—Yes; but I cannot recollect any dates.

4691. *Chairman.*] Can you tell us who the newspaper agents get their information from?—No.

4692. Do they get it from the salesmen or the butchers?—I do not know.

4693. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is there no authorised person in the metropolitan market?—No; only authorised by particular papers.

4694. We are speaking as to dead meat?—I do not know; I do not know anything on the subject of dead meat.

4695. The price of live animals is a good deal raised by the price of meat in the carcases?—Yes, it is.

4696. Then the price which is in the papers is the price per carcase per stone of 8 lbs., sinking the offal?—Yes.

4697. To whom do the newspaper agents go for information as to the dead-meat market?—I cannot undertake to say.

4698. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] All your knowledge is confined to the live market?—Invariably.

4699. *Chairman.*] What is it you say that is inaccurate; is it the account which the newspapers give of what the live animals fetch?—Yes; that is very generally inaccurate.

4700. And why do you think they understate it?—I cannot tell the reasons; I think the cause of it is, that they do not take proper pains to learn the facts.

4701. Do you think the salesmen would tell them?—Yes.

4702. You think the salesmen would be willing to give them correct information?—Certainly they would.

4703. We have had it stated in evidence that it is the salesmen's interest to keep down the price of meat, as stated in the papers; do you agree with that evidence?—No; I have heard just the contrary stated, that the salesmen wish to keep up the price.

4704. We have had evidence from a butcher that the salesmen do all they can to keep down the price stated in the papers?—No; it is the salesmen's interest to state the real facts of the case.

4705. But still you say that the price in the papers is understated?—Because they do not take the proper pains to inquire of the salesmen.

4706. Do you know the gentleman you mentioned who reports for the papers?—Yes.

4707. Have you often told him that his information is inaccurate?—Yes, often.

4708. Have you ever asked him to correct it?—I have declined to give him an account, because he wanted it too early in the day, at eight or nine in the morning; before the trade had commenced, he wanted the account of what the stock had made during the day.

4709. Did you offer to give him the information if he would send at a later hour?—Yes.

4710. Did he refuse to do that?—He did not state his willingness to send at a later hour.

4711. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] How would you suggest that the public should be informed correctly as to the market price; what would you suggest yourself on that subject?—As regards a live market, it is always a speculative thing what the price would be, because it is according to the judgment of the buyer and seller what the animal is worth, so that it is quite an estimated price.

4712. But what means would you take in order that the public should be carefully informed; would you have the information given by authority at the hands of salesmen and butchers conjointly, so that the public would be able to gauge what the price of the markets are, or would you have some public officer appointed to whom the information should be given; or should he himself collect the information and be responsible for giving it as accurately as he can?—Yes, I think it should be conveyed through the clerk of the market, and then we should know who was responsible for giving correct returns. I beg to suggest it should be conveyed through the clerk of the market, and he would be known then to be responsible.

4713. What is the name of the gentleman who is clerk of the market?—Mr. Baldry.

4714. Then, you think that both the salesmen and butchers would be willing to give the clerk of the market information as to the price of the day?—Yes.

4715. You do not doubt that?—Not the least.

4716. At what hour should such price be given in?—Not earlier than 11 o'clock.

4717. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Would that be an average struck of all the prices given during the day; how is it you could not get the price

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

5 June 1866.

price earlier in the day?—Because some of the most active sales do not take place till late in the day.

4718. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What regulates the price of the metropolitan market?—The supply.

4719. Nothing else?—The supply and the weather very often; because if the weather is very warm, the persons cannot attend the dead-meat market. In fact, from Aberdeen, where they send a good deal of meat during the cold weather, they cannot send it during the hot weather; and when the butchers want a large quantity of meat in the live market, it is because they cannot depend on the dead-meat market.

4720. I thought that the greater part of the business of the live-meat market was transacted before 10 o'clock?—It depends on the state of the trade; when the trade is very good, half the business is got over by 10 o'clock in the morning; when the trade is not good, it very seldom is. In summer it commences earlier than in the winter, for in the winter it is dark until half-past seven.

4721. Is it not the object of the Corporation of London that the trade should be done earlier in the morning?—They could have no control in the matter.

4722. Do they not control it by the price; is there not heavier stallage on the cattle that are not cleared by a certain time in the morning?—The municipal authority could not control the market in regard to market price.

4723. With a view to force the trade early in the morning, is there not a heavier price put upon that which remains late than that which is removed early?—No; it depends upon the supply, and the price obtained.

4724. I know there was an intention of the sort, and I ask whether cattle removed early do not pay less stallage, or a less market toll, than that which is paid upon cattle sold after a certain hour?—No.

4725. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I know that we only pay one toll, and that it is not regulated by the time they go away; they are entitled to stand there the whole day by paying one toll; but the butchers have been greatly inconvenienced by having to take beasts away at an early hour in the morning in consequence of the arrangements made by Sir Richard Mayne as to driving cattle through the streets of London; they are very awkwardly situated, no doubt, and are sometimes pressed by circumstances into giving a better price earlier than they would later.

4726. I thought there had been some regulations made with a view to help the trade, and that people should not be loitering all day long, to charge a larger price to the later trade than to the earlier trade?—Nothing of the kind.

4727. You say the supply regulates the price?—The supply and the weather, and the demand among the public; the number of people in town, and so on.

4728. In what way are the prices inaccurate that we have seen in the paper?—Sometimes they are a halfpenny a pound less then we really make, 4*d.* a stone less than is made in the market; and sometimes it is a halfpenny a pound more, and sometimes they give you week after week, in the leading journals of the day, nearly the same price, where there has been a difference in the market of from 6*d.* to 1*s.* a stone.

4729. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you ever written to the papers asking them to correct that?—Yes.

4730. *Chairman.*] Do you write to your customers in the country to say that there has been a mistake in these cases?—I constantly write to them to say they cannot depend upon them.

4731. When there has been a mistake in the papers as to the price of meat, do you write to your customers, who consign cattle to you for sale, stating that the price is higher than what the papers quote?—No, I have not time to pay attention to that.

4732. You do not do so?—I have often written to them to say their quotations are incorrect.

4733. Have you ever written to say that the quotations are incorrect, as being too low?—I do not know as to that.

4734. Will you answer the question. Have you ever done so?—No, it has not been necessary.

4735. You have not found it necessary to inform your customers that the prices had been higher?—It would not make any difference to them.

4736. I ask you the question whether you have done so or not?—No.

4737. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] When you have seen the prices quoted wrongly in the paper, have you ever written to the editor of the paper, stating that that has been the market price of the day?—Yes.

4738. Has it been corrected in the next paper, and has your letter had the effect of causing proper quotations the next day?—I cannot say that it has.

4739. Do you state as a fact, that you have written to the paper to represent that the price quoted has not been the real price?—Yes. I have often written to do so.

4740. *Chairman.*] What have you written to state, that they have been too high or too low?—That they have been quoted too high, and that the prices have been altogether incorrect.

4741. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] And you state there has been no correction in consequence of your letter?—No, I am not cognizant of any improvement; I am not cognizant of any pains having been taken to learn the true facts.

4742. Have you had any answer to such a communication as yours from the newspapers?—No.

4743. And they have continued to insert the erroneous quotations?—Yes.

4744. May I ask the name of any newspapers to which you have written in this way?—Would it be necessary to state that.

4745. Yes, because you come here to give specific facts?—I have written to the "Times," upon several occasions.

4746. You state positively that upon your writing to the "Times," no communication has been made to you on the subject?—Not personally in reply.

4747. I want to know whether there was any single correction the next day in the quotations?—I cannot undertake to say.

4748. Did they go on quoting the same prices, or did they adopt your quotations in the next report?—It is not my usual practice to pay attention to what they do, but my attention has often been called to the fact.

4749. You have stated, as a fact, that the quotations of a newspaper by which the public judgment of the prices of meat is concerned, have been

been erroneous. I ask you, have you taken any steps to correct these errors; you say you have done so, and you specify the "Times" as one newspaper to which you have written. I ask you now, whether you, having written to the "Times," they have taken any notice of your communication?—Not by any communication to me.

4750. Have they corrected what, according to your view, was a wrong quotation?—They may have taken means to gain correct information.

4751. That is no answer to my question; did they, or did they not?—I have not necessarily watched it.

4752. Do you mean to say, when you were perfectly aware that the quotation was a wrong one, that you did not watch in the next paper, to see whether they had set it right; are the Committee to understand you persist in that answer?— Yes, I have seen the same kind of errors committed again.

4753. Have you taken no steps then?—I have written on several occasions.

4754. Can you give us the date of any letter you have ever written to the "Times" on the subject?—No, I cannot.

4755. Do you keep any journal, or any minute book?—No; I should not think of entering any little circumstance of that kind in a journal.

4756. Can you give us no month or year; because there is somebody from whom we probably can get information. Probably they would have your letters at the "Times" Office?—Very likely, my name is well known to them.

4757. Can you give us any year or month in which you have written to the "Times"?—No.

4758. Does Mr. Herbert supply the "Times" with that information?—I do not know.

4759. He does supply some of the papers?—He does.

4760. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Have you a range of prices to describe quality at every market?—Yes, it is the same phraseology as they have used for many years.

4761. As a fact, there is a range of prices from so much to so much, to describe quality?—Yes.

4762. Do you deal in all kinds of live animals, low class as well as high?—Nearly so.

4763. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You have told us in the first part of your evidence, that every beast that was slaughtered in a public slaughter-house was worth 30*s.* less?—Yes.

4764. Give me exactly how you arrive at that fact?—That is the conclusion of the whole trade.

4765. General conclusions must be founded on some facts. I want to know the steps by which you have arrived at that conclusion?—To a butcher who lives far away from the public slaughter-house, it is so much more convenient to him, and he can make much more of his offal, being in a cleaner state in his own house, and he can employ his own men to kill, his apprentices and the young men he has about him, instead of being obliged to send his men away to a public slaughter-house; besides, his property is safe, and in the butcher's estimation they are worth 30*s.* a head more to him.

4766. If your figures are of any value, there must be some means of arriving at that 30*s.* Is it simply because he can keep his men employed at his own slaughter-house?—That is one reason. The meat that is killed at his own slaughter-house is in a better condition; he can exhibit it, and it can be hung up, and get cool at his own place better than it can at public slaughter-houses.

4767. Why?—His sheep and lambs would look very different indeed if they were killed at home, to what they would if they have to be carted there. They make a very nice and neat show in a butcher's shop when killed in a proper state, and only removed from the slaughter-house to the front of the shop.

4768. I was asking you as to beef, and not as to sheep and lambs. I suppose you wish your evidence to be looked upon as of some value; and it cannot be looked upon as of any value, unless you give us the reasons for your statements. How do you arrive at that 30*s.*?—It would be so very inconvenient for the butcher to send a distance from his home to have a bullock killed at the public slaughter-house, and it certainly would be worth more to him if killed at his own place. It is the general estimate of the trade which I am giving now; on the average, it will be worth 30*s.* a head more to have them killed, with all the privileges of killing, at their own slaughter-houses, than they would by a compulsory arrangement to have them killed at public abbatoirs. Of course, the extra value they would be to him would depend on the distance it would be from the slaughter-house; for instance, if a butcher lived eight miles or more away, it would be a great inconvenience.

4769. Then that 30*s.* must vary in every case; it cannot be one given standard, according to your evidence?—I am speaking on an average.

4770. *Chairman.*] Take a particular case. Take a man who has to go three miles; give us the extra expense to him, of killing at a public slaughter-house, taking the killing first?—The killing would be 4*s.* at the public slaughter-house.

4771. What would it be at home?—Comparatively nothing; he would have his own premises, and the men whom he had engaged.

4772. How long does it take to kill an ox?—To dress it, do you mean?

4773. To kill it and dress it, so as to put it in a fit state to hang in the shop?—It takes half an hour.

4774. I say to kill it, and dress it, and quarter it; how long does it take?—They do not quarter them. They take half or three-quarters of an hour to kill them and dress them.

4775. You say it costs nothing at home?—Comparatively nothing; his young men can do it.

4776. And it would cost 4*s.* at a public slaughter-house?—Yes.

4777. At what do you put down the cartage for the three miles?—It would take him away from his business, and he would have to keep more horses and carts.

4778. I ask you what do you put it at for three miles?—I should say he could not send his horse and cart away for three miles and back again for less than 5*s.*, but a three-mile radius would comprise only a small portion of the butchers.

4779. We will put down 5*s.*; what else is there?—The offal would be much more to him in a clean state than if it were brought away from a public slaughter-house.

4780. Why should it come from a public slaughter-house in a dirty state?—It necessarily does.

4781. Have you ever been in a public slaughter-house?—Yes.

Mr. *J. Gillett.*

5 June 1866.

4782. Where?—In several about London.

4783. Where?—I have been in three in Copenhagen fields.

4784. Is there a public slaughter-house at Copenhagen-fields?—Yes.

4785. There is one that you can hire, is there not?—Yes.

4786. I want to know whether you have ever been in a public slaughter-house where people were forbidden by law to slaughter in any other place?—No.

4787. You never have?—No.

4788. Then do you apprehend that all the offal in the slaughter-houses of Paris and of Edinburgh comes away in a dirty state?—I do not know.

4789. We have got it that the slaughtering comes to 4*s.*, and the cartage 5*s.*, have you any other sum to put down to make up the 30*s.* a head?—I am speaking of the estimated value that it would be worth. Then the fat would not be safe.

4790. An estimate must be based upon particulars, and I want to have the particulars. We have the price of slaughtering and the cartage; is there nothing to add to that?—I say his property would not be safe.

4791. What would not?—His fat would not be safe.

4792. That is to say, you suppose they would all be rascals at the public slaughter-houses?—It is a common thing for the fat to be stolen.

4793. You mean the inside fat?—Yes.

4794. What is the average amount of inside fat in an ox?—From three stone to twenty stone.

4795. What do you think would be the average loss on the fat?—I cannot undertake to say what would be stolen and what would not.

4796. Do you mean to say the butcher would risk losing a whole guinea by the purloining of his fat?—No, I am speaking of what they say themselves.

4797. I am not asking what they say themselves. You tell us that 30*s.* would represent the loss to a butcher, if he had to kill it at a public slaughter-house; you give us 4*s.* as the price of slaughtering and 5*s.* the cartage, which is 9*s.*, and then you tell us the only other item is the loss of the fat for which you have 21*s.* to account for. Do you think the butcher would lose the whole guinea on the fat that would be purloined?—He might do so.

4798. If you named that to a butcher, would he not burst out laughing?—No, I do not think he would. I think his practical information would bear out exactly every word I have said.

4799. You think it possible he might lose a whole guinea by the purloining of the fat?—No doubt many would think it possible, but I am alluding to the general advantage of having the ox killed on his own premises.

4800. Mr. *Dent.*] You are principally concerned as a salesman of live stock?—Yes.

4801. Not as a butcher?—No.

4802. Do you know anything about the consuming markets, not the metropolitan, but the consuming markets, in manufacturing districts and other districts; do you know anything of the prices?—In what consuming markets?

4803. In Manchester and Leeds?—I know at Manchester they are fearfully situated as regards the price of beef.

4804. Is it not a fact that for some time the metropolitan market has been the cheapest market for the butcher to buy in almost in England?—Necessarily, because the animals come from abroad to that market.

4805. For instance, the animals might have been bought at the metropolitan market and taken down to Manchester or Leeds, and then a considerable profit realised by the salesman?—If they could be taken immediately.

4806. Would you be surprised to hear that animals could have been bought in the metropolitan market and taken down to the Leeds Market yesterday, to make, on an average, a profit of 3*l.* per head?—No; that would realise exactly what I have been attempting to show the Committee.

4807. The price of butcher's meat in the metropolis ranges consideraby higher than the price of butcher's meat in those towns as to the retail price?—I think not.

4808. Quite as high?—I think lower, from the information I got. Of course being actively engaged here I am not there to see, but from information I have received, it is lower. In the Isle of Wight beef is worth 8½*d.* a pound.

4809. We are not talking of the Isle of Wight, but of Leeds, Manchester, and manufacturing towns?—It is much dearer there.

4810. Tell us the retail prices of the best joints in London now; take the retail prices of beef at the present moment; do you know what they are for sirloins, and ribs, and the best parts?—I should think from 11*d.* a pound the best beef.

4811. And for mutton, the best joints, legs and saddles?—The charge, I presume, would be about 10*d.* or 11*d.* per pound. I know the whole sheep has made 10*d.* or 11*d.* in the market.

4812. And veal and beefsteaks considerably higher?—No doubt, without the bone.

4813. The prices in the live market are at the present moment, you believe, considerably less than at Leeds, Manchester, and other manufacturing towns?—Yes; from the circumstance of the meat from abroad being two-thirds of our London supply. Out of the last 800 I have sold, though I generally sell more English than foreign, yet more than two-thirds are from abroad.

4814. The butchers in London, at the present moment, are buying almost cheaper than they are anywhere in the country. The London butcher is, at the present moment, buying live stock cheaper than anywhere in the country?—He is buying cheaper, than in counties where they cannot get the stock.

4815. And the retail prices are higher than ever was known in London?—Meat is a great deal dearer than I ever knew it in my life. The carcases of sheep I have known lately to fetch 10*d.* a pound, and if a butcher had got 13*d.* for his legs of mutton, he would not have made much by it. In some counties, where they have no stock at all, they are obliged to come to market and have it killed, and sent down at a dreadful expense. They tell me it is worth 50*s.* each ox instead of 30*s.* I have the testimony of men in Manchester, that they are worth 50*s.* a-piece more if they are sent down alive and killed in their own slaughter-house. I have the testimony of a large contractor in Plymouth; he is determined not to have another contract as long as he lives, for he has ruinously suffered by buying the animals here and killing them, and I believe they are worth 50*s.* more if he could get them home alive.

4816. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You said that Manchester

Manchester was fearfully situated? — Because they cannot get the stock; they are obliged to go to Liverpool, to get the dead meat; stock is not allowed to be sent alive into the Manchester districts. That is why they are so awkwardly situated.

4817. Is that the case?—That is the case.

4818. No cattle can travel from Liverpool to Manchester now?—No, I think not.

4819. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You are wrong; they can go from Liverpool to Manchester, but they are not allowed to go to the adjoining towns?—Yes, I believe that is so, but not allowed to go from Liverpool after they have been in the market.

4820. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Explain your remark when you said that the Manchester markets were fearfully situated?—I mean the neighbourhood round Manchester; the large towns round about it.

4821. Are you aware that the Manchester market has not been supplied lately; is the price of meat dearer in Manchester than it is in London?—Yes, decidedly so; it has been much dearer. Of course, I am only giving you what I have been informed.

4822. Since when?—The last two or three months. They have come up to London, and they have bought some of the beasts here, and killed them here, to take down dead to Manchester.

Mr. *J. Giblett.*

5 June 1866.

4823. But they buy them cheaper here than they can in Manchester. That does not prove anything about the price of meat in Manchester?—It proves it is dearer there than here, or they could not afford to buy them here, and take them there.

4824. That is an open question, unless you speak from personal knowledge of the matter?—I am extensively engaged in business here, and I am not at Manchester, and therefore cannot give you that information. Will the Committee allow me to make one remark: standing as I do (a public man, to a certain extent); the loud outcries I have heard from Norfolk, not to be able to get their cattle up by transit——.

4825. *Chairman.*] We are going to have some Norfolk witnesses, and we shall hear of that from them. Your evidence has not been very satisfactory to the Committee, because we have had very great difficulty in getting a plain answer to a simple question. The value of your evidence to the Committee, I think, will be very slight in consequence of that fact?—I am sorry to hear you say so.

Mr. Thomas Woodley, called in; and Examined.

4826. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Where do you carry on business?—74, Aldgate High-street.

Mr. *T. Woodley.*

4827. In the City of London?—Yes.

4828. What are you?—Carcase butcher.

4829. Are you in the retail as well as the wholesale trade?—No, only in the wholesale.

4830. Are you the Mr. Woodley, a member of the Common Council of London?—I am.

4831. You are thoroughly acquainted with the wholesale carcase trade of London?—With the wholesale meat trade I am perfectly acquainted.

4832. How many years have you been in business?—Since a very early period of my life; all my life I may say, since I have been able to attend to it.

4833. You have been here several times, and you know the object of this Committee is to endeavour to see how far London can be supplied with dead meat, with a view to avoid the moving of cattle all over London; will you give the Committee your opinions with regard to the practicability of that?—There is an absolute necessity for a live market, and only one market; those two points are quite clear in my mind.

4834. Can you give reasons for that?—I will give reasons. The immense amount of meat required to supply this large metropolis; the amount of dead meat we shall get we cannot at all reckon; I do not believe that any system could be devised by which you could depend on a regular supply of dead meat from the country; but it is a matter of great necessity that there should be a regular supply to prevent, as far as possible, the fluctuation of price, and there should be, to some extent a standard price obtained. With a live cattle market and a dead-meat market the live animals are the regulating power; the butcher can kill them, if required; or he can purchase dead meat, if it is to his advantage; but it is absolutely necessary he should have a supply of live animals. Also, for a great portion of the year it is the only mode of supplying London with fresh meat, that animals should be on the spot, to be killed in great emergencies. It is not a question in this metropolis that we should have none or a great deal, it wants keeping as clearly as possible to one standard; that can only be done by every butcher having a supply of live animals.

4835. Then you start on this principle to begin with, that there must be a large live cattle market for the metropolis?—There must be a large live cattle market for the metropolis.

4836. And only one?—And only one market.

4837. Why so?—That the butchers may have a place to go to to make their bargains and establish a price. It is competition that keeps up a supply to the market. A small diminution in price, or an increase in price, is a matter that is known all over the country, and prepares for the following market. If the consignments are profitable to-day, it brings more the next market day; if there is a loss they are at once withheld, and it is necessary that there should be only one market, and only one market day, to keep the business somewhat regular.

4838. Was not that the old doctrine when London only had a million of inhabitants, and do you think it still holds good when it has three millions of inhabitants, to have only one market?—I think there is the same necessity for one market now that there was then, and perhaps more so.

4839. If London increased to five millions of inhabitants, do you think there should still be but one market?—Still but one cattle market.

4840. Because you say it establishes one standard of price?—Yes, and enables the butchers to have prices similar.

4841. You think that by having one market, and therefore one standard of prices, there would be a large price?—There is a larger price, and there is a consumption of as much time as a butcher can spare. Monday is the most convenient

Mr. *T. Woodley.* 5 June 1866.

venient day to leave the shops, in all ordinary cases, and he can hardly spare time for more. The Thursday market is almost neglected, because the time is then more valuable to the butchers; time is a valuable item.

4842. Do you mean to say as to the Thursday market, there is no fresh supply of meat to feed that market?—Yes; it is almost all fresh, but the demand is not so great, or the number of buyers.

4843. The Thursday market is not supplied by the remnants of Monday?—No; it is principally fresh stock.

4844. Then you have really two markets a week, but Monday is the general market day?—Yes.

4845. Practically there are slaughter-houses attached to the market?—There are slaughter-houses at the market, but very few in number.

4846. Supposing the number were increased, do you think all the cattle brought to that market could be slaughtered at those slaughter-houses? Certainly not; I take it to be wholly impracticable; I think it to be a question of such vast magnitude as to be wholly impracticable.

4847. Give us the reasons?—I shall have to go into some little particulars. On the average we have 5,000 beasts weekly and 30,000 sheep, and they would only be partially sold on Monday; whether sold or not, if they did not leave the market, they would take a very large space of lairage; they would require a great portion of space to be kept there some few days. Few animals are slaughtered in London when they are purchased; they are mostly kept two or three days by the butchers, and in hot weather the animals are chiefly kept until the latter end of the week, and then a very large number would be required to be killed on one day, either Thursday or Friday.

4848. *Chairman.*] What is the principal killing day now?—Thursday; it is ruled by the heat of the weather. If it had been as hot last Thursday as it was on Friday, it would have driven the killing to Friday.

4849. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Where is the lairage now?—At present a great many of them go into the metropolitan market lairage since the restrictions by which the cattle are compelled to be taken by the railway into the metropolis. They are not allowed to be unloaded, otherwise there are convenient lairs a mile or two from the metropolis; but at present they go to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, and although it is a beautiful cattle market, and the layers quite as large as the corporation could be expected to provide, yet it would not be adequate for the stock of animals to lie there day after day; at present they go there on Saturday night, and are in the market again on Monday morning.

4850. What quantity can be stored in the lairage attached to the market?—They sometimes have as many as 3,000 beasts in the lairs, but I think they have to lie inconveniently close.

4851. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What do they pay per night?—Three pence, and as much hay as they order or pay for; the 3 *d.* does not include forage.

4852. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Supposing there is a market on Monday of 5,000 beasts, there would be an average of 3,000 kept there till Thursday; is that so?—I think they would lie inconveniently close.

4853. But there would be lairage?—Yes, they can be stowed away there.

4854. What becomes of the other 2,000; could they be killed at the abattoirs of the market?—With the present slaughter-house accommodation, certainly not.

4855. Mr. *Dent.*] Supposing there are 5,000 beasts brought on Monday to the metropolitan market, what becomes of those 5,000 in ordinary cases?—They are removed as fast as they are sold; the drovers begin to leave with them soon after daybreak.

4856. Where do the butchers keep them till the end of the week when they want to kill them?—Each butcher has premises of his own, exceedingly well adapted for them, and the cattle are kept in stock, and taken as much care of as horses.

4857. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Then some of the 2,000 beasts are killed at the market, and the others are taken away to the Whitechapel Market, and killed there; and some are distributed to other butchers in various parts of London?—All over London and the metropolitan districts chiefly; they go through a wide radius.

4858. Now, go on to another branch; in your opinion, the butcher can more advantageously carry on his trade by having the live stock under his own care, and killing it at his own convenience, than at the public slaughter-houses?—Undoubtedly.

4859. Why so?—In the first place, he has the important advantage of having his own property under his own control. When he has purchased an animal he can remove it and take possession of it; he can also kill it at the most convenient time almost without expense; it saves a vast amount of labour; the animal walks home instead of having to be carted, which is a very serious item. A beast is a very great weight, and as soon as you deprive it of life you have to carry it by some means. Every part of the animal is valuable to the butcher; he brings the whole of the offal to the best account, and takes the greatest precaution he can that his meat shall all be kept in the best condition. As I said before, he has the power of regulating his own supply.

4860. Would he not very nearly do the same thing if the slaughter-houses were distributed all over London in various districts?—No.

4861. If they were let to different parties?—Yes; I am not aware of the number of slaughter-houses in London, but I think it must amount to thousands, and you could not establish thousands of slaughter-houses in one particular spot; you must necessarily have a large slaughter-house. Then each individual butcher would lose the control over his own property, and would not have the same security for it that he has now. I hold it will be impracticable to erect a great number of slaughter-houses, or for men who buy one, two, or three beasts a week to kill at large public slaughter-houses.

4862. Is it not a fact now, dealing with the western part of London, that there are a great many of the large butchers who have slaughter-houses contiguous to their premises?—There are not a great many; but I believe it is so in some cases.

4863. What difference does it make when a man has his own slaughter-house or his own public slaughter-house; could it make any difference?—If he has not convenient premises adjacent to his own house, he has them as near as he possibly can

can, and also has his property under his control to kill; for instance, in the weather we have just been passing through, it was desirable he should kill his animal as late as possible in the evening, and the butchers in London who wished to kill a bullock last Thursday or Friday, would require to kill something like 2,000 bullocks on the same day. That would apply to cold weather as well as hot. In the cold weather they wish to kill them early, in order that they may hang for two or three days, and in hot weather they wish to kill them late, in order that they may have them nice and sweet. It is a question of having sufficient accommodation to hang them well; to have them killed at one particular time, and that the best time for the butcher's own interest.

4864. Your own trade is in Whitechapel, High-street?—Yes.

4865. I suppose other butchers kill there; you let out your slaughter-house to other people, I suppose?—No; I use it entirely myself.

4866. What kind of animals do you kill?—I kill the best oxen.

4867. Nothing but oxen?—Scarcely anything but oxen.

4868. How many do you kill a week?—Some 80 to 100.

4869. What becomes of their carcasses?—They are all sold; I sell them myself on the premises.

4870. Do you sell them at home or send them to Newgate?—Nearly all of them at home.

4871. Do you send anything to Newgate Market?—Occasionally a few quarters of beef.

4872. How are the meat markets at Whitechapel and Leadenhall supplied with beef?—By a good deal of town-killed meat and a portion of country-killed, which varies with the weather and the time of year.

4873. There are no slaughter-houses for oxen attached to either Newgate or Leadenhall?—No, not now.

4874. How many years is it since that was altered?—It is not many years since the last beef slaughter-house was abolished in Newgate. I think I remember two or three that used to be there.

4875. Now they are served either by country meat or meat slaughtered in other parts of London?—Entirely so. I think it was an act of the Corporation to do away with the driving the cattle into Newgate Market. The sheep are still killed there in some few slaughter-houses, but I think the Corporation did away with the slaughtering of cattle.

4876. A few years ago?—Yes.

4877. In fact, there is meat sold both in Newgate and Leadenhall Markets, where the carcases are brought either from a distance or slaughtered in other parts of London?—Yes.

4878. Is there a market now in Aldgate, High-street?—Yes, a very considerable market.

4879. That is called a dead-meat market?—Yes, there is a great deal of meat sold there.

4880. Is the meat that is sold there meat that is brought from the country or slaughtered in London?—Most of it is slaughtered in London. We have also a supply of country-killed meat, and our customers live mostly in the eastern districts of the metropolis. There is a considerable shipping trade; it is the most convenient place for the East End butchers.

4881. There is a meat market in Aldgate, High-street, that is Whitechapel, and another at Leadenhall, and a third at Newgate?—That is so.

4882. How do you manage in those three markets for the standard of prices?—The prices keep pretty nearly the same. The distance is not great. We are within a mile of Newgate Market, and butchers soon tell each other. If there is a glut of meat at Newgate Market, they drive up and get a supply if they can buy cheaper. If, on the other hand, we hear that Newgate is short, a lot is forwarded from our market to that market for sale, or we have butchers come down occasionally from the northern districts and the south to buy meat of us.

4883. Does it occur that you could always get everything you want at one of these markets?—It frequently happens so.

4884. Are all those markets held on the same day?—Every day is the day for the meat markets. The demand is greater on some days than it is on others.

4885. It is a daily open market, in fact?—A daily market; necessarily so.

4886. I suppose Newgate Market is a very large market?—Very large.

4887. That being the largest market, does it regulate the supply?—I think it has more effect on the prices; the prices from Newgate Market have a great effect through all the country. They have an effect on both markets, no doubt. If the demand is good, then there is an endeavour to get the quantity of live animals at once to supply the demand.

4888. It is said that London is the cheapest market; how do you account for that?—We have the whole, or nearly the whole, of the foreign supply; we have the great bulk of them. No doubt that is the reason of it.

4889. How is it that the sheep market is cheaper in London than it is in the country; is that so, to begin with?—I think London is the cheapest place in the kingdom for meat, on an average.

4890. Mr. *Dent.*] Not to the consumer, I think, is it?—Well, that is a little way from my branch of the business; but I can give you a satisfactory answer to that.

4891. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] We only want your information and facts on which to judge; any information you can give will be of great value to the trade, no doubt, as well as to us?—Then, I would say, that the prices of the different parts of meat vary more in London than they do in the country. The butchers in London sell the coarser parts of the animal very considerably lower than in the country. I believe in very many parts of England you will find working men pay 2 *d.* a pound more than they do in London. That is one great advantage of the foreign supply. It is good, useful meat; it is not quite so handsome nor quite so high in price, and the coarse parts are consumed very much by the working classes, and that enables them to have cheaper meat; no doubt it is a great boon.

4892. Do you think the price to the consumer in London, generally, are influenced both by the dead-meat market being a large market, and there being a live market for the carcase butchers to go to?—Yes; I think they both combine to put the consumer in London on the best possible footing.

4893. Mr. *Dent.*] You buy a good deal of foreign stock as well as English stock?—Not much

Mr. *T. Woodley.*

5 June 1866.

much foreign; it depends rather on the time of the year.

4894. You advocate a single market, as far as the English and foreign stock is concerned; you think that the fact of their both being brought into the same market causes a lower price in each?—I do not think it causes a lower price, the price is ruled by the demand.

4895. I rather understood you that the advantage of a single market was the competition there was between the foreign and English stock being brought into the same market, which would be an advantage to the buyer?—I only meant that the butcher had the advantage of competition in enabling him to get between the two.

4896. If he has the advantage of getting between the two, it must bring the foreign stock into competition with English stock?—Yes.

4897. You buy sheep also pretty largely?—No, mine is entirely beef.

4898. What class in the metropolis are your customers?—Retail butchers at the east end of the metropolis; not entirely, but mostly so.

4899. In your opinion, do the working classes, as a rule, get meat cheaper in London than they do in the country?—No doubt of it, very considerably cheaper.

4900. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you regular customers for your offal?—Yes, it is all contracted for, and removed off the premises the same night. I may say in reference to the offal, it is mostly consumed; the eatable portions of it are consumed, perhaps about within a mile. It is not taken far.

4901. In the same way the hides are disposed of, I suppose?—The hides are taken to Bermondsey; a gentleman there has had my hides for many years.

4902. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What do you mean when you say the offal?—It is a general term. It includes everything but the carcase; the hide is part of the offal.

4903. A good deal of it is consumable?—Yes, and the foot is included in the offal.

4904. *Chairman.*] You use the word "offal" in two different ways, first of all, is everything but the carcase; secondly, the coarser parts of the meat that are eaten?—We do not use it with reference to meat.

4905. You use it with reference to the liver?—Yes, the liver, tripe, head, tongue, tail.

4906. And the trotters and so on?—Yes.

4907. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Those are all eaten?—Yes.

4908. *Chairman.*] Then you say so much, sinking the offal; then you include the hide, horns, and hoofs, but when you talk about consuming the offal you talk of that part which is eaten?—Yes, not about the hide, certainly.

4909. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose the consumption in London consists a great deal of foreign cattle; a very great portion.

4910. I observe now and then in driving along the eastern part of London, a great many Dutch cattle, black and white?—It used to be so, but the Dutch cattle are now stopped. You have no doubt seen a great many.

4911. They do form a large proportion of the consumption of London?—A very large proportion indeed.

4912. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What you talk of the consumption of London, you talk of the East End, not that the West End is supplied with the foreign meat?—The foreign meat goes into all parts of London.

4913. Mr. *Holland.*] Your carcases go everywhere?—Mine would keep very much to the East End.

4914. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] We have had the testimony of a West End butcher, who told us he never had any foreign meat?—I think the inhabitants of the East End of London are as good judges of meat as the inhabitants of the West End, and as respectable men carry on business there.

4915. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Were not those Dutch cattle among the healthiest of our stock?—I have always found them very healthy; I have nothing to allege against those cattle as to disease; I may state in passing, that my ordinary custom in the early part of the year is to buy my beasts in the country, but from July I attend the Metropolitan Cattle Market regularly; my custom is to buy 80 or 100 beasts on Monday morning, and send about half those animals to some marsh land I have at East Ham, a distance of seven miles, there to lie till the latter end of the week for killing purposes. Last year, from July onwards to November, I followed that course, and bought animals from various parts of England and the Continent, Dutch, French, Bremen, and Tonning; they were all mixed up together, in the ordinary course: I never had any case of disease or any serious casualty amongst the whole of the animals that passed through my hands during those months, and they all came from the Metropolitan Cattle Market, and were in contact with each other and the other animals in my marshes at East Ham, in my sheds.

4916. Tell us what class of animals have been the healthiest on an average during the last three or four years?—I have seen very few unhealthy animals at all; I buy a good description of animals; possibly there may have been some; I have not noticed; I think as a rule the complaints fall most amongst the poor cattle.

4917. Do any of the Jews slaughter at your slaughter-house?—Yes.

4918. The Jews have a critical examination of all the carcases?—A very narrow examination indeed.

4919. I ask you, therefore, judging by that test, whether the class of animals slaughtered at your slaughter-house are those which are so free from disease as that they would pass the Jews' examination?—The Jews would take mostly foreign animals; the foreign would meet their requirements in greater numbers than the English.

4920. What class of foreign animals?—The Dutch are very sound. The chief examination which the Jews make is as to the lungs of the animal, and the Dutch cattle are very sound in the lungs. They pass in greater numbers than any other.

4921. The Dutch cattle have been found the freest from lung diseases?—Yes.

4922. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] They suffer from *pleuro-pneumonia* very much in Holland?—They do not send them here. I think it is very uncommon to see cases of *pleuro-pneumonia* among the Dutch cattle.

4923. Where do you say the examination on the part of the Jews takes place; is it in the market, or where is it?—They provide their own slaughterer

slaughterer to do the act of slaughtering, and the animal is also examined before it is finally dressed. It is dressed by my men in the ordinary way, and the Jews simply do the act of slaughtering.

4924. There is, in fact, a *post-mortem* examination?—Yes.

4925. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Has it been found that the Dutch cattle, on the average, have been freest from lung disease of all other cattle?—Quite so. I may say as far as *pleuro-pneumonia*, the lung disease, is concerned, it is a complaint that would show itself. We should not think of slaughtering one for the Jews.

4926. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you ever had any with foot and mouth disease?—Yes, the beasts are very subject to have a slight attack of foot and mouth disease.

4927. Does that affect the meat?—Not at all.

4928. *Chairman.*] It depends on the state in which they are killed. They may have it so bad as to affect the meat?—You can make out nothing in the meat to lead you to suppose that they have had the foot and mouth disease.

4929. Mr. *Dent.*] You would not be likely to buy a beast that is suffering from it?—There is never anything from which you can detect it; after the bullock's feet are cut off, I would defy you to find anything to denote it.

4930. What I mean to say is, that you as a butcher would not buy any live animals that were affected with the foot and mouth disease?—I should not buy them as a rule, but it comes on very rapidly; it does not confine itself to one class of animals; I have had bullocks from Norfolk that have only come from the herds and stalls a day or two previously by rail, and they have been in my shed for a day or two, and have shown symptoms of foot and mouth disease. I think it is a symptom of fatigue, change of climate, and cold.

4931. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Fever?—Fever; just the same as anyone may catch a chilblain.

4932. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Will the animals having foot and mouth disease pass the Jews' examination?—Yes.

4933. Therefore it does not affect any vital part?—It does not; they lose the hoof in very bad cases, and then it is necessary to kill the animals.

4934. *Chairman.*] Do you sell by retail at all?—Not at all.

4935. Who are your customers; what class of butchers buy of you?—Retail butchers.

4936. West End butchers?—East End butchers principally.

Mr. *T. Woodley.*

5 June 1866.

4937. What is your opinion of the desirabilty or non-desirability of having a separate market for foreign stock?—I think we certainly ought not.

4938. You think not?—Decidedly not.

4939. Do you think it would interfere with the foreign trade?—I have no doubt of it.

4940. Do you think foreigners would cease to send their animals?—I think they would have less competition for their animals, and it is all a question of profit or loss. If a certain consignment did not pay the foreigners, they would be very loth to send another.

4941. You think they ought to come into the same market as the English?—The animals ought all to come into one market.

4942. That would be better for the buyer as well as for the seller?—Better for both.

4943. Do you think there is any evil in the present system of private slaughter-houses in the City?—I think not.

4944. I mean, as regards the comfort and health of the inhabitants?—I think not.

4945. Do not you think they are a nuisance?—I think they are not necessarily a nuisance.

4946. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You are member of the Common Council of the City of London?—I am.

4947. Perhaps you have read the reports of your own medical officer, Dr. Letheby?—Yes.

4948. You are aware of what his opinion is?—I am; like many learned men, he goes a great way; but I do not agree with him.

4949. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the animals being driven through the streets are a nuisance?—Trifling, compared with the evil you would create by stopping them.

4950. Then it is an evil, but you think you would have a worse evil if you stopped it?—I can hardly think it an evil; it is an inconvenience in some cases.

4951. Mr. *Holland.*] How do you dispose of the blood of your many carcases?—It is sold at so much per head, collected in barrels and taken away. We have various uses for it; a great portion of it is used by the sugar refiners.

4952. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You are near the sugar refiners; the sugar refiners are close by you?—Within half a mile of us there are the largest establishments in London.

Mr. Thomas Pickworth, called in; and Examined.

4953. *Chairman.*] You are a Retail Butcher?—Yes.

4954. You live in Goodge-street, Tottenham Court-road?—Yes.

4955. You are a member of the Butchers' Trade Protection Society?—Yes.

4956. What is the object of that society?—It is for the protection of ourselves as regards keeping our own slaughter-houses, and having the privilege of going to the markets to purchase our own stock, because we think it very beneficial to the public at large, and especially for our own convenience for daily supply.

4957. Do you yourself slaughter any animals?—Yes.

4958. Have you a slaughter-house of your own?—Yes; behind my house.

Mr. *T. Pickworth.*

4959. What number do you slaughter in the week on an average?—About 10 beasts, nearly 100 sheep, and six or seven calves.

4960. Do you slaughter for yourself, or anyone else?—Only for my own convenience.

4961. You buy in the Metropolitan Market?—Yes.

4962. Do you buy foreign or English beasts, principally?—English. When I can get them of the very best. Sometimes I have been compelled in the autumn season of the year, when the stock comes out of the Midland Counties of a Thursday to buy foreign beasts: for instance, I might

Mr. T. Pickworth. — 5 June 1866.

go to the market on Monday morning, and I generally want to purchase about 10 beasts. Perhaps I could not get above eight, and then I should have to purchase one or two on the following Thursday. I have gone to the market on a Thursday, and the supply has been so limited of English good beasts that I have not been able to get quite sufficient, and then I have been obliged to run over to the Dutch beasts and bought one or two of those of the very best to supply the immediate wants of my customers; but if English good beasts had been there I should have bought them instead.

4963. Do you buy any foreign sheep?—No.

4964. Do you buy your sheep in the Metropolitan Market?—Yes.

4965. You have heard the opinion of the last witness, that it would be inconvenient to the trade to be obliged to slaughter near the market?—Very much so indeed, and for this reason, our business is a business as regards killing the cattle which depends entirely upon the weather. I will suppose an evening like last night. I would not set my men to kill until after tea. I then should only kill one ox; perhaps a dozen or 14 sheep and lambs, just for my immediate trade. Had the weather been cooler I should have killed a couple of oxen and more sheep, but then when I got up this morning I found the weather was cooler, and the very first thing I did was to get my men to kill another ox and a few more sheep, so that those killed this morning I could sell in the latter part of the day. On a cool day in summer time there is one-third more meat consumed than on a hot day.

4966. Why could you not do the same if you had to kill at a public slaughter-house?—For this reason: I could not send my men to that distance. I may go to bed on a very hot night and only kill about half my supply before going to bed. Then the following morning I get up, say at three or four o'clock, and I find it is much cooler, and that I shall want a greater supply of meat. I call my men up and say kill something directly, and then the meat has time to get cool up to 11 or 12 o'clock, when I know the demand will be much greater.

4967. Is there a greater demand for meat when the weather is cool than when it is hot?—A great deal less is consumed in hot weather than in cool weather. If you have two or three very hot days in the beginning of the week in summer time, trade will be very bad in the shops. The people do not eat up so much meat. Then we should kill very carefully to meet that state of circumstances. We should not kill so much meat. The weather gets sometimes up to a fearful heat, and before we go to bed at night we will not kill two-thirds. Then a thunderstorm comes, and the atmosphere is cleared, and the next morning we want a quantity of meat and set our men to kill at once.

4968. Customers are very careful in buying in very hot weather, are they not?—Especially; and I, for one, cannot see how the wants of the public are to be met if the opportunity of killing at our own place is to be taken away from us.

4969. Is your slaughter-house licensed?—Yes.

4970. Who is it licensed by?—The parish of St. Pancras. I never keep stock in my own slaughter-house. I keep my beasts in one place, where I tie them up and feed them separately, and my sheep in another place.

4971. Is it a lair you have got?—It is a lairage about 200 yards from my own slaughter-house door; it is behind my house.

4972. When you buy in the Metropolitan Market you have the animals at once driven to your lairs?—Yes; sometimes I have turned my cattle out of the market at five o'clock in the morning.

4973. What accommodation have you in your lairs?—I have room to put in 20 beasts.

4974. Is it a yard, or what?—It is a shed; it will hold 16 or 17 beasts more comfortably than 20, and then there is a large place all round, and a loft over them.

4975. You keep them there to kill as you want them?—Yes; I fetch some out every morning. At five or six in the morning, if the weather is very hot, I say to my men, "Just send over only one bullock, or two bullocks." I never keep less than two in store, for fear I should get behind the demand.

4976. Do you buy dead meat?—Occasionally.

4977. Where do you buy that?—At Newgate Market.

4978. I suppose, like the rest of the trade, you are not very well satisfied with the accommodation in Newgate Market?—Certainly not.

4979. There is a great difficulty in getting at the market, is there not?—There is a great difficulty in getting at the market, and an immense amount of labour in getting the meat out of the market into our carts, and getting it home.

4980. Does the meat get much damaged by being carted away from the market?—In hot weather much of it is in a bad state, and it much disturbs it. I do not know that the meat will eat any the worse for the table, but it takes a certain amount of bloom off it; there is a certain amount of newness goes from it.

4981. That is from the surface?—From the surface; and it cuts up duller and deader.

4982. It gets a shabby appearance, in fact?—It gets a shabby appearance, whereas meat of our own killing looks clear, and bright, and new.

4983. You bring the sheep home in the carcase, do you not?—Yes.

4984. With regard to beef, what do you do?—I seldom buy beef; I buy a few quarters now and then, perhaps of beef and oxen. In winter time, I might go to the Cattle Market, and see that beef was rather dear on that day, and I should say, "I shall only buy eight;" meat would be cheaper in Newgate Market on that day, and I should see if I could buy a thing or two there. There are a class of buyers come to my shop who will not buy the dead meat; they know the difference between the dead meat and the meat I kill myself; there is a certain dullness in the dead meat, although I do not say there is any difference with regard to the eating of it; and some of my customers will only have what I kill myself.

4985. Is there much variation in the demand of your customers from week to week, except in very hot weather; I mean to say, taking the same customers, do you find the demand they make for meat is about the same, one week with the other?—About the same.

4986. There is about the same demand over the whole of London, I suppose, from week to week, if the weather is the same?—I should think there would be. As to a man's own trade, that depends on a man's energy in business; for instance, I could sit down and only do six or seven beasts

beasts a week, if I pleased; but if I put my energies to work and bustle about, and put the meat before the public, I can sell more meat.

4987. When you sell more meat, some one else sells less?—I cannot say that, I am sure.

4988. Do you think the consumption of London is pretty much the same from week to week?—I think it is according to the season of the year.

4989. Mr. *Dent.*] There must be an increase in the season?—Of course there must.

4990. *Chairman.*] I mean the regular consumption?—Yes.

4991. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What is your trade in Goodge-street; is it a mixed trade?—Yes, a family and chance trade.

4992. I suppose, by what you call chance trade you mean working-class trade?—Working-class trade, and the tradespeople out of Oxford-street and Tottenham Court-road, who come to purchase their own meat; there are a great many private people we serve all about.

4993. The working classes get their meat very much cheaper than families?—They have a different part.

4994. But they do, do they not?—Yes.

4995. Do you think that they got it cheaper by your being able to slaughter your own meat than if you were obliged to go and buy it at Newgate and other markets ready killed?—Yes, upon an average they get it at less per lb. than they would if I had to go to Newgate Market. Sometimes I can go to Newgate Market and get my meat at ½ *d.* or 1 *d.* per pound less than I can at others; sometimes it would cost me ½ *d.* or 1 *d.* per lb. more; and if I put the average together I can supply the public with meat of my own killing cheaper than I can if I have to go to Newgate Market.

4996. Then you think on the average that is so?—I am certain of it; materially so.

4997. You think your customers get their meat on as good terms as they would otherwise, and that the poorer class get it cheaper?—Yes; I am alluding to the best meat.

4998. Mr. *Dent.*] With respect to the retail prices of meat at the present moment, what are you charging your customers for the prime part, for the best?—It all depends how the meat is cut. You see you may come to my shop and ask me for the middle of a sirloin of beef and I would cut you the middle of a sirloin of beef. There is a great deal at the top of the sirloin, and you might say to me I want that cut off; you might say, I do not want any suet at all; in that case it would be 11 *d.* a pound; but if you had it cut right away, suet and all, then I should only charge you 9½ *d.* You might call for a neck of mutton, and say, I do not want any fat; if you were to say, cut me off all the fat, that would be a very heavy loss to us. Some customers will take meat just as the sheep or bullock grows, fat and bone, in a very different way from others. You might come to me for a piece of salt meat, and there might be a great quantity of bone with it; you might say, what is the price of that; it would be 8 *d.* to take it in round numbers, but if there is an immense quantity of bone, and you wish that bone cut off, it would be 9½ *d.* It is, in fact, just how the customers ask for it.

4999. Take ribs or sirloins of beef, as you ordinarily cut them for your customers?—I always cut them short, and many other butchers cut them extremely long.

5000. What do you charge for ribs and sirloins as you cut them?—Tenpence, 10½ *d.*, and 11 *d.*

5001. What do you charge for legs and loins of mutton?—Tenpence halfpenny at the present time, and in some instances 11 *d.*; if they will have the fat cut off for every small leg of mutton of 6 lbs., I charge 11 *d.*

5002. What do you charge for beefsteaks?—Tenpence, 9 *d.*, and 8 *d.*

5003. What do you charge for veal?—Fillets of veal now are 1 *s.*, and pieces of loins of veal 10 *d.*

5004. If you want to buy your meat in the dead meat market, you would not buy the entire beasts, such as you sell to the working classes?—Yes, I should for this reason; if I can go to Newgate Market and buy an ox from the head to the tail, and bring it home and sell it all over my board, I have the advantage by buying the whole ox of serving all sorts of customers; I then have the advantage of selling all the other parts, for this reason, I can make more of the coarse parts if the poorer class come to me, than if I were to leave it behind.

5005. Then it would be no disadvantage, so far, to the poorer classes, that you had to buy dead meat than your having to buy live meat, as far as that goes?—No; but I certainly could not sell them the meat as cheap, taking the 12 months through, as I do if I slay my own beasts. I have the advantage of going to the market and looking round and buying my stock as cheap as I can.

5006. You say you have accommodation to tie up so many bullocks; have you accommodation for sheep also?—I have a separate shed for sheep.

5007. How many can you accommodate?—Fifty or 60 sheep. Then, if I have more, you understand, I turn them out into the Park, and say to the drovers, take this lot into the Regent's Park. Except at autumn time, when the beasts come out of the different counties, I then send them into the fields for a short time, three or four days.

5008. If there were public slaughter-houses, a considerable lairage would be required for beasts about those slaughter-houses?—Very large.

5009. It would not be merely the existence of the public slaughter-houses, but you would have to provide large lairage round those slaughter-houses?—Yes; and the great difficulty would be, whether we should be able to tell which was our own stock when 2,000 or 3,000 were together.

5010. Surely you could get over that difficulty; you could mark your own stock with your own mark?—But suppose you got some of the same name. I have found other stock marked the same as mine has been marked, only the difference has been that the man bought his beast of another person. My name is Pickworth, and I have marked my stock with a "P," and I have found another man has marked his stock with a "P."

5011. You might get over the difficulty which has been raised, as to the dishonesty in the slaughter-house, if you had distinct slaughter-houses; that might meet the difficulty?—Yes; but that would not alleviate the difficulty we should find in meeting the contingencies of the weather. We want our beasts behind our house. For instance, I want my beasts behind my house, in order to kill the moment the weather turns, and the moment the emergency may arise.

Mr. *T. Pickworth.*

5 June 1866.

5012. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] But suppose you could not do that?—Then the public must go without being accommodated.

5013. Mr. *Dent.*] I asked the question upon the supposition not that there is to be one public slaughter-house, but that there are to be distinct slaughter-houses, and that they will be within a mile or two. That would not be a serious inconvenience, although it might be an inconvenience?—It would be a serious inconvenience, because we want our things to kill in a moment sometimes. One man may come in later order, say 12 o'clock, and say, "I want a calf's head," and if I had not one I must go and kill a calf and send the head to the customer that had ordered it, and in hot weather we often do it. If I had to send a mile off to kill the calf the gentleman could not have it for dinner. Another man might come in for a pair of sweetbreads.

5014. You would kill a calf for that purpose, would you?—Yes, necessity compels us to do it, or we could not maintain our position. Conceive the great difficulty there would be in getting the meat home. Supposing we had a district slaughter-house a mile or two away from our shops, the difficulty of sending our men backwards and forwards would be very great, and then we should have a lot of men congregated together, and it is as much as we can do now to keep the men in order when they are on our own premises. Another thing, I should not like to send my sons there to be amongst those men. We sometimes want the meat at four or five o'clock in the morning, and how could we obtain that if we had public slaughter-houses.

5015. Do you not think that private slaughter-houses need necessarily be a nuisance?—No; I am confident that they are sweeter and cleaner than nine-tenths of the dwellings of the poor people. I am sometimes under the necessity of going into the poor people's dwellings, and their places have sometimes very bad stenches in them, while our slaughter-houses are made sweet and clean. With reference to public slaughter-houses, we should also have the wind and weather to contend with. Supposing we wanted our meat home on a pouring wet morning, and had to drag it through all the streets, see what a mess it would come home in. Then, again, at other times there may be a sharp frost, and if we had to fetch our meat away early in the morning, we could not do it; we should have to wait until the blacksmith got up to rough the horses in the morning before we could go out with them.

5016. Everybody has not got the accommodation behind his house that you have, I dare say?—Most of them have, I should think.

Friday, 8th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	The O'Conor Don.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Holland.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.

MR. HUNT IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JOHN SIMON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Simon.* 8 June 1866.

5017. *Chairman.*] YOU are the Medical Officer of the Privy Council?—I am.

5018. Has your attention been at all called to the slaughter-houses in the metropolis, in a sanitary point of view?—Of late years, very little; but before I entered the service of the Government I was officer of health for the City of London, and then I saw a good deal of the system of London slaughtering.

5019. What is your opinion as to the desirability of continuing the present system of private slaughter-houses?—On its merits, I think it most undesirable that it should be continued.

5020. In what points of view do you think it objectionable?—As almost invariably a nuisance; as probably conducing to disease; and as giving facilities which, under a system of public slaughtering, I suppose would be restricted for the sale of bad meat.

5021. You think that the inspection would be more complete if all the animals were brought to public slaughter-houses?—Yes.

5022. There would be a great saving of time, I suppose, in the inspection?—A great saving of time, I should think.

5023. And a greater certainty of no bad meat finding its way to the market?—Yes.

5024. What was the system of inspection at the time when you had to do with it?—As I came here to-day without knowing on what points I should be examined, I have not looked up these matters, and may not be quite accurate in details; but, to the best of my recollection, the system was this: There was inspection of two sorts; on the one hand, of markets and matters exposed in them; and, on the other hand, of slaughter-houses and their contents. These inspections, at least to some extent, were in different hands. The inspection of slaughter-houses went wholly or chiefly with the district inspection of nuisances, and in practice scarcely, if at all, extended beyond questions of nuisance in the slaughtering, though the title of the officer was "inspector of slaughter-houses and meat," the City markets were at least in part inspected by other officers, who were not inspectors of nuisances. Reports of condemned meat were, in those days, not made to the officer of health, but to the clerk of the Commissioners.

5025. Was any notice required to the inspector when an animal was to be slaughtered?—No.

5026. Then how did an inspector find out when he had to visit a slaughter-house for the purpose of inspecting the carcase?—I believe that, practically, there was little or no inspection of meat till it was in market as exposed meat.

5027. There is no inspection of an animal immediately upon slaughter?—Of systematic inspection of that sort, I believe there was none.

5028. So that unless he could find any meat exposed for sale he could not be able to check the sale of improper meat?—I think not.

5029. Do you think a great quantity of meat unfit for human food has been sold in consequence of the Act being couched in those terms?—The Act under which these proceedings were taken (the City Sewers Act, 1851) was not in fault. Not particularly in the City, but generally, I dare say that a great deal of meat has been sold that I myself should be very sorry to eat. But, by "meat unfit for human food," no doubt you mean, particularly, meat apt to produce disease in those who consume it.

5030. Certainly?—I doubt if a great deal of such meat has been sold, owing to mere non-inspection of the process of slaughtering.

5031. You think that the inspection, so far, has been efficient in preventing a great deal of meat being sold, which was likely to cause disease?—The greatest activity shown in the City used to be in the stoppage of semi-putrid, or quite putrid meat.

5032. That is, the meat of healthy animals which has been kept too long?—Yes.

5033. Is the consumption of food, in a state of putridity, necessarily prejudicial to the human race?—Many people know, by their own experience of venison eating, and of game eating, that to eat meat which is "high" is not apt to be fatal to life, but it would disagree with some people, and of course the effect varies according to the degree and quality of the decomposition. There are some decompositions which are particularly apt to be injurious, and some meats which are particularly subject to injurious decomposition; as veal and pork.

5034. All the white meats, in fact?—I think some of them are peculiarly apt to get a dangerous kind of putrescence.

5035. But still any unprofessional person can at once detect meat of that kind by the smell?—Yes, certainly.

5036. It does not require professional inspection in order to secure the public against eating meat that is unwholesome from that cause?—No, I think not.

5037. Do you think that other than putrid meat has been sold to the detriment of human

Mr. *J. Simon.*

8 June 1866.

health, in the metropolis, under the present system of inspection; meat of diseased animals?—Animals, more or less diseased by the presence of parasites in their flesh or internal organs, are consumed somewhat considerably in England, and, in some cases, to the detriment of human health. The metropolis no doubt has its share of this.

5038. Is that in pork, or in all meat?—Not exclusively in pork.

5039. Is that the trichina?—The trichina has hitherto made very little way in this country. My remark would apply rather to measly pork, but of course the trichina, where it exists, is of very serious danger under some circumstances. Hitherto it has been very little known in this country.

5040. You think there is a great deal of measly pork in the country?—Yes; I believe there is no doubt about that.

5041. You think that a great deal of measly pork is sold for human food in this metropolis?—Probably a good deal is sold, but not necessarily sold in a state in which it can injure health. In the first place, probably, a considerable proportion of the measly pork that is sold is sold in the state of ham and bacon, in which, very commonly, the parasites will have been killed by the process of preparation; in other cases, I should think that generally they are killed by the process of cooking; generally, but not universally.

5042. You think that in the case of cured ham and bacon, that, if properly cured, the curing destroys the ill effect of the disease in the pig?—It tends that way.

5043. With regard to the fresh meat of pigs, if it is properly cooked, that entirely destroys it?—If it is thoroughly cooked.

5044. With regard to any other kind of meat, do you think that meat in a state of parasitic disease, other than pork, is sold to a very great extent?—I think not, to a great extent; that it is to some extent, is certain. As a rule, every human being who has a tapeworm has got his tapeworm by swallowing a bit of meat (pork or other meat) with a parasite in it.

5045. There is no parasitic worm peculiar to the human body?—Certainly not, in the sense of spontaneous generability there.

5046. You think, on the whole, that the inspection of meat in the metropolis is tolerably satisfactory?—Well, I am not quite prepared to say that; but the dangers to be guarded against are avoided in accidental ways independently of the inspection. If trichina were prevalent among our pigs, the public would not have the smallest security against the sale of trichinous pork.

5047. Germany is the country in which it has prevailed most?—Yes; the Germans, as, no doubt, you are aware, often eat under-done and half-cured pork and sausage.

5048. And, therefore, from the mode of preparing their food, they are peculiarly liable to it?—Yes; that is to say, if there is a trichinous pig, they do not go the way to escape being injured by it. The most thorough cooking of all pork is the best popular safeguard against such accidents. In Germany there have been epidemics affecting scores of persons at once from the consumption of a single trichinous pig.

5049. Do you think, when cholera is prevalent, that the eating of putrid meat is liable to give a tendency to take the complaint?—It will tend to loosen the bowels. To take in putrid material, whether by breathing or by eating; either to breathe putridity, or to eat putridity; is apt to produce diarrhœa, which probably may be looked upon as giving facilities to cholera.

5050. Then, you think, supposing we had a great introduction of this trichinal disease into this country, there is no effectual protection against it?—In inspection, certainly not.

5051. Do you think the requiring all animals to be slaughtered, either at public slaughter-houses or licensed slaughter-houses, would conduce to a better inspection?—Yes, considerably. The examination of separate establishments in detail would, I should think, be very difficult; but if all slaughterings were brought to one establishment for each town, probably there would be no impracticable difficulty in the inspection.

5052. Have you at all considered what would be the requirements of the metropolis in the market?—No, I have not.

5053. You are not able to give us your opinion as to how many slaughter-houses would be wanted in different parts?—No, I am not.

5054. You have been examined, I think, by the Cattle Plague Commissioners?—Yes.

5055. In which report does your evidence appear?—In the First Report.

5056. Have you given any attention to the question of the treatment of the animals on board ship that are imported into this country?—I have never seen the unloading of a cattle ship myself; but I have looked at the evidence on the subject.

5057. Do you consider at all that the animals are predispoed to any disease to which they are subject, by reason of the condition they acquire on board these vessels?—That they must come over very often in a state of illness, I can hardly doubt, when I consider the crowding, the bruising, and the (to some extent, perhaps, inevitable) filth. The sufferings of the animals are said to be very great in some of the passages from the Continent.

5058. Have you any suggestion to make as to any regulations which could be adopted to prevent that state of things continuing?—Only in very general terms. I suppose if the cattle trade were to be regulated, that the conveyance of animals by ships would be included in the system of regulations. As to the detail of regulations, I have not considered the matter.

5059. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you had opportunity yourself of observing the condition of the animals and carcases that have come damaged, and in a condition likely to be bad for food from foreign ports in vessels?—No; not on a scale that would make my evidence worth quoting.

5060. Then what you state is more the impression on your mind as to what the state of things actually is, than conclusions you have arrived at from a personal inspection?—Quite so.

5061. Are these private slaughter-houses among those matters which have come under your notice as affecting the localities in which they are placed; in point of health I mean?—In point of health, one has no means of separating them from other nuisances in their neighbourhood. The neighbourhoods in which most slaughter-houses exist, at all events most of those which I used to be well acquainted with in the City, are generally inhabited by a poor population, and are neighbourhoods where there are other nuisances; and one cannot, with logical precision, say that so much

much ill-effect depends on the one, and so much depends on the other nuisance; but the slaughter-houses were very much complained of when I had to do with the City.

5062. By those living in their neighbourhood, do you mean?—Yes.

5063. Have you noticed that these slaughter-houses are ever placed in immediate contiguity with rooms in which people dwell?—My impression is, that I remember plenty of such instances in the City. I am speaking now of what I have not looked at for 11 years, but I believe there is no doubt of it.

5064. Your impression is that the slaughter-houses in those instances are so much part of the dwelling-house as not to be separated from such dwelling-house by any intervening passage or courtyard?—That is my impression.

5065. So that the impurities or effluvium, if there were any, from the slaughter-house, the offal, the dung, the blood, the manure, and so forth, were certain, in the normal state of things, to be diffused in the atmosphere in which these people were dwelling?—Quite so. When I became officer of health for the City of London, there was a quantity of slaughtering in cellars, which at my instigation was stopped.

5066. Was there sufficient or reasonable care taken to purify those slaughter-houses as far as your recollection serves you?—They stank intolerably.

5067. Were there no disinfectants used?—At intervals, under the regulations of the authorities which were brought to bear upon them, white-washing was practised; but it was not a matter of daily practice to use disinfectants.

5068. Has yours been a professional practice?—I am a surgeon.

5069. Did it come within your practice to visit cases of disease, which you traced to these causes to which I have been alluding, namely, the effluvium and the impure atmosphere; because, as you say, the eating of putrid food, or the breathing of a putrid atmosphere, will act upon the stomach, so as to create diarrhœa, or give a tendency to diarrhœa; has it come across you, in your practice, to have known cases which you could trace to the action of this poison?—When you come to a court which has a system of offensive drains and sewers, or, perhaps, has cesspools in it, and then a slaughter-house, you cannot easily separate the action of the one from the action of the other; to some extent they are all acting in the same direction, and are influences of the same sort; but at the time when I was observing these things, as a matter of daily observation, the impression on my mind was a very strong one that the slaughter-houses acted injuriously in the way I have mentioned.

5070. Are you aware whether they are under a better system at this moment?—In the city no doubt they are, and in other parts of London, where there are active officers of health. For the last 10 years the metropolis has had officers of health, and many parts of London have been greatly improved. In the days when I was in the city there was no other officer of health in London.

5071. Have you visited any public abattoirs?—No.

5072. Not at Paris?—No; I never visited them at Paris.

5073. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Do you know anything of the foreign cattle that come into London at all, or whether they have to any extent introduced the disease?—On an occasion, some three years ago, when I went up to the cattle market, in order to observe the state of the beasts, I saw several animals that were unquestionably diseased.

5074. I am now talking of the rinderpest more especially?—No, I did not mean that.

5075. Have you ever directed your attention to any means of preventing the disease?—Yes; I have thought on that subject. We have been protected for a number of years against steppe-murrain by the quarantine regulations and vigilant stamping-out system of countries which are between us and Russia. At last that safety for us has broken down, and we must accept, as the result, that steppe-murrain will settle itself in this country, or that we must make up by other means for the absence of our former safeguard.

5076. I understand you mean, by the absence of quarantine, that they go through the intervening countries by railway now?—Partly, I suppose that to be the case, and also that there has been some direct importation from Russia.

5077. There was one cargo, was there not?—So I understand.

5078. Then you consider that without some change in our system we should always be in danger of what you call a steppe-murrain or rinderpest being introduced?—I have no doubt of it.

5079. Have you ever turned your attention to the feasibility of animals being slaughtered where they are landed, that is, on the banks of the Thames?—I have thought of it; not as a skilled person, because I have not skill in the sort of commissariat questions which have here to be considered; but looking at it so far as it is a medical question, it has seemed to me that that is what ought to be aimed at in respect of animals brought over for immediate consumption.

5080. Do you think that unless that system is adopted we shall be in danger of the rinderpest coming in?—Yes.

5081. Then, in a medical point of view, you think that killing the animals actually at the port of landing is absolutely necessary?—Yes, I think so.

5082. With regard to store animals, are there any means you can suggest, in a medical point of view, of preventing their spreading the disease through England?—Quarantine.

5083. For how many days do you consider, in a medical point of view, that quarantine ought to last?—The principle of quarantine is that the quarantined creature, man or beast, as the case may be, shall be detained and excluded till it has passed under observation, in perfect unsuspicious circumstances, and without showing any symptoms of the disease in question, at least as many days as the disease has days of incubation. There is the principle. Then as regards the incubation-time of steppe-murrain, scientific examiners would probably always pronounce with certainty, after six days' observation, as to the absence or presence of the disease; but unskilled observers would require a longer time. Continental observers seem not to approve of less than 10 days; but a quarantine of this sort would be the minimum; for you have to take into account a further point. If, among the store animals that are under quarantine observation, there breaks out a case

Mr. *J. Simon.*

8 June 1866.

of disease, then, of course, for all the other animals, the period of observation has to recommence. Suppose, that on a given Monday morning you find that one store animal out of 20, which you have in quarantine, is showing symptoms of the disease, you do not know but that in the few hours which have elapsed since the last examination, it may not have infected all the other 19; and you cannot tell that for some days at least.

5084. Then, in your opinion, if a certain number of fat beasts were brought over and slaughtered in apparently good health, there would be great danger in allowing the store cattle which came over with them to be distributed through England or through the metropolis, unless we had a quarantine?—Certainly.

5085. You naturally do not know where you could quarantine animals. You have not directed your attention at all to it?—No, I have not.

5086. No quarantine on the other side would be available in the same way, would it. A certificate that the animals at the port of embarkation had been kept a certain number of days and were then pronounced free of disease would be of no use?—The trustworthiness of certificates is hardly a medical question, perhaps; but I suppose they are very slippery things to deal with, are they not?

5087. Yes, very slippery?—I should not expect it would answer if you quarantined on the other side of the water, and there would be chances of another kind. You could not always guarantee the non-infectedness of the ships which would convey the cattle.

5088. I presume that you would see extreme danger in foreign cattle being taken from the metropolitan market, or any large market, and English cattle being allowed to mix with them, and to go again into the country with the chance of propagating the disease?—Unquarantined foreign animals in the cattle market, you mean?

5089. Yes; if it were done without quarantine?—Certainly.

5090. Then quarantine, and killing them at the port of entry are absolutely necessary in a medical point of view, in your opinion?—Quite.

5091. And unless that is done we shall never be safe against the disease?—Never.

5092. Mr. *Holland.*] Do you happen to have studied the history of the former visit of the disease to this country?—Yes, I have read it all. I have not chapter and verse at my fingers' ends at present.

5093. It existed here, I believe, for about 12 years, did it not?—Yes.

5094. You have not studied its progress during those 12 years; what caused it at last to disappear?—A very active system of killing, and disinfection; what is called, now-a-days, "stamping out." Of course in those days the facilities for the diffusion of infection in the country were much less than they are now.

5095. The *O'Conor Don.*] When you say that all fat cattle ought to be slaughtered upon arrival in any port in this country, do you extend that remark to foreign cattle, no matter from what country they come, whether from a country that has the rinderpest, or has it not?—I understood the question to refer to the parts of the continent of Europe, where rinderpest prevails or is likely to prevail. I did not understand it to apply to unsuspected countries.

5096. Your answer to Mr. Banks Stanhope then applies to cattle coming from infected countries?—To infected or suspected countries.

5097. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Would you consider that cattle coming over from any German or Dutch ports, though there is no disease either in Germany or Holland, should be liable to quarantine on account of the possibility of their having come from Hungary?—The practical answer to that, I suppose, would depend upon what the regulations of traffic between Holland and the countries across Germany might be.

5098. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] When the disease breaks out among quarantined animals, do you think it would be advisable to put the animals that remain sound through a fresh class of quarantine, or to slaughter them at once, in order to prevent any possibility of the disease spreading?—Certainly, as a general rule, to slaughter them at once. There may be objections to that which I do not know of, but I should think it would be the best course.

5099. Would you slaughter them if they were store animals; would you slaughter them whether they were fat or lean?—I suppose that is a matter on which generally some option might be given to the owner. If he were willing to incur the expense of letting the animals go through a fresh period of quarantine, it might, I suppose, be allowed.

5100. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] You were asked a question whether you would only have these rules as to quarantining or killing animals at the waterside, coming from infected countries?—Infected or suspected.

5101. What I understood you to say was, that that danger consists in the country where the port of embarkation is not having the same regulation that it had before to prevent infected cattle coming in?—That is it.

5102. Therefore you would have to look beyond the country where the port of embarkation is, in order to prevent infected cattle coming?—Yes; the healthy state of the port may be quite unimportant.

5103. That is to say, practically it would affect the principal German traffic?—Yes.

5104. Whatever the port might be?—Whatever the port might be.

5105. It would not affect Spain and Portugal?—Not unless they were suspected of infection.

5106. I understand you to say that quarantine should be universal in the case of all store cattle which come from the Continent, where there may be a chance of infection?—Yes.

5107. *Chairman.*] Would you distinguish between those countries where they have no steppe-murrain and those where they have it, with regard to quarantining the animals that come from them; that is to say, would you make the quarantine universal for all imported animals, or only for animals passing from countries where steppe-murrain was known to be?—I should not consider it necessary under present circumstances to quarantine Spain, which I presume to be uninfected; but I think it would be necessary to quarantine Holland, irrespectively of the question whether the Dutch herds themselves have steppe-murrain. It would be requisite, I mean, to quarantine Holland unless there were clear and satisfactory proof that infected animals could not traverse Holland.

5108. At the present time animals coming from these countries pass through land without any sufficient security against the bringing disease with

with them? — Apparently so; from Eastern Europe.

5109. For that reason you think that even if Holland had no steppe-murrain within its boundaries, you must proscribe cattle coming within those ports?—Yes.

5110. Would you wish to leave it with the Privy Council to decide what countries should be quarantined?—I should think so. I hardly see how quarantine could be worked otherwise. If the statute were inflexible on the subject the case would hardly be met. Sometimes inconvenience would be caused which might be avoided.

5111. Have you given your attention at all to the arrangements that would be necessary for carrying out any system of quarantine at the ports with regard to where the animals should be kept and how they should be isolated, and so on? —The establishments would be on the same principle as the lazaret establishments that are provided for human quarantine.

5112. I mean, have you considered where a quarantine market or lairage could be provided in London, for instance?—No, I have not considered that.

5113. Lord *Naas.*] Would it be necessary, in case that plan were carried out with regard to the quarantining of certain countries, to have a certificate of origin sent with the cattle. Supposing the embarkation of cattle was interdicted from certain portions of Europe, would it not be necessary then to have certificates of origin, for healthy cattle to be allowed to come in?—I do not know how the Customs would work it.

5114. You know what I mean by "certificates of origin;" that is the phrase that is used with regard to blockaded ports?—Yes; no doubt some evidence would be wanted that would satisfy the officers of Customs whether a ship purporting to come from Spain did not come from Holland. Mr. *J. Simon.* 8 June 1866.

5115. But as to cattle that were sent to ports of non-infected countries, would it not be necessary to have some certificate from them that they came from countries that were free from disease? —Would not the length of the voyage practically settle the question?

5116. I am not talking about the voyage; I am talking about the cattle that are brought from the interior of Europe to the port of embarkation. How would you show that they did not come from the infected countries?—I should assume that they did in all cases, unless the country which shipped them could show, first, that it had no disease among its own herds; and, secondly, that it had a thoroughly efficient quarantine system in regard of all suspected countries from which it admitted passage of cattle.

5117. Then in case the intermediate country did not take those precautions you would then be obliged to extend the restrictions to all cattle coming through that country?—Quite so.

5118. Then in case of an exporting district refusing to carry out measures of inspection and inquiry which might be thought necessary by our Privy Council, it would be necessary to carry out your plan, to get the Privy Council to interdict all cattle coming from that country?—Yes.

Mr. WILLIAM SLATER, called in; and Examined.

5119. *Chairman.*] YOU are a butcher in Jermyn-street?—Yes. Mr. *W. Slater.*

5120. Do you slaughter your own animals? — Not at Jermyn-street; my brother has a slaughter-house at Kensington.

5121. Do you depend for your supply upon the animals that are killed in that slaughter-house, or do you purchase in the dead-meat market?—We purchase in the dead-meat market to a large extent, but in very warm weather we depend chiefly upon our own slaughter-house.

5122. When the prohibition, by Act of Parliament, against the movement of cattle by railway was in force, did you experience any difficulty in getting a supply?—Yes, slight. There was a difficulty certainly.

5123. Were you driven more to the dead-meat market then?—Yes, much more.

5124. Do you kill principally home-fed, or foreign animals?—All home-fed; no foreign.

5125. Do you find that many butchers are in the habit of buying both foreign and home-fed beasts?—No; I think the trades are distinct. The West-end trades are home-fed trades.

5126. Does a different class of butchers buy the foreign animals?—Yes. We cannot buy them at all.

5127. Do you yourself attend the Islington Market? — I do not attend it personally. My brother, who is in business at Kensington attends it, and also my partner. Our firm is Slater & Cooke.

5128. Do you think it would be prejudicial to the trade if the foreign and English market were distinct. Supposing there was a foreign cattle market down by the river side, and that imported beasts were not allowed to come into the Islington Market; do you think that that would be prejudicial to the trade? — To the West-end butchers, do you mean?

5129. We will take the West-end butchers. Would it be at all prejudicial to the West-end trade?—You see, the prices are quoted together, and the prices for the best home-fed English meat are never quoted sufficiently high. The public take from these quotations a price which is not at all near the mark.

5130. But supposing that you had two distinct markets, one for foreign animals, and the other for English, and that each was quoted distinctly, according to the prices of the day, should you see then any objection to the West-end trade having such a separate market?—I do not, if held on different days.

5131. Do you think it would be prejudicial to the butchers at the East-end of the town?—Not being in the foreign trade, I cannot answer the question.

5132. Can you tell us how the quotations are obtained?—I have heard that certain gentlemen go to one or two of the salesmen, and get the quotations of the prices of the markets; gentlemen interested in the newspapers.

5133. You think that those who are interested in the newspapers depend on the salesmen for the prices?—Just so.

5134. And that those prices are not communicated to the buyers?—Quite so.

5135. Does that operate injuriously on the buyers, do you think?—It operates injuriously to the sellers of the meat, namely, the butchers.

5136. I speak of the butchers as the buyers of the

Mr. *W. Slater.*

8 June 1866.

the live stock; do you think it is injurious to them?—Yes.

5137. Do you think it injurious to the owners of the cattle which are sent up to the salesmen?—No doubt. If the price is not quoted correctly, of course it must be.

5138. You think it tends to mislead the owners of stock in the country?—Yes.

5139. Have you any suggestion to make as to how the prices could be ascertained with more correctness?—I believe there is a clerk of the market, and I think if he got three or four butchers, and three or four salesmen, to give the prices, that would be the best way.

5140. Would you have a sort of committee of each to give the prices, or would you require them to go to the clerk of the market and give him information?—I think that the clerk of the market might make it his business to obtain of five or six butchers their opinion.

5141. At present it is entirely in the hands of the newspaper agents?—I believe so.

5142. The newspapers employ persons to ascertain the prices for them?—Just so.

5143. Why do you suppose that these gentlemen, who are employed by the newspapers, do not go to the butchers?—They have not been in the habit of doing so.

5144. Can you give me any reason why they go to the salesmen?—The salesmen are always on the spot, and they do not, perhaps, know where to find the butchers.

5145. Do you buy any meat in the dead-meat market, which comes from the country ready killed?—Yes.

5146. Have you been in the habit of doing so for long?—Yes.

5147. For many years?—Yes. Our firm has done so for many years.

5148. Do you continue that practice throughout all the summer months?—When we are able to do so. For the last three days we have not been able to buy any good Scotch beef.

5149. Not in the dead-meat market?—Not in the dead-meat market.

5150. In consequence of the state of the weather?—I expect so.

5151. You have found none exposed for sale?—There has been none exposed for sale good enough.

5152. You have found some, but nothing good enough for your customers?—I think there has been very little.

5153. Do you think, that during the hottest days, there is a difficulty in supplying the dead-meat market from the country?—Just so.

5154. Where does the meat that you purchase principally come from?—From Scotland.

5155. Do you go yourself to the dead-meat market to buy?—Occasionally, or my partner.

5156. Do you hear complaints from the salesmen there, as to the meat having been spoilt in coming?—We can see sometimes that it is not in such good order as at others. Sometimes we try it, and it will not do.

5157. Independently of that which is exposed for sale, and which you say within the last few days has not been good enough for you, do you hear complaints of any that is so bad that they cannot expose it for sale?—No, I have not heard. I do not think the meat has come during the last few days.

5158. You think they have not sent it?—No.

5159. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Has there been any meat sent from Scotland at all during the last few days?—Very little, in comparison to what we usually get.

5160. *Chairman.*] Do you think it depends on the judgment of the people at the other end, whether they send it, or whether they are advised by the people at the market?—The telegraph is very much used, I believe.

5161. You go to Newgate Market?—To Newgate Market.

5162. Is this meat consigned to salesmen at Newgate Market, on account of the senders, or is it purchased by carcase butchers on their own account?—It is consigned to salesmen, and the buyers buy it in the market.

5163. In Scotland they consign it to salesmen to sell on account of the senders?—I believe that there are men in Scotland who go round and buy, and kill and send to the salesmen at Newgate Market.

5164. It is consigned to Newgate Market on account of the owners in the country, is it not?—I believe so.

5165. Then that being the case, I suppose it would rest with them in the country, to decide upon whether they would send up a quantity of meat or not?—Just so.

5166. Have you considered the question of having public slaughter-houses in the metropolis, instead of private slaughter-houses?—I think from our own trade, that we could not do without private ones in the very hot summer weather. Monday would be a very awkward day.

5167. Supposing you had a public slaughter-house at Kensington, that would be almost as convenient for you as your own private slaughter-house?—There is not that care taken in public slaughter-houses that there is in private slaughter-houses.

5168. Are you acquainted with any public slaughter-house?—Yes, I have been to them, and seen the meat that has been slaughtered there.

5169. Where?—I have been to Copenhagen Fields.

5170. Have you ever had beasts slaughtered there by any of your men?—No.

5171. You have never been in the public slaughter-houses at Edinburgh?—No.

5172. Or at Paris?—No.

5173. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] If public slaughter-houses were established in districts, would the west-end trade not employ their own men to do their own work, renting the slaughter-houses or paying so much per head, and have their animals killed and dressed by their own people at no greater expense than they are at now?—No, it is the supervision of the master's eye that is necessary. It is very different to having slaughter-houses on the spot.

5174. The one on your premises at which you have a large quantity of meat is in Jermyn-street?—No slaughter-house in Jermyn-street.

5175. It would be no more trouble to you to remove your meat from the public slaughter-house, if there was one established at Kensington, to Jermyn-street, than from your own; it is about the same distance?—But there is my brother at Kensington, who is part owner.

5176. You have an establishment there?—Yes.

5177. So that your brother is on the spot?—Yes.

5178. At present the meat that you are supplying

plying to your customers is all fresh killed; animals that you buy in the market?—Not all.

5179. You still have some dead meat?—We still have some dead meat sent to us.

5180. Have you not yourself known, among these private slaughter-houses, some of them that are in your own district, situated very disadvantageously to those dwelling in the immediate neighbourhood?—I think if they were properly inspected they would not be disadvantageous. My father, who died three months ago, used to say that butchers' slaughter-houses, if kept clean, were very healthy.

5181. Have you not known slaughtering carried on in situations very contiguous to dwellings, so as to be in all probability very prejudicial to health?—Not in the suburbs.

5182. Have you not known any in your own immediate neighbourhood?—No, I do not know of any.

5183. Have you known or seen the slaughter-house attached to a shop that existed a very few years ago nearly opposite St. James's Church?—Yes; that is some years ago; I know where it was.

5184. Are you aware that the sheep were decoyed into that shop by a familiar of the man who conducted the business, that he went out into the street when they were brought from the Park, or wherever they came from, that they followed him in and were then shot down a ladder, or something like that, and slaughtered immediately on the premises at the back, and over which the dwelling-rooms of the house were situated?—I believe that was the case, but it is all done away with now.

5185. Surely you would think that plan very objectionable?—I think any slaughter-house under a dwelling or in a cellar would be wrong.

5186. Where does the best meat that you buy, the best dressed and killed, come from?—We buy the Scotch meat, and the Bury meat, in Norfolk and Suffolk; what is termed in the market Bury meat.

5187. That is the best?—Yes.

5188. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Can you give us any information as to the difference in the keeping of meat that has been killed in London, and that which has been brought into London?—It depends upon the weather. Of course it is much colder in Scotland, and sometimes we find the meat comes better from Scotland; sometimes, on a very hot day indeed in the midst of summer, we find meat almost turn in the 12 hours. Our own meat, which is killed at Kensington, is best, I think, in the very midst of the hot weather. On such a day as this, for instance, our own killed meat is best, because we can have it killed only a few hours before we require it.

5189. Where do you get your cattle for slaughtering?—Chiefly privately, but we go to the large markets sometimes. Of course we have a large private connection, and when gentlemen have many beasts ready they write to tell us.

5190. Where do you principally get them from?—Lord Talbot and Shrewsbury is a very large sender.

5191. You get them from all parts of the country?—From all parts of the country; they are Scots, Herefords, and Devons.

5192. Do you find any greater difficulty in getting prime beasts now than you had formerly?—We still get them, but the price is dear. We are paying more for beef.

5193. Do you think there are fewer of them?—I suppose there must be fewer beasts in the country.

Mr. *W. Slater.*

8 June 1866.

5194. With regard to sheep, do you buy any dead meat in sheep, or do you entirely kill your own?—We buy some of them dead.

5195. Has it ever occurred to you to be unable to buy dead meat in the hot weather fit for your customers?—Yes, we have; that is where the great thing is. Sometimes we want to stock our shop in warm weather, and when we go to Newgate Market we cannot get it; but we must have our own slaughter-house, and the live market to fall back upon.

5196. How long would it take you to get meat from Scotland by telegraphing?—I have not studied that. We do not know anything about the consignees. It is the Newgate Market salesman's business to get the meat there.

5197. You have no direct communication with any of the Aberdeen butchers?—We have no direct communication with Scotland.

5198. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you get any Welsh mutton up dead?—Only the hind quarter, no whole sheep. Chiefly hind quarters of Welsh mutton.

5199. Sir *M. W. Ridley*] How many beasts and sheep do you kill on the average in a week?—At Kensington, in the slaughter-house, about 20 beasts, and nearly 200 sheep.

5200. Is that your only slaughter-house?—That is our only slaughter-house; but we depend so much upon others; for instance, to-day is Friday, we shall require a lot of roasting beef in to-night for to-morrow; perhaps, the roasting out of 20 or 25 beasts. That we get from private slaughter-houses. We dare not trust to Newgate Market to-morrow morning, and, therefore, we must get private butchers to let us have their roasting beef.

5201. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You mean the prime beef?—Yes, the best.

5202. And, therefore, you buy from other butchers?—Yes. We sell so much prime meat, in comparison to what we sell of coarse meat. Our trade is chiefly in the prime parts, and we have to depend on the roasting beef from private butchers, and the private slaughter-houses.

5203. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You say it would be impossible for the West-end butchers to supply their customers and carry on their trade without the existence of private slaughter-houses?—I believe so.

5204. That the butchers of large practice like yourself must either have his own private slaughter-house, or must go to the butchers who have private slaughter-houses, and from them buy that which is to meet the emergency of the close of the week, or any special occasion?—Yes; we have to depend upon others who can supply us.

5205. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think the foreign beasts in the metropolitan market keep the price of English meat down?—They do in a measure, no doubt.

5206. Do you think that if the foreign beasts were sold in another market that would affect the price, and equally keep the price down in the metropolitan market?—Yes; according to the supply, so the prices would be regulated.

5207. We have been told that if the markets were separated it would not keep the price down in the same way as at present; you do not think it would have that effect; as long as the

Mr. *W. Slater.*

8 June 1866.

cattle come into the country you do not think it matters whether they are slaughtered and exposed in a separate market, or whether they are sold in the metropolitan market?—I think it is the opinion that one market would be better.

5208. For what reason?—It makes one place for all butchers to come to select. There are butchers who buy of both, and of course it would be inconvenient to them.

Mr. JOHN BANNISTER, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Bannister.*

5209. *Chairman.*] You are a City butcher?—Yes.

5210. Is yours a wholesale or a retail trade?—A retail trade.

5211. Where do you depend upon for your supply?—The dead-meat markets.

5212. Entirely?—Entirely.

5213. Do you purchase the meat of home-fed or foreign beasts principally?—Home-fed; not foreign: both country and town-killed meat.

5214. You purchase of the salesmen in Newgate Market?—Yes, and Leadenhall; and sometimes from private slaughter-houses.

5215. Are you aware of the Act of Parliament, passed on the 20th of February, prohibiting cattle being removed by rail for some time?—Yes.

5216. Did you discover that that had any influence on the supply of meat at Newgate and Leadenhall Markets?—I think so; I think it made it dearer.

5217. Had you to give a higher price for your meat?—Decidedly.

5218. Do you know when the restriction came to an end?—I think, within a few weeks only.

5219. Was it on the 16th of April?—On the 16th of April; it was confined to the metropolitan districts then; everything was brought in, but nothing allowed to go out of the metropolitan districts.

5220. Between the 20th of February and the 16th of April no live stock could be moved by rail through the country?—No.

5221. After the restriction came to an end, did you find the price of meat at all lower in the market?—I think not, in consequence of its being a time of year in which the markets are badly supplied; at this time of year they are always very short; there is a greater demand and less stock at this time of year than any other.

5222. Has meat risen during the months of May and June?—Very much; I have given as high as 10½*d.* per lb. for hind quarters of mutton, and 11*d.* for legs, for great quantities of them, in Newgate Market.

5223. Is the meat that you buy principally from the country, or is it town killed?—Both town killed and country killed.

5224. Which is the greater part?—I like the country-killed meat if I can get it.

5225. Why do you prefer the country-killed meat?—We fancy it eats better. Most of the meat is killed in Scotland, and the Bury sheep are generally of a very excellent quality, killed in Bury and sent up dead; some from Devonshire and various parts of the country. We fancy the country meat eats better than town-killed meat.

5226. Is that in consequence of the animal being cool when it is killed?—I think so.

5227. At this time of year when the weather is as hot as it is to-day, is it possible for meat to be sent up?—Not at all; it was a very short market this morning in consequence of the state of the weather. I am driven to the town-killed meat for two or three months of the summer weather from necessity.

5228. Does that raise the price of the town-killed meat?—Great portions of it. The hinder parts and the prime parts of the animal make a much larger price.

5229. Lord *Naas.*] Is there a proportionate reduction in the inferior parts?—Decidedly. There is not the demand for the inferior parts at the earlier part of the week, because those parts are eaten more by the poor people who can only purchase meat at the end of the week. At the earlier parts of the week the prime parts are very dear in consequence of their not being able to sell the inferior parts.

5230. *Chairman.*] Does the meat get at all damaged in appearance by being packed and sent up by rail?—Yes; it does not look as well as town-killed meat.

5231. Is that the case both with beef and mutton?—Both.

5232. Do your customers object to it on that account?—Not at all; they are used to it. They know country meat as well as I do, and always prefer it if they can get it.

5233. Is there more difficulty in packing the beef in hot weather?—In some parts the beef will not bear packing in very hot weather. During nine months of the year they may pack it, and send it from almost any place, but during the three months of hot weather it is almost impossible to send it in a fit state and properly packed for the dead-meat market. I have seen quantities of carcases of animals taken out of the cloths as green as possible.

5234. Have you seen any of the meat vans which are in use on some of the lines?—I have heard of them, but I have not seen them.

5235. Have you ever seen any meat come up in them?—Yes, in very good condition.

5236. Does it come in better condition than the meat that is packed in cloths and hampers?—It looks cleaner.

5237. Do you think if the system were adopted on all the railways it would lead to your having meat up in better condition?—I think it would, during certain months of the year.

5238. Do you know anything about the way in which the newspapers obtain the price of the markets?—I have merely heard from hearsay that they go round to the various salesmen at the markets, and obtain the prices from them. It is a very imperfect way of doing it, I think.

5239. We are told that it is not accurate Is it generally inaccurate by reason of the price being stated too low?—Frequently so.

5240. Do you ever find that the prices are quoted too high?—No.

5241. The fault is always on the side of their being stated too low?—I think so,

5242. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think that an average could be struck between the highest and the lowest price?—The highest priced meat fetches so much more than the middle-class meat that of course that is the best price. As it is stated in the papers, it is impossible for the public to get at the real state of the case.

5243. Do

5243. Do you think that the highest price or the lowest price should be quoted, or that an average should be struck between the two?—Hardly an average. I think rather the second quality of animals.

5244. *Chairman.*] You think the lowest priced meat ought to be quoted separately?—Yes; even in the higher class of animals, there is so small a proportion of prime meat to what there is of coarse meat. Take a bullock, for instance; there is so little that is fit for the West-end customers, and the better sort of customers, compared to the inferior parts, the fore-quarters of the meat, that with a bullock at a crown or 5*s.* 4*d.* a stone, the roasting beef which is sold at the West-end, makes a much higher price than the clod and stickings and the inferior parts of the animal. They go to the workhouses and other places.

5245. Then how would you like to see the quotations made?—I think the fairest way would be to have a committee consisting of butchers and salesmen, and let them arrange the prices, or let the parties whose duty it is to go to the butchers, ask clearly and positively from both parties their opinion of the price.

5246. You think your customers are misled by the prices that are quoted in the papers?—No doubt of it. They merely take the 4*s.* 8*d.* per stone as the real value of the meat they consume, forgetting it is quoted as the price of the whole carcase; and the 4*s.* 8*d.* for the whole carcase may bring the parts they consume to 6*s.*, or 6*s.* 4*d.* or 6*s.* 8*d.*

5247. Then taking it at that, you get the offal in for nothing?—Taking it at the price they assert, decidedly so.

5248. Then your opinion is, that London could not be supplied from the country during three months of the year?—I think not during two or three months of the year. It depends on the state of the weather; it is almost impossible. They are obliged to kill the meat after four or five o'clock in the afternoon, and it is much as they can do to get it killed to bring it on Saturday morning to the market. It is similar to venison. If a buck is shot, and packed hot, and sent to London, it is quite green before it gets here, and it is the same with cattle.

5249. For meat to be kept properly it ought to be killed when the animal is cool; it ought to be kept afterwards until properly set, then the inside ought to be wiped quite dry, and then it ought to be carefully packed with cloths round each side of the animal, or each carcase, as the case may be?—Yes; round each side of the animal. They are very expert at Saffron Walden, in Essex, in packing calves in that way. They come in as fair a quality as if they were killed in town.

5250. Have you ever been in the habit of buying live animals in the market?—Yes; I did when I first came to London, in some quantity.

5251. That was in the old Smithfield Market?—That was in the old Smithfield Market; I was living in Threadneedle-street at the time, with a slaughter-house in Norton Folgate, nearly a mile distant. It was so inconvenient that I was obliged to give it up, and was driven into the dead-meat markets.

5252. Have you any opinion as to the desirability of having public slaughter-houses?—I think they would do exceedingly well during nine or ten months of the year. I have no objection to public slaughter-houses at all, as far as I am concerned, but I think that to many of the West-end people it would be almost their ruin.

Mr. *J. Bannister.* 8 June 1866.

5253. Would it be their ruin if they had public slaughter-houses in their part of town?—Yes; I think there would be such a congregation of butchers and butchers' men, that they would get immensely robbed by the parties who frequented the public slaughter-houses, because there are many persons who have no business at all there; and that is winked at by the men, and a great deal of property is lost, no doubt.

5254. But do you not think if public slaughter-houses were established the trade would re-arrange itself, and that one man would become a slaughtering butcher, and the other a retail butcher?—We have that now.

5255. But would it not be the case to a greater extent than it is at present; we have had witnesses here who depend partly upon what they slaughter themselves, and partly on Newgate Market; do you not think if the public system was established, that the trade would be more completely divided?—I think you would destroy competition, and that senders would not get so much money for their goods; competition is the great thing, no doubt. One market for all descriptions of meat, and everybody to go to it, is I think the best for the seller and the consumer.

5256. Do you think that the foreign cattle compete at all with the English cattle in the market?—They are getting very much better than they were, and we have had some of the French beasts, extremely fine animals; if they continue to improve they may compete with the English, no doubt.

5257. Up to this year the foreign cattle have been purchased by a different class of purchasers to the English?—Yes, they have; they are very much improving; they send them now as steers, instead of working them 10 or 12 years; they send them as steers of four or five years old.

5258. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Is that from France?—From the south of France. We have some very fine beasts from Jutland.

5259. *Chairman.*] Do they not work their beasts so much as they used to do?—No, there is a good market for the beasts; I have seen as much as 40 guineas a-piece give for the foreign beasts.

5260. They can turn their beasts now to much better account than working them?—Yes.

5261. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] With respect to the market prices which were given in, the Committee were told the other day that the hour at which those prices were given in was too early, about nine o'clock in the morning?—Yes, when they cannot judge of them; it is too early, there is no doubt about that.

5262. Have you ever had dead meat consigned to you from the west of England, by the Great Western Railway, by which, we are told, a great deal of meat is brought to London?—I have not. I always attend the public markets. I have many friends who send to me, but I advise them to send it all to the market; there the meat fetches a fair price, and they get their money directly, and it is the best place for them to send it to, I think.

5263. Do you find that the quantity of foreign cattle now sent over for slaughter is diminishing; is your supply restricted at all?—I do not know much of the foreign cattle, I buy so little of it; perhaps I buy a little roasting beef now and then,

Mr. *J. Bannister.*
8 June 1866.

then, but nothing more; they are very good and young.

5264. What number of carcases do you purchase in a week?—The great advantage of the dead-meat market to me is this: I perhaps want two or three bodies of beef and 30 or 40 hind quarters, and the roastings of 25 or 30 beasts. Then again I buy 10 sheep, and with those 10 sheep perhaps I buy 30 hind quarters of mutton. That is the great advantage to me of attending the dead-meat markets. You could not do that at a public slaughter-house The City trade is a very peculiar one, and I am very contiguous to Newgate Market and Leadendall Market, and it suits my purpose better.

5265. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you have any direct dealings with Scotland?—None.

5266. Is there any Scotch meat in the dead-market now?—There was a little this morning, but very little. The hot weather made them afraid to send it.

5267. Do you think it is entirely the fear of the hot weather, or is it owing to the fact that in Aberdeenshire the cattle are fed principally, during the winter, on the turnips, and not so much in the summer, but on grass?—I think the weather is the reason why we do not have the country meat in. Scotland is the best place for it, it is so very cold. There it sets very quickly, before it is sent away. We never get the meat in such good condition as we do out of Scotland.

5268. Mr. *Holland.*] I think you said you commenced first of all as a live-stock butcher?—Yes, I bought some dead and some alive.

5269. At that time you say your slaughter-house was a mile from your place of business; but that you found to be so inconvenient that you gave it up?—I did. When I wanted my men they were at the slaughter-house; and some parties there, who used to watch them, said the things used to be taken away. I was robbed very much.

5270. Do you imagine in a public slaughter-house there would be the same thing going on?—Yes, it would be very injurious, I think.

5271. Lord *Naas.*] As to these private slaughter-houses, is there a trade that is conducted by people who buy the beasts alive and kill them, and sell them again to the retail trade?—Some do. There are men called carcase men, who go to the markets and purchase beasts of every description, the best Scots and the best Herefords, and the best foreign beasts they can find. They will vend it to various classes of people. Their business is to keep an immensely large slaughter-house, where their animals are slaughtered and dressed, and sent to the public market for sale, and they will serve private butchers with any part they want.

5272. Do these carcase men generally send their meat to Newgate or Leadenhall Markets, or do they sell it directly to the retail butchers?—They send it more to the market than direct to the retail butcher. Some there are who serve retail butchers with what they require, but in very few cases.

5273. Where are these large private slaughter-houses situated?—Many of them are situated in Whitechapel, and some of them in Spitalfields.

5274. Tell the Committee the number of beasts that are weekly slaughtered in one of these private slaughter-houses?—I should think as many as 300 or 400 might be killed there in a week.

5275. How are they conducted generally?—The beasts are slaughtered and hung up for the air to go through them; then they have their vans, and the hind quarters go to one place, and the fore quarters go to another. They send their hind quarters to the best markets; to Leadenhall and Newgate.

5276. Are these places kept clean and well conducted?—Yes, they have inspectors.

5277. Then they are kept clean and well conducted?—Very much so indeed; they used not to be, I think.

5278. You said there was an objection to public slaughter-houses; can you see any very great difference between a public slaughter-house and a slaughter-house of the description you have just now given to the Committee?—Very great. There would be an inconvenience in this way. The man who has his private slaughter-house has his own men; he can kill at what time he chooses, and the meat can be carted away clean and in a proper state to the various dead-meat markets; but if you were to have a public slaughter-house and kill a great many animals, particularly at this time of year, you must commence killing the beasts and sheep at a certain hour in the afternoon. They would be nearly all night before they were finished, and at two or three o'clock in the morning they would want their various beasts taken away. There would be such a very great confusion with the men, each one wanting to get his beasts away before the other, that it would be almost impossible for a man to know his own meat.

5279. Would it not be possible to have slaughter-houses erected in this way: partitioned off, and let to different parties, who would conduct their business in the different partitions?—That is what is done now.

5280. If it is done, would not other establishments conducted in that way be establishments precisely similar to these large private slaughter-houses you describe; what would be the difference?—The one I describe is close to the butcher's own home; it is at the back of his own house, and he can go there himself; but if these public slaughter-houses are put at the metropolitan market, they are as far from their slaughter-houses as from their places of business.

5281. Do you not think that these men who are engaged in this trade would find it for their convenience to live near the slaughter-houses, and make their arrangements accordingly?—Then what is to become of the trade and shop where all the business is carried on?

5282. I am only speaking of the carcase men. I am not speaking of the man who kills for the retail trade. I ask, what is to prevent the carcase men, who you say conduct these very large businesses, from conducting their business in public slaughter-houses, in the same way as they do it now in the large private slaughter-houses?—As to the carcase men there is no difference, but as to the retail butcher, who has to sell the meat, the best quality of the animal, and to kill it at home, and to see that it is properly treated and taken care of, it would make a very great difference.

5283. Do you know the proportion of the general weekly consumption killed by these carcase men, and the retail butchers?—No; I have not thought of the question.

5284. You have no idea how that is?—I have not.

5285. You

5285. You do not know which kills most?—I have no idea at all.

5286. In the hot weather, such as this weather we are now enjoying, do not the carcase men's trade increase very much?—I think it does at the latter end of the week. We are driven to them in a great measure; for instance, I myself was obliged to order 15 sheep, and 10 lambs, and 8 or 10 quarters of beef on Monday morning. I order them of one of the salesmen I deal with at Newgate Market; one that I think is likely to suit my purpose, and I leave the price almost to him. In fact, we must do it.

5287. This meat is supplied in various portions over the remainder of the week?—After the Monday supply we can do better. The dead-meat market is more open to us, but to provide myself with good and wholesome meat on a Monday, sweet, I am obliged to give the order for it on Saturday.

5288. Does the consumption of the town vary very much in the hot weather; does the general consumption decrease during the hot weather, do you think?—No, I do not think it does. There is more sold alive than dead then.

2289. Then the proportion of meat killed in the City must be much larger in the hot weather than it is in the cold weather?—I think it is.

5290. What do you say as to the price?—The price depends upon the supply, and the season.

5291. Then the price does not vary very much in consequence of this large proportion of killing in the City?—Do you mean whether the price varies in the dead-meat market, or the live-meat market?

5292. First I want the price to the consumer?—There is very little change to the consumer at all, I think. If the shortness applied to the market, we go to the customers, and we request to charge more; in fact, we do charge more; and if the market becomes well supplied, the prices are reduced.

5293. You said you anticipated a great evil from the collection of persons who would be engaged in this trade in the public slaughter-houses?—I do.

5294. Will you explain that?—The congregation of persons, each interested in their own master's goods to get them killed first, and then to get them away in the morning first, would cause great confusion. Then, it is not a very nice school for men apprenticed to the business, to meet a congregation of butchers' men, who are not all Chesterfields; it is not a very nice school for them.

5295. Does not that evil occur very much in Newgate Market, as it is conducted now?—It does not in private slaughter-houses. You have got everything under your own control, and you may bring your son up there just as if he was in your own counting-house or parlour.

5296. The *O'Conor Don.*] You mentioned that the quotations of prices given to the newspapers were generally lower than they actually were?—Perhaps I was not justified in saying that they were lower, because I do not attend the live-meat markets; perhaps it is hardly fair that I should say that; but we are led to believe that some of our friends do not give quite so high a price to the newspapers as they make in the market.

5297. The complaint on the part of the butchers, I understand, was that your customers saw in the newspapers a lower rate than in reality was paid?—It is so; and it is the same with regard to Newgate and Leadenhall. They are sometimes quoted at 5*s.* 4*d.* when we have given 6*s.* for sheep; 9*d.* a pound for carcases of mutton, without the offal.

Mr. *J. Bannister.* 8 June 1866.

5298. The quotations you believe to be lower than the true prices?—Decidedly; very much lower than second-rate meat is. Where they get the quotations from I am not aware.

5299. Can you give us any reason why the quotations should be given lower than the reality?—If they asked the seller, the seller would very naturally, having to send the prices home, like the parties for whom he sold to think he had got the fair market prices.

5300. Ought it not to be the interest of the seller, who probably expects to bring more meat, next week, into the market, to make the prices appear high?—It is not generally considered so, because all these sheep do not make high prices; the vendors think that they are of the same quality as the others, that is, that his sheep are as good as his neighbour's, when they may not be, perhaps, by 1*d.* or 1½*d.* a pound; and if one sends home his market price as 6*s.* 4*d.* or 6*s.* 8*d.*, the neighbour would be surprised that the salesman had not made so much by his goods.

5301. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You mean that it is the interest of the salesman to make his customer in the country convinced that he has got a good market price for the animal?—Yes, that he has got as good a price, I will not say better, than other people.

5302. But if the salesman gets a lower price than that which is quoted in the papers, the customers in the country might be dissatisfied?—Yes, and that would be injurious to the salesman.

5303. Have you been speaking of the slaughter-houses in the City, or generally throughout London?—Generally throughout London.

5304. You are acquainted with them?—Most of them.

5305. Do you not think that there are some that are objectionable in their situation, being in the middle of crowded dwellings?—There may be, but there are very few in the City at all.

5306. Do you not think it would be advisable that they should be concentrated in different districts, instead of having them scattered all over the town. If you object to one large slaughter-house, do you also object to their being concentrated in different districts, or do you not think that instead of their being scattered all about, there should be one instead of a number?—I should object to anything but a private slaughter-house. In the hot months we depend upon them for great quantities of roasting beef. I go to Hoxton and the New Cut, and a variety of private slaughter-houses. I send my cart round with my people, or I drive round myself that way, and purchase the roasting beef. They can vend the coarser parts of the beef in that neighbourhood.

5307. Are you aware whether all slaughter-houses, not only in the City, but over the whole of the metropolis, are inspected?—Yes; an inspector is obliged to go so many days a week, to see that they are thoroughly cleansed.

5308. You speak of the French cattle improving in quality?—Yes.

5309. Is there generally less waste in cutting up the meat of French beasts; is there less fat in them?—Not at all; they get them very fat, and they

Mr. *J. Bannister.*
8 June 1866.

they throw a great quantity of suet off; they have a great quantity of fat and suet.

5310. Lord *Naas.*] Have you seen any French beasts?—Yes.

5311. Are they very good?—They are getting better; they are fine animals, and the same argument will apply to them.

5312. Do they send them to England as steers?—Yes; and for the purpose of the London markets they are becoming better and better.

5313. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The older animals, that have been used as draught oxen, are not over-burdened with fat?—No, of course not, nothing will make them fat; they are very hard in the flesh too.

5314. Lord *Naas.*] Which do you consider the best of the foreign beasts?—The French. Some Jutland's you can hardly tell from our Scotch.

5315. What part of France do they come from?—From the south of France.

5316. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Is it not latterly that the French beasts have become the best?—Yes.

5317. The improvement is recent?—It is not very long since they come at all; during the last two years, I think.

5318. Lord *Naas.*] Are these French beasts corn fed beasts. Are they fed upon Indian corn?—Not upon Indian corn, I should think. The land is very good, I am told; their cereals are very good too.

Mr. Charles Hicks, called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *C. Hicks.*

5319. *Chairman.*] I believe you wish to add to the evidence you gave the other day?—I do, if you please. I remarked, among other things, that the cattle coming from Bohemia were furnished with a passport, and I have brought a couple along with me; I will, if you please, hand them in. (*The Passports were handed in.*—Vide *Appendix*). These cattle were sold in Smithfield Market on the 21st May, and they arrived in the port of London on the 20th. One lot left the estate where they were bought on the 9th May, and the others left on the 11th May; therefore, one lot was upon the voyage nine days, and the other 11 (as I said in my evidence); the passport describes the colour, the name of the estate that they were sent from, and also that they are sound, and that no disease is in the part from which they are sent; they are sent away from the estate, and they are examined again upon the German frontier, and then they put the seal to the passport. I believe, also, I said before, that Professor Gamgee and Professor Simmonds were the originators of the theory that the rinderpest appears much faster than was at first supposed; but I should have said Professor Gamgee and Dr. Sanderson. I believe I said in my last examination, that I never had a case of rinderpest; but I should like to observe, that on one occasion I received a cargo of cattle from Sweden, and they arrived, after seven days' passage, in a very damaged condition.

5320. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] At what time of the year was this?—It was either last August or September; August, I think. As soon as they arrived, which was at the time when attention was first called to the rinderpest, the veterinary inspector as soon as he saw two of my animals lying on the ground, not able to get up, became suspicious, and at once said they had got the rinderpest. He telegraphed to the Custom House and received orders to put the beasts into quarantine. This was at Thames Haven. I arrived soon after, and said they had not got the rinderpest; and I said I should like to have them opened, and a post-mortem examination made. That was not allowed; and the orders were that they were not to be touched by anybody. The end of it was that the animals were quarantined for 10 days; and I have no hesitation in saying that the inspector was quite aware that he was wrong. I believe he made use of some interest to get them released. I think there were 60 cattle, about 300 sheep, and some 40 pigs. The pigs were released in about two days, the sheep in about four days, but the cattle had to remain 10 days, and they eventually were released as sound. That cost the owners something like 400 *l.* by having these cattle detained and put into quarantine.

5321. How much did you lose?—About 400 *l.*

5322. On how many cattle?—Sixty bullocks, 300 sheep, and 40 pigs. I wished to have a post-mortem examination to have proved whether they were unsound or no; but that was not allowed; and we, in the trade, think that in cases of mere suspicion, there should be some examination gone into which would show satisfactorily whether the cattle should be quarantined or no, and that does not exist. Our trade have made complaints upon this subject before, and we requested that three or four of the professors of the Royal Veterinary College should form a kind of jury, or judges, between the importers and the Government inspectors. Upon that point we think we have a fair claim to some little leaning towards us.

5323. Would you explain to the Committee how a loss of 400 *l.* could have arisen upon the live animals?—I have spoken off-hand; but I think I can show it to be so. At first the cattle go in quarantine for 10 days, and I should say that in 10 days' time they would lose to the amount of 4 *l.* each.

5324. They are fat cattle?—Yes, I think I might say they would lose 5 *l.* each; but still I would say, if you please, 4 *l.* 10 *s.* in money value.

5325. Where were they quarantined?—Thames Haven.

5326. But in what place, in sheds?—No, they were upon a piece of land about 4½ acres or 5 acres.

5327. Had they been stall-fed before they were imported?—Yes.

5328. Then they ought not to have been turned out to grass?—I believe the grass was, in point of fact, the best thing for them.

5329. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*]—In what month was that?—In the month of August. They might have had some grass, most likely they had, but still they came from Sweden where they had been stall-fed most likely from about Christmas until the end of May or middle of June.

5330. *Chairman.*] What was the occasion of their falling off to the amount of 4 *l.* 10 *s.* a piece?—That is exceedingly simple to explain. The animals come here, for instance, in a state of pain and

and fever, and they are off their feed. When they are kept for something like ten days or much more, they do not feed, they eat but very little, they pine after their homes, and the loss in value from day to day is 5 *s.* to 10 *s.* We find, by experience, that if we have cattle up on a Monday, and by some bad management they are not sold, but kept till the following Thursday, which is only three days, there is a loss of 1 *l.* at least, and very often 1 *l.* 10 *s.*, but if we keep them for a week, there is a loss of 2 *l.* to 3 *l.* The animals when they are brought away from their pastures, or the food they have been used to, we cannot keep together. They fall away from day to day.

5331. *Chairman.*] Supposing that a quarantine was a regular system, I suppose you would take care to have the food which these animals were used to supplied to them at the place of quarantine?—I do not think it could be obtained.

5332. What is it they are fed upon?—These animals had been fed principally upon wash.

5333. What is wash?—The refuse of distilleries.

5334. That is to be had in London, is it not?—Not in the quantity we should want it, certainly not.

5335. Do you not know it is what the London cowkeepers employ very largely?—Certainly. These beasts have a mixture of refuse corn ground, and sweepings of barley, wheat, rye, and so on.

5336. That is obtainable in this country?—Certainly it would be; but we should require such an immense quantity of it, if all the cattle that came here in the months of August and September were to be put into quarantine; and if you take the recommendation of Mr. Simmonds, as to 21 days' quarantine, you would occasionally have a four weeks' stock in quarantine.

5337. Mr. Symonds' requirement of 21 days was with regard to store animals, not with regard to fat animals?—If you take 10 days, you would have to have a supply for two weeks always in quarantine.

5338. You are alluding to fat animals?—Yes.

5339. But the proposition was not to put fat animals into quarantine for 10 days, but only store animals?—Certainly.

5340. Therefore your remark about the loss on animals put into quarantine only applies to fat animals?—Of course, most certainly.

5341. As no one has proposed to put fat animals into quarantine, or only for a few hours, we need not pursue the subject any further with regard to the loss on fat animals?—No. Then I was saying there was a loss of 4 *l.* 10 *s.* a-piece upon all the oxen; there was a loss of 4 *s.* or 5 *s.* per sheep, and beyond that there was about 35 *l.* expenses for keep; the grass was given, and that was for hay extra. Then I think the veterinary surgeon who stopped them charged six guineas for attendance; and there were some pounds paid to the Custom House officers who had them in charge.

5342. Supposing there had been a slaughter-house at Thames Haven, and that the inspectors, instead of putting the animals in quarantine, ordered them to be slaughtered; this loss would never have arisen?—Not so bad; but still, at the same time, there was a matter of principle connected with the transaction. I and the owner of the cattle objected to the veterinary inspector saying that those cattle were unsound, and that without cause. He said they had the rinderpest. The reply was they came from Sweden, where no disease exists; and how could they contract rinderpest? He was asked to have them opened and a *post mortem* examination made, which he declined. "Then," said the owners, "we will see"; and that was the feeling which induced them to be kept in quarantine, to prove that the inspector was wrong. They were kept there for 10 days. Then Mr. Symonds, whom you have seen here, and others, examined the animals and pronounced them sound, and they were passed.

5343. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What were those cattle worth originally?—Some of them were exceedingly good; some of them were worth 23 *l.* or 24 *l.* a-piece; but when they were all exposed for sale in the market, I sold almost all of them to a contractor for 14 *l.* 10 *s.* a-piece; and instead of their being fat, good animals, fit for the trade of London, they were such as they give to feed the soldiers.

5344. *Chairman.*] I suppose the trade in store animals is a very limited one, in comparison to the trade in fat animals?—Quite so.

5345. When I say "the trade," I mean the foreign trade?—I understand you. I mean to say it is the opinion of the trade we belong to, that, at present at least, cattle should be only imported for slaughter.

5346. Would you import any milch cows?—I am speaking of cattle for slaughter.

5347. You think the importation of cattle ought to be confined to fat animals?—At present.

5348. And no milch cows?—I think that milch cows might be introduced under certain restrictions, and also store cattle eventually. I think that they might be introduced and undergo a short quarantine of four or five days, and that then, if found healthy, they might be sold to the farmers; not sold to dealers to job about the country, but be sold to the farmer, or to somebody else for him, that they may go from the wharf to his premises, and there stop for a month or two; then, I think, you would have everything perfectly safe.

5349. Then you have no objection to a short quarantine for store cattle?—I do not think the store trade has the least bearing on our business. At certain times, when there is a drought abroad, they certainly send stores over, but, as a trade, it is not so. The cattle we receive come to us as fat cattle; and, as to the store cattle, our market is not fitted for them. With regard to the importation of fat cattle, we think it would be right that when they arrive at the wharf they should be marked with some sign, and that should be the case not only with our foreign cattle but with all cattle. In the fat stock market we think cattle should be used for consumption only; that there should be a mark upon them, and then they should be sent to the buyer's place to be killed within a certain time, and that time also must not be too short.

5350. Supposing animals were marked in that way, and sent to the Islington Market, would you allow them to go down into the country for slaughter?—Yes, I most certainly should; and I think that it might be arranged very easily. Supposing I sell three or four head of cattle to a country butcher, I should give him a certificate that I had sold Mr. So-and-so certain cattle, with a certain mark upon them, that he would show to the clerk of the market, and his signature would

Mr. *C. Hicks.*

8 June 1866.

be a sufficient pass for the railway to take his cattle to wherever they were to go, and then there should be care taken that those cattle were not driven about the country to different markets; but that they sheuld be killed by the man whose *bonâ fide* property they are. I heard it said here, two or three days since, that the foreign cattle brought over foot and mouth disease. Now, my experience in the market is something like 30 years, or rather more, and I can say of my own positive knowledge that the foot and mouth complaint existed in our market in the year 1839, whereas the foreign trade commenced about the year 1843, and then only upon a very small scale; and in the earlier years of the complaint it was much more virulent than it has been since. I can remember well at that time we had some 40 or 50 head of cattle per day slaughtered in the market, on account of their having cast their hoofs from the action of the complaint; I think that hardly ever takes place now. With regard to the complaint itself, it does not always exist; there are times of the year when we hardly see it, and there are other times when all the cattle which come to the market are affected. The cattle that come from Scotland are as badly affected with the disease as any others, and perhaps worse. The Scotch cattle frequently leave the owner's premises, say, upon the Tuesday or Wednesday; they are put upon the train on the Friday or Saturday, and arrive on Sunday morning; and it is very frequently the case, that they are in a very bad state before they come into the market. I think I may safely say that, during last August and September, and even the beginning of October, I had not a case of foot and mouth complaint in all my cattle, but when we got towards Christmas it was universal in the English and foreign cattle.

5351. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] At what time of the year was the foot and mouth disease most prevalent?—That I cannot say; last year it was very prevalent about Christmas, but two or three months before we were quite free from it.

5352. *Chairman.*] You say you know something about the abattoir system in Paris?—Yes. I wrote to a correspondent in France, and I have his reply here. The reply is in French, but here is a translation of it.

5353. Perhaps the best way will be for you to hand in the translation?—If you please. (*The letter was handed in.*—Vide *Appendix.*) He quite bears out our supposition that the establishment of abattoirs drives the retail trade out of the market, and throws it almost into the hands of wholesale men, not entirely, but almost.

5354. Do the public suffer in consequence?—Yes, according to that; I will not say that myself. The fact is this, that by the trade being thrown into the hands of wholesale men, the owner of the cattle receives a smaller price. It does not follow that the public will pay a smaller price. If you take, for example, the case of an ox which the retail butcher buys in the market, that costs him, say, 15 *l.*, but if he buys it as killed meat of a wholesale man, he must pay 16 *l.*, because there will be a difference of 4 *s.* for the slaughtering; then the meat is sold in the wholesale meat market, by a salesman who charges a commission of 1 *d.* per stone, which, on a bullock weighing 96 stone, is 8 *s.* Then, you must allow a profit to the wholesale butcher, say 8 *s.* more, and therefore the retail butcher buying of him must pay 1 *l.* more than he can buy for in the metropolitan market.

5355. Is there any other point you wish to give evidence upon?—Nothing more than I have stated before. I think that will be all I wish to say. There is a statement of the number of cattle that I have sold in three months, it gives the number sold to each class of men.

5356. You will hand this paper in also to the Committee?—Yes, if you please. (*The same was handed in.*—Vide *Appendix.*)

Monday, 11*th June* 1866.

PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Holland.
Mr. Dent.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.

THE RIGHT HON. T. MILNER GIBSON, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JOHN SWAN, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Swan.* 11 June 1866.

5357. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I BELIEVE you are largely engaged in the cattle trade?—Yes.

5358. How many cattle do you generally have passing through your hands in the course of a year?—During the last two years, somewhere upwards of 20,000 head of foreign and home-fed cattle passed through our hands each year. This year the foreign trade commenced sometime in February. We passed last year, in the foreign trade alone, from 300 to 400 cattle weekly, and from 1,500 to 3,000 sheep, from May up to the end of October. Some would come after that.

5359. *Chairman.*] From 300 to 400 cattle weekly?—Sometimes; some weeks we have as many as 700; but I think, on the average, taking the year through, we have weekly between 200 and 300.

5360. Where were they landed?—At Leith and Granton; the large ports.

5361. From what countries?—All the cattle which come to Granton come from Denmark.

5362. And the Leith ones?—They come from Hamburgh. Until the disease broke out, we had a good many come from Holland, from Harlingen and other parts. Then we wrote to the Home Secretary, and the importation was stopped. Whenever the disease broke out in Holland, we telegraphed to stop sending, and took no more cattle but one lot, I think 14, that came early this year from Harlingen. We sent them to the slaughter house, and made the people in the Leith boats understand we would not take possession of them until we got authority from the Government.

5363. You sell them at Leith and Granton, and they are slaughtered there, I suppose?—Yes; this season they have all been slaughtered at the ports of Leith and Granton; one or two cargoes have come to Granton. His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch has erected excellent accommodation for such cattle as come there to be slaughtered.

5364. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] At the Port of Granton?—At the Port of Granton.

5365. *Chairman.*] You buy them to sell them there, and the butchers come down there and slaughter them?—All stock is consigned to us, and when the boat arrives we generally send information to Glasgow by advertisement or by hand-bills; and as to those which we cannot sell alive, we have a staff of butchers who get them killed, and forward them to Glasgow, and sell them dead there.

5366. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What was the course of trade before the cattle plague broke out; were they sent alive down to the different markets of Scotland?—Mostly all the cattle that came to us were sold in Edinburgh and Glasgow market.

5367. Alive?—Yes; I think last year, on the 4th September, we sent upwards of 100 in one day brought from Glasgow, and brought from Edinburgh to Liverpool. We sent them to three different salesmen in Liverpool, to Gibbons, to Roan, and Lamb; three different parties. I was myself in Liverpool market that day; I did not interfere with the sale, but I saw them sold.

5368. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you not also deal largely in Irish cattle?—We do mostly in the spring of the year and the forepart of the year; they are store cattle or Irish cattle; but after that time we deal also in fat cattle largely from Ireland.

5369. You deal both in store cattle and in fat cattle?—Yes.

5370. In the first instance, with regard to fat cattle, where do you sell them; do you sell them in Edinburgh, or do you consign them to London, and the other large towns?—We sell all the fat cattle that come consigned to us, either in Edinburgh or Glasgow market. If we send any to Manchester or Liverpool, we consign them to an agent who is accustomed to stand in those markets.

5371. In what condition do your foreign cattle generally arrive?—We have found the cattle from Denmark always in first-rate condition. We have scarcely ever found a beast touched with the foot and mouth complaint; that is the murrain as we call it. Cattle generally come from Hamburgh. We have found, to a very great extent, they are often very severely affected with the foot and mouth complaint. I do not know whether it is from the long journey they have to undergo before they arrive at Hamburgh.

5372. As to lung disease, have you often found lung disease in cattle that you have imported?—No, I never saw one affected with it. I have never seen one with the lung disease sold under our own inspection; and we have never had any complaint at all of the Danish beasts being affected with the lung disease; not one.

5373. What do you say as to the German beasts?—I do not recollect one. I know the German beasts are sometimes very bad of mur-

Mr. *J. Swan.*
11 June 1866.

rain in the market. We have always killed them at once as soon as this disease came out.

5374. What inspection takes place at the port of Leith?—A very good inspection. There is Professor Dick and his assistants; there is Mr. Romanes and Professor Strangeways. The professor himself was the first that was appointed by Government; and since Professor Dick died a man of the name of Todd, a very excellent man he is, I believe.

5375. You are talking of what took place subsequently to the cattle plague regulations; but what inspection was there at Leith before there was any cattle plague?—From the very first there was Professor Dick. We got three or four consignments from abroad, and the Custom House officials let us have the cattle away, with our own declaration that they were sound; but I think we wrote to the Board of Trade asking them to appoint an inspector under the same conditions that cattle were received in London or Hull, and immediately Professor Dick was appointed.

5376. Do you import from abroad many store cattle?—Two years ago we imported a great many from Holland. I have seen as many as 500 store cattle come to Edinburgh in one week; part came through Yorkshire from Hull, and they come down in a very poor state.

5377. Did you import any foreign store cattle into the port of Leith?—Yes, a great many.

5378. Milch cows?—Yes.

5379. What is your opinion as to the possibility of having a quarantine for store cattle?—I do not know whether it would be safe to take cattle from Germany to graze in this country until the disease has got out of the country from which they are coming, because there are such facilities abroad that cattle may be smuggled into Germany among the lean cattle, and if they come here they may do harm; but my own opinion is, with regard to Denmark, that the restriction is a great hardship and a great loss to the farmers. There are many thousand acres in Scotland not stocked at the present time.

5380. Do you think it would be possible to quarantine all store cattle on arrival at the ports?—It might satisfy the minds of the public. I think that if German cattle are allowed to come in, they ought to be quarantined; but I am perfectly satisfied; and I believe Professor Simmonds will be able to show the Board of Trade and the Government, that in Denmark they have been particularly healthy. Last year a cargo of hay was sent from Ireland to Denmark, and at Denmark they would not admit of its being landed. A small dog was sent out from Newcastle to Denmark, and that was also sent back. Two agricultural students are sent along with the stock to deliver it to us, and when they got back they were not allowed to go into the markets.

5381. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] How long has the trade between Denmark and Scotland been opened?—About three years; for the first two years almost all the stock was sent to our firm.

5382. Mr. *Carnegie.*] That is, all kinds of stock; both store and fat stock?—Yes. With regard to Danish sheep, last year we had on many occasions from 2,000 to 4,000 sheep and lambs a week; lambs and first-class sheep; and it is well known that the Merino sheep are not suitable for our Scotch and English grazing; but we sold many thousands of the cross breeds to graziers in the Lothians, and Forfar, and Fifeshire, and these restrictions has put a stop to that. Mr. Phinn wanted my sons to send him a ship-load, but, according to the restrictions of the cattle plague, the sheep were stopped the same as the cattle. We have had as many as 4,000 Danish sheep in a week last year, and very often 2,000 to 2,500 have been sold for keeping during the winter, and I believe kept uncommonly well.

5383. Do you think there is any danger of disease being brought in by the foreign sheep?—My own experience leads me to infer, no.

5384. Your idea, as I understand you, is this; that you would have different restrictions made in countries that are absolutely free from disease, from countries that are only under suspicion of disease?—Distinctly so.

5385. And you would also, if I understand you rightly, wish that the Danish stock, and no other, should go to Granton, and that the German stock should go to Leith?—Yes, that has been our opinion for a long time, that if that could be effected it would be an immense benefit to the graziers in Scotland, and we think that would set the minds of the Privy Counsel a great deal to rest as to the spreading of the disease by the foreign stock.

5386. What facilities would there be for quarantine ground at Granton?—I should recommend, in these unsettled times, that it should be imperative that all foreign stock should be disinfected on landing, and immediately after that they should be sold. We have not accommodation. It might be, if the Government thought proper, until things got cleared out in the country, if the farmers chose to send their lean store cattle under an order to be 14 days under quarantine; it could be managed quite well. His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch has got plenty of accommodation at Granton, where they could give these store cattle plenty of good hay and water.

5387. At Leith there would be more difficulty in getting a quarantine ground, would there not?—I should not allow any portion of the cattle coming into Leith to be left alive. I think it would be safer to let all those be slaughtered either at Edinburgh or the port of landing.

5388. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is the reason for that?—I think there is more risk of bringing disease from other places, than bringing it from Denmark. We have knowledge from the authorities in Denmark; we send our report every week; that they are quite ready to satisfy the Government of England that there has not been any disease in Denmark, and cannot be. No infection can be brought from there; they are so cautious.

5389. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you think that foreign lean stock should be slaughtered at the port of landing?—Decidedly not; at least, wherever there is the least chance of spreading the disease I should. No foreign fat cattle being allowed to go to Glasgow, which was our great market for the sale of it; beef has in consequence risen 7 *l.* a head within the last three weeks. We have two men from Glasgow buying cattle in the Metropolitan market. I saw them buy 20 good foreign cattle from abroad at 27 *l.* a head; and then they wanted to buy more to slaughter them and send them to supply the Glasgow people.

5390. Would it not have been easier for them to have got a supply in Edinburgh?—We have not got it.

5391. Are you importing no foreign cattle into the port of Edinburgh just now?—Yes; but while these restrictions as to the cattle plague are

are going on, Denmark will not send their cattle there. In Denmark the cattle are better than the cattle have been at any other place.

5392. Are you importing no foreign cattle into Edinburgh at this moment?—Yes; I think there were 130 or 140 came the week before last, and about 100 altogether last week, into the two ports; I could not say to a few cattle, but I should think there were 1,400 sheep last week.

5393. Is there any importation of foreign cattle direct to Glasgow?—I have seen cattle there from abroad; I think they came first to Dublin; they came two years ago, but I think that was stopped.

5394. There is none to any extent?—No.

5395. There is a large importation of Irish cattle into Glasgow, is there not?—Yes, there is. From the month of August until Christmas, two-thirds of the cattle are from Ireland, but at this season of the year the winter cattle have all finished, and the grass cattle are not ready for killing; therefore very few cattle will come to Glasgow for the next two months.

5396. What regulations have you now in force at the port of Leith with regard to foreign cattle?—The last Order in Council, I think, says that all sheep or all cattle imported into Leith, or any port of the United Kingdom, must be killed within four days. There were 15 milch cows came with the last cargo from Denmark consigned to us; they were fine young cows, and I had a letter from the inspector there (not the Government inspector, but the meat inspector), ordering me to kill those cows; and there were some three or four of them in calf. I sent down to the provost; I said I would not kill them; I did not know whether they would kill them or not. I said they might send a man to kill them if they pleased, but I would not kill them. When the last Order came out we telegraphed to Denmark not to send any more store cattle, and no more milch cows until the last Order in Council was repealed. The cows I have mentioned were on the way when the Order came out. I do not know whether they are killed or not, but a letter came up ordering it.

5397. Do you find any difficulty in getting sufficient slaughter-house accommodation for killing the fat cattle who land at Leith and Granton?—We have actually not got accommodation; there is an excellent slaughter-house at Leith for the accommodation of the butchers of the town, but we have not sufficient accommodation if all the cattle are to be slaughtered, nor have we half sufficient accommodation. His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch erected a slaughter-house where 70 beasts could be slaughtered, and we have often had it filled; that is at Granton; he has erected a large shed there which will hold 200 cattle, and also given fields; we have, in fact, every facility that we require at Granton.

5398. From Granton you are sent, I believe, direct to Glasgow, without a break of gauge at all?—Decidedly. We have two railways, the North British and the Caledonian, and they both come into where these slaughter-houses are. If the Government will grant us a license to establish a market at Granton for the cattle coming from Fife, or any port in the north of Scotland, and Denmark, we shall be glad. They come sometimes by boat and sometimes by rail. If the Government should grant a license to allow these cattle to be sold, and not to be taken to sell in the market, but to be bought by butchers to take them at once to any part of the West of Scotland, such as Airdrie or Hamilton, that would be convenient. There is not a beast fed within many miles of Glasgow; and in Glasgow the population of the town and suburbs is immense.

5399. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You say there is scarcely a beast fed within 50 miles of Glasgow?—Yes, at certain seasons. Sometimes they have depended a great deal on foreign cattle. Lately there were three of the Government contractors came to me. They had heard I was coming to London. If these stringent measures are kept up it will ruin every one of them.

5400. What are the Government contracts for?—For the army and navy in Scotland. As to the cattle that we killed last week ourselves, my son sold them on Thursday at $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb., old foreign cows.

5401. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do I understand you that what you wish is that there should be a market established at Granton; that cattle should be sold for immediate slaughter, and not to be taken out of the market alive; is that what you mean?—No; to be sold there, not to a dealer but to a butcher, to take them direct to his slaughter-house, provided they have a clean bill of health.

5402. What guarantee have you that the butcher will not sell them again?—I should put the Government mark on it; any restriction which the Government think proper to enforce this; and fine them if they transgress.

5403. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Now you say there has been no disease of any kind in Denmark?—I do.

5404. The purport of your evidence is that you wish the Government to release the provisions as regards Denmark; that is what I understand to be the principal part of your evidence?—Yes.

5405. You say Denmark has been altogether free from this disease?—Decidedly.

5406. But that Hamburgh and other places in Germany have not been so?—No; we know the risk of it.

5407. You say for further convenience you would have two ports, one port you would use for the Danish cattle and the home cattle, and would give facilities for removing the cattle from the port, and at the other port (Leith), where the infected cattle come in, you would destroy them at once?—Decidedly; that is my view.

5408. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Could you not supply Glasgow and Airdrie, and the mining districts around, with meat slaughtered at the port of Granton?—I am afraid the season has come in when there may be a great deal of sultry and thundry weather, and one-half of the meat may not be in a proper state for killing. If it had all to be destroyed together it would ruin many men.

5409. You think it absolutely necessary that meat should be killed in those towns, such as Airdrie and Coatbridge, and other towns, and the mining districts about?—Distinctly. There is not a day but we have telegraphs from all parts of the west, about the men shutting their shops, and so on. They cannot get a pound of meat unless they go to Glasgow. They cannot buy and kill within four days, and they have men to send a long distance for it. It is impossible these towns can be supplied unless by live cattle.

5410. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] How long has Scotland been dependent upon the foreign market?—About four years.

5411. Does that arise from there being less breeding on the part of the farmers of Scotland, or

Mr. *J. Swan.* 11 June 1866.

or the increasing population?—The population is increasing very rapidly, and trade has been very good. People, instead of eating beef once a-week, must now have it two or three times a-week; and they are getting high wages.

5412. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Has there not been a considerable increase in the weight of dead meat from Scotland to London during the last few years?—I think London will be better supplied than any part of the United Kingdom; sometimes we have so many cattle to kill in Edinburgh, and I send a cargo to one of the dead meat salesmen in London. We had been sending before the order came, and got always a very good price. I sent a cargo of nine slaughtered bullocks, and I could have had fivepence a-pound at home, but they only returned me one penny three farthings or twopence in London; at the present time they are always sure, if cattle can be got in the United Kingdom. to get them. Taking the midland counties of England, there may be a fair supply on some days and on some days not.

5413. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] We have had evidence here to prove that meat can be got cheaper in London than in provincial towns?—Yes, that is so.

5414. You agree with that?—Yes.

5415. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] I asked you this question: whether the weight of meat sent from Scotland to London has not largely increased of late years?—I am sure it has.

5416. Then may that not be a reason for the supply being so largely diminished to the Scotch people?—No; I do not altogether see that. I believe there is a witness from Aberdeen, one of the largest importers we have in Scotland, of fine meat to London, who can give better evidence with regard to that than I can; but I know that we are in a very bad condition.

5417. Mr. *Carnegie.*] There are live stock market in Airdrie, and Coutbridge, are there not?—Do you mean fat markets?

5418. Yes?—No; they all go to Glasgow and Edinburgh; there are no fat markets.

5419. Mr. *Dent.*] At the present time, do I understand that you cannot take any live foreign stock to Glasgow market?—Not a single beast; we cannot take a beast out of Edinburgh market, if it is once shown there, be it ever so healthy.

5420. Suppose you landed a cargo at Granton or Leith, could you not take the cargo to Glasgow maket, if it had not been disposed of at the Edinburgh market?—No; that would remedy a great deal if we could.

5421. *Chairman.*] How do those that are landed at Leith go to the Edinburgh market?—They do not go.

5422. Where do they slaughter them at Leith?—In the slaughter-house; they attend it in turns, both night and day, they have very bad accommodation; the authorities are willing and do all in their power to accommodate, but they actually have not accommodation for their requirements.

5423. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You have no private slaughter houses in Edinburgh?—None.

5424. They are not allowed by law?—No.

5425. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Are there any in Leith?—Not one.

5426. *Chairman.*] Have there been complaints in Edinburgh and Glasgow of the quality of the meat since the slaughtering of the foreign beasts?—They are glad to get any quality at all, if it is fresh.

5427. Has there been no complaint of the quality; I am not now speaking of the quantity; has it been stated that the meat killed is not so good as it used to be?—It does not go in the same state.

5428. Do you know that there are complaints that the meat sold at Glasgow and Edinburgh is not of so good a quality as it used to be?—What I mean to state is this; sometimes we have 60 or 70 carcases to be sold by ourselves; my son sells them; when it happens to be a soft and wet day, we have them in a fearfully bad condition; at the present time we do not feel it, because we have not anything like what is wanted; the supply is quite inadequate to the demand, and they will buy the meat even although it may happen to be in a bad state.

5429. But there used to be complaints?—Decidedly, and very serious complaints.

5430. You do not think, in fact, it is a system that could be generally adopted as a permanent rule, that all foreign beasts should be slaughtered at the port of shipment, and only sent into the country as dead meat?—I think not.

5431. You think that could not be adopted as a permanent law?—I thing not; it might be in the winter, but in the warm weather I am sure it would be a very serious inconvenience; if we had three or four hundred cattle come in, to be sold in three or four days, where could we send them to?

5432. Mr. *Dent.*] But supposing there was a restriction as to the immediate time of slaughtering, supposing they had not to be slaughtered within three or four days, could you supply the western districts of Scotland with dead meat slaughtered at Granton and Leith?—I do not see that it is practicable.

5433. *Chairman.*] Are you of opinion that it would have a bad effect on the foreign trade, if they were subject to the restriction that cattle should be slaughtered at the port of arrival?—I am sure it would. It has. It has nearly stopped it. We never had more need of them in Scotland; and if it were not for the restrictions, Denmark alone would never have sent a beast through Germany, looking at the opinion they have of Germany; if it had not been for the restrictions that have been laid on their stock coming to Leith and Granton.

5434. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Could you give us any figures as to the number of foreign cattle imported into Scotland last year, before the restrictions imposed by the Order in Council?—If I had my papers, I could tell you every beast that was imported.

5435. Lord *Naas.*] Perhaps you could send them?—Yes, I can.

5436. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] If you do so, you can take three months of last year, and three months of this?—Yes.

5437. You say the trade has now nearly ceased?—There have been about 100 cattle last week, and about 1,600 sheep. During the week before there were 130 cattle and 400 sheep.

5438. Have you letters from your correspondents in Denmark complaining of the restrictions imposed by our Government?—Decidedly.

5439. Where do you send the animals from Denmark now?—There are a great many parties from England in Denmark buying them at high prices. The cattle are all consigned through various parties at Copenhagen, and from Aarhuus consigned to us.

5440. *Chairman.*] How does it injure the foreign

foreign trade; is it by their not being allowed to be sent to a late market, and not getting such good prices for their cattle; how does the restriction that they shall be slaughtered on their arrival at the port affect the foreign trade?—Most of the foreign cattle that used to come to Leith were consumed in Glasgow; I have seen as many as 300 hundred a day killed in Glasgow. Instead of going to the market there, the butchers have to go and buy them, and slaughter them at the port of Leith. They have to be at the expense of killing them, they cannot kill them at the same killing house. Perhaps there is the danger, if they happen to be away, of the property being purloined, and then there is the sending and packing, and repacking and carting, and by that the man to whom the cattle belongs is put to a good deal of extra expense; it must all come from him.

5441. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Does that arrangement apply to the public slaughter-houses?—Distinctly.

5442. You have had these public slaughter-houses for some years in Scotland?—Yes; the public slaughter-houses we have in Edinburgh and Leith are working very well.

5443. They are open to the same objection you have just mentioned, as to the chance of the things being taken away?—No; in Edinburgh all the principal butchers within the circle have a key, and they pay a salary. I do not know whether it is 8 *l.* a year. They have their own key, and they pay the town dues, 1 *s.* or 1 *s.* 6 *d.* a head for each bullock; but it is not so when we kill these foreign beasts.

5444. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you made any calculation of the quantity of stock you get from Denmark, store cattle, I mean?—There are none come.

5445. But if the trade were open, would they not?—A great many cattle would come then. A great many Danish store cattle and cows came last year, for the dairy.

5446. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you get any from Sweden?—Yes; we have had part of the stock from Sweden, but not a great quantity.

5447. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you had any from Norway?—My son went over there one year to buy some from Norway; but I do not know whether the country suited.

5448. Mr. *Dent.*] As I understand, you think that this summer there has been a very great loss to the Scottish farmers from their not being allowed to take the lean Danish stock, and Danish sheep?—From their not being allowed to take the Danish sheep; I may tell the Committee that the sheep in Denmark are many of them nearly as well bred as the English sheep. This year there are many thousand acres of first class land laying bare, with not a particle of stock to put on it.

5449. Lord *Naas.*] In what part of Scotland do these thousand of acres lie?—Nearly every farmer is not stocked, or half stocked. There was a farmer in East Lothian wanted some stock; I went to Peebleshire, and paid 20 *l.* a piece for 20 cattle to go to Aberlady mains. They were nearly fat, and they were to be left until the Monday; I came home and sent a message to the farmer about them; he went to Haddington, and the local authorities sent an order that he was not to receive them till the Friday following; and therefore it would be Monday week before these cattle could be removed. I went to Edinburgh to Mr. Walker, chairman of local authority, and said to him, Will you allow the cattle to come to my farm, which is within two miles of Edinburgh; he granted permission for the cattle to go there, and they came there on the Monday. The same farmer went to get the order to remove them from my farm; they said, certainly not; that the cattle were going somewhere else, and the man was not allowed to take the cattle home. There was another lot of 40 which I had for the same man, and they came from Westmorland. We have 200 beasts lying on our farm, keeping them on hay and water; they are lying there, and they cannot get away under the present restrictions. It is just one county fighting against another.

5450. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You said there had been an advance in the price of meat at Glasgow; what do you say is the advance per head in Glasgow?—It rose from 70 *s.* and 72 *s.* to 90 *s.* per cwt. within the last three weeks.

5451. Do you ascribe that to the foreign animals not being allowed to be passed through from Leith on their arrival?—Decidedly, in a great measure; I ascribe it also to the cattle plague; for instance, there were many thousand beasts killed when the disease came to Forfarshire; farmers were putting away their cattle in any condition from panic: and also in Kincardineshire, and all those animals that should be coming out fat now have been sold; that is the reason of it.

5452. I think you led the Committee to infer that these butchers in Glasgow, who go down and buy the animals at Leith or Granton, and there slaughter them, in consequence of there being additional expense put upon their business, are buying these animals at a lower price in the market; I rather inferred from your evidence, that the requirements, that foreign cattle should be slaughtered at the place of debarcation, would be a disadvantage to the foreign trade, and that you found it so?—Distinctly; the extra expense must come from the men who are sending the cattle.

5453. And therefore the butchers may buy their animals at a lower rate at Granton and Leith?—I do not see that they are buying the beasts at a lower rate. I distinctly agree with the Government Order, that all cattle of any description coming to Leith should be slaughtered; but I ask the Committee to advise the Privy Council to give orders for Danish cattle to come into the port of Granton.

5454. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You think that Scotland will not be restocked unless they restock with foreign cattle; you think they would not be able to get sufficient stock in England?—If we do not get them more liberally from Ireland, I do not know what is to become of us.

5455. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are there not many Irish cattle coming to Glasgow from Belfast at this time?—As I stated to the Committee before, at this season of the year the Irish cattle are always scarce; the fat cattle are done with, and the grass cattle are not come in; but we have been getting a few store cattle from Ireland lately.

5456. How soon do you expect the grass-fed cattle again?—In the course of six weeks or two months.

5457. Six weeks or two months would elapse before the cattle would come over from the west of Scotland, and from Ireland, fed on grass?—Yes.

5458. How has the importation of store cattle been from Ireland during the last few months?—There have been some from some parts of Kildare

Mr. *J. Swan.* 11 June 1866.

and beyond Dublin. There were 40 the last week, from a man of the name of Macdonald, very excellent cattle, and quite free from disease. There are a good many other people at Fife, and round Falkirk, who have been getting them ordered. There are no fairs allowed at the present time.

5459. There are fairs allowed in Ireland?—Yes; but we have not got them in Scotland.

5460. Has the importation of foreign cattle from Ireland, increased very much in the last few months?—We have no foreign cattle from Ireland now.

5461. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you had more than the usual quantity at this time of the year?—No, for many years past, from the 1st March until this time, and till the month of August, we had never less than 500 to 1,000 of English and Irish store cattle a week in Edinburgh.

5462. Into Glasgow?—No; into Edinburgh. Glasgow is not a store market at all, it is entirely for fat cattle.

5463. Lord *Naas.*] Has not the price of Irish store cattle fallen very much?—The price of Irish store cattle is certainly cheaper than we have had it for the last two or three years.

5464. Has there not been a remarkable fall during the last two months in the price of Irish stock?—For anything I have seen, there has.

5465. Do you not think if that continues, it will bring a large number of cattle to Scotland from Ireland?—Yes; but by the Orders in Council, that would soon be put a stop to.

5466. I am speaking of the present state of things. There has been no Order in Council stopping that yet?—There is no demur when they are sent over, as to whether there is an order; if they are ordered their from their own grazings, very well; but according to the Order in Council, we cannot sell a beast unless a place is licensed for it. If we have confidence in a man in Ireland to send us 50 or 100 head of animals, that is sufficient; but we are entirely at his mercy. There are plenty of men we could leave it to. There is a man named Macdonald; he buys as cheaply as he can, and only charges some 5 *s.* a head more.

5467. Has not this occurred in many cases in England, that persons have gone over on commission, and bought large numbers of cattle for different parties?—I believe it has.

5468. Do you see any great difficulty in carrying out that system?—I think there is; it will have to be done; but a man who used to buy his own cattle must now employ an agent.

5469. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Why?—He cannot go himself into a strange country, and go into a fair there.

5470. Lord *Naas.*] You do not think that the fairs for cattle in Scotland could be held at present with any safety?—I am afraid not.

5471. You would not recommend such a course as that, I suppose?—I should not this season.

5472. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you any great fair for beasts in Scotland besides the Falkirk Tryst for sheep?—It is for both sheep and cattle.

5473-4. But Falkirk Tryst is principally confined to sheep, is it not?—Oh, no; I think the Committee should advise the Government, or the Privy Council, that they should not allow store cattle to be shown in the fat markets either of Edinburgh or Glasgow again. I was examined some two years ago about the Glasgow market, and the counsel said, "What was the dairyman to do if we allowed foot and mouth complaint in cattle to go into the market"? My advice or opinion then to the magistrates was to have a dairy-cow market. The disease is a great loss to the dairyman, because if there is disease at all it is found in the cattle market; at all events the foot and mouth complaint is. I have many times in Glasgow argued the same thing, that they ought not to have a store market along with the others.

5475-6. How would you distinguish the cattle; to whom would you give the power to distinguish the cattle that were to be exposed for sale in a market?—I should say, let no cattle which were allowed to be taken into the fat market be allowed to go out to graze on any condition.

5477. Would you have them slaughtered on the spot?—Decidedly not. Let the men who buy these cattle take them, say 30 miles, to where they can have the cattle kept on their premises, put them on a railway, take them and slaughter them at their own place. It is an extra expense to have to come to buy them, then to send a man to kill them, and then to have the expense of taking them to their own places.

5478. If a lot of cattle were brought to Edinburgh market, and marked to be sent 50 or 60 miles by railway to a country village, how could you find out that those beasts were not either put on a farm on the way or left somewhere as beasts to be fed?—I would put the Government brand on them, as I have always argued from the very commencement; and, if they are found in any field or any place, let the party pay a heavy penalty.

5479. You think that would be sufficient?—Quite.

5480. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is the foot and mouth disease more prevalent among the fat cattle than among the store cattle?—Not at all; when the cattle come by boat or by rail, they are more liable to it. For instance, the cattle we have from Ireland in the fall of the year, bought in the Dublin market on a Thursday, cannot be shown in Glasgow till the next Thursday; and very often those cattle are touched with foot and mouth complaint. That is in all cases; it makes no difference whether they come from any part of Scotland. It does no harm to the beef, not the smallest.

5481. Mr. *Dent.*] I think the Irish store cattle are almost always affected with foot-and-mouth disease; I know that those we buy in Yorkshire nearly always are?—It depends very much upon the treatment in the transit.

5482. You would not exclude them from the store market, where your dairy cows were?—Do you mean the store cattle?

5483-5. Yes; Irish stores?—I do not see that that could be very easily done.

5486. Then your dairy cows would be as liable to take foot-and-mouth disease from them as from fat stock?—I think, since the cattle plague, the Irish have been much more careful than they have hitherto been. Looking at the new laws, and seeing the great value that cattle are, I think it will be very much modified, and that the foot-and-mouth complaint will not be so great as it has been; that is my own opinion.

5487. Lord *Naas.*] I want to ask you another question about the store market and the fat market: you have stated the provisions you would suggest for keeping the store beasts out of the fat market; but now, how would you keep fat

fat beasts out of the store market?—There would be no harm in their going there at all, because the cattle, even when they come to our cattle market, are tied up under the sheds there. It is very seldom you will see a fat bullock that comes into a fat market with any foot-and-mouth complaint in him at all. It is by being sold and tied up in the market he takes it.

5488. You say you would not allow any fat beasts to be sold in the store market?—I say I would not allow the fat beasts to go where the store cattle were.

5489. You say you wish to have two markets?—Yes.

5490. You can very easily provide that all the animals sold in the fat market shall be sold for immediate slaughter?—Yes.

5491. But suppose you have a lot of fat or three-quarter fat beasts, how could the authorities prevent you from selling those beasts in the store markets, if you liked?—I would not sanction that; it is by taking the store cattle or cows into the fat market that they get the disease; and the reason I say so is this, when the cattle come to be kept very likely for three or four days tied up the foot-and-mouth complaint will come upon them; but in the store market, where the cows and store cattle are sent, the fat cattle would be sent there also, and take no disease at all. It is after the cattle come into the place that they catch the disease.

5492. Would not those evils be as likely to arise in the store market as in the fat market; would not those dangers of infection to which you allude be as great in the one as in the other?—I do not think so.

5493. Why not?—Because cattle that may have been travelling from market to market may catch it; but in the fat cattle market we scarcely ever want the foot-and-mouth complaint; we are scarcely ever without it at certain seasons.

5494. You say the great cause of infection is the fat cattle travelling from market to market; is it not the case that large numbers of the store beasts travel from market to market?—Very often they do.

5495. If a dealer cannot get his price in one fair, he will drive on to another, and that is a very common practice?—Yes.

5496. Is not that practice more in vogue with regard to the store cattle than with regard to the fat cattle?—I quite agree that we cannot make everything perfect; but I know that no store cattle or cows should be allowed in the stands where the fat cattle are sold weekly. We must submit to some of these things; we cannot help ourselves, but there are certain seasons in the spring of the year, in these fat markets, when we never are without the foot-and-mouth disease.

5497. Do you not think that this might happen, that the liberty that would be given to the cattle sold in the store market over the fat market, would induce a great number of persons who had cattle which might be fat for slaughter for a certain purpose, but which still it would be practicable to keep a little longer, to send these cattle to the market, and so in reality make the store market a much more popular place for selling cattle than the fat market?—I know it would be so; I have mentioned that at different meetings we have had. The very same question you are now putting to me has been brought forward. I should not object to any man sending a beast, however fat it was, because these cattle are not touched with the foot-and-mouth complaint; but if you put them into the fat market, and into the stands, they are very likely to take the complaint at certain seasons. If a man were to send his fat cattle to the store market, I should not see anything wrong in that.

5498. Why should the store market be more free from foot-and-mouth complaint than the fat market?—Because it might happen they might catch the disease in the fat market; but they have not the same chance to catch it where they are brought into the store market in the middle of Edinburgh. If there is disease at all, it would be sure to be in the Edinburgh fat market. If a beast is unwell, it is sure to be sent to that market; and if a beast is kept for two or three days it is sure to catch the foot-and-mouth complaint.

5499. Your reason for wishing the two markets is, that beasts in the incipient stages of disease are almost certain to be sent to the fat market?—Decidedly.

5500. And, therefore, you think you would get rid of the risk in the other market, of having beasts that were known or suspected by the owners to be diseased, exposed for sale there at all?—Yes, decidedly.

5501. *Chairman.*] Did the foreign cattle trade before these restrictions took place show signs of being an increasing trade?—Decidedly.

5502. In what condition do the cattle arrive when landed, that is to say in reference to their treatment on board ship. Do they appear to have suffered, or to have been over-crowded, as a rule?—A good many of the cattle from Hamburgh, the German cattle, do appear to be affected with the foot-and-mouth disease.

5503. Do they appear to have suffered from over-crowding in the ship?—Not often. The Danish cattle are very well carried, for there is many a stone of first class hay left unconsumed. They get water once every 24 hours. There is a staff of men we pay to attend to the wants of the cattle. We pay 8 *d.* per head for every bullock, and 1 *d.* per head for every sheep; so much for a pig, and so much for a calf, in order that the cattle may be properly looked after. They agree to that, and the greatest care is taken of the cattle sent from Denmark; but when we recommended this to Hamburgh, some of the senders demurred to it, so that the persons who have charge of the cattle get no emolument for it from some of the shippers.

5504. Do you think that their own interests are sufficient to secure good treatment of the cattle on board?—Decidedly.

5505. You do not think that there are any regulations required by law?—If we found good reason for it, we decidedly would wish to have an Act of Parliament to enforce it.

5506. If you found sufficient reason?—Yes.

5507. But you have not found sufficient reason?—No; at least not as to the cattle from Denmark. And it is a treat to go down and see them landing.

5508. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are they fine cattle?—They are not heavy cattle. The cattle generally sell from about 16 *l.* to 20 *l.* This year they have been selling some of them as high as from 26 *l.* to 27 *l.* I think the last week they have gone at 72 *s.* per cwt. All those that were killed were sold at 7½ *d.* to 7¾ *d.* per lb. for the carcase of the beef, and the hide and offal beside.

5509. Lord *Naas.*] Do you get any grass beast from

Mr. *J. Swan.*

11 June 1866.

from Denmark, at the latter end of the year?—A great many during the last two years.

5510. They were pretty good?—They have not the same breed in the cattle as they have in the sheep. Usually the sheep were not be stopped from Denmark. Sheep are very dear in the fall of the year, and if a man has been able to get them, he has been quite satisfied. According to the present Order in Council, every sheep and lamb must be killed within four days.

5511. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you think sheep from any place should be stopped at the present time?—I think not. Sheep are animals that have been subject to very few complaints; but the veterinary surgeons can do little for them. There is the braxy in sheep, and there are two kinds of it; the braxy in the blood, which may be cured if taken in time by bleeding in the neck; but there is braxy in the intestines which cannot be cured, or seldom; that is, inflammation. It is mostly in young sheep in the fall of the year. Then, again, there is "Bratchy" which has the very same symptoms as the plague in cattle. Braxy in sheep may be cured if taken in time; but it is a very infectious disease; they cured it in our early days. I know something of the diseases in sheep up to the time I was 25 years of age; but since I was 25, I have learnt nothing; I know nothing more. There is the "Bratchy" in sheep, which may be cured if taken in time, by boiled sweet milk and common starch, with half a glass of port wine twice a day, or some laudanum; but generally it will spread, and it cuts them off.

5512. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is "bratchy"?—It is a scour.

5513. Mr. *Dent.*] Is that something like the scour in lambs?—In my opinion the bratchy in sheep is what killed Mr. Harvey's sheep down in Norfolk last year. Then, again, there are two or three kinds of rot in sheep. There are two kinds incurable. If sheep that has the rot gets into a watery state it is incurable. The rot in sheep by flukes in the liver may be cured by American tar, say, half an ounce, put into flour or bean meal.

5514. Lord *Naas.*] There is also the scab in sheep?—Yes; the scab is a disease easily cured; if a sheep takes the scab, and it is not cured, it will destroy the stock altogether, but any shepherd can easily cure it; the best cure I have ever found for it is tobacco juice and spirits of tar.

5515. *Chairman.*] Have you formed any opinion how the cattle plague got into Scotland?—Yes.

5516. How was that?—It came from London.

5517. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Did you ever hear of another disease in sheep called by the name "Louping-ill"?—Yes, decidedly.

5518. The louping-ill is supposed to show itself in sheep after the winter is passed, and they have eaten too largely and freely from a particular grass, is it not so?—This has been a very bad year for louping-ill; there has been a great deal of loss from louping-ill this season; when the wind is in the east it comes on a great many different farms. There is also the "thorten-ill;" it is a disease in the spine or neck, which prostrates the sheep entirely; they fall down, and seldom ever rise again.

5519. What is your idea of the reason for the louping-ill?—It has been in many parts of Scotland; it arises from particular grounds. Near Melrose, on some grounds there, where there are particular springs, and when the wind is in the east, there is a great deal of loss from it.

5520. You do not ascribe it to the food which the animals eat?—Not at all. At some seasons when the large lots from the north of Scotland come to the Falkirk market there are great losses by the trimling or louping-ill; it is a disease that is natural to sheep on certain grounds.

5521. *Chairman.*] You said that you thought the cattle plague disease came from London?—Yes.

5522. In what way did it come from London to Scotland?—It came with some cows from the Metropolitan Market.

5523. With some cows that were bought in the Metropolitan Market and sent to Scotland?—Yes, sent to Edinburgh.

5524. Were those cows infected with the cattle plague when they arrived?—I did not see them when they arrived, but I saw them immediately after.

5525. And they had it then?—Yes, I think so; I was examined before the Royal Commission here about the disease, and I pointed out to the Commission then the interest I took myself with regard to it. It was reported to me in the cattle market one day that a man had lost 12 cows; I called for Professor Dick and Professor Strangways, and went to see the cows; there was a foreign cow standing there very bad. Professor Dick had never seen the disease, nor had I; he said nothing about it. We went to another place where there were three cows; one of them was touched in the back; and I said, you may depend upon it that is the cattle plague, for there are the same symptoms that have been described by Professor Simmonds; all along the back the animal was, as it were, full of wind. We went to the Corn-exchange, and called a meeting; after that we had a county meeting; we had all the cows valued that were then in Edinburgh, and they came to 31,000*l.*; and I said they had far better put a cordon round the city, and destroy every cow they had; that if it entered the county it would destroy the whole of the cattle in the place; they did not think it was so serious. Immediately afterwards we called a meeting of the dairymen; Sir Alexander Gibson Maitland took the chair; and we raised a good deal of money, and provided that every cow that was seized should be destroyed at once. We were not backed up, but we raised 1,200*l.* or 1,400*l.* and divided it amongst them; but somehow the disease got out of the city and got to Glasgow. I afterwards pointed out a cow in Glasgow which was diseased; I went to the inspector and afterwards stood with him until it was killed. It was reported that we had sent cattle to Liverpool with the cattle plague; we had some letters upon the subject; I have not the least doubt it might be so, but these cattle that went from Glasgow were first of all shown in the Edinburgh Market, then they were shown in Glasgow, and then they went to Liverpool. I do not say but that these were foreign cattle; but these cattle stood upon the stands of Edinburgh Market, and also upon the stands at Glasgow, and nothing was more likely than that they might catch the seeds of disease there, and might in that way take it to Liverpool.

5526. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you remember the pleuro-pneumonia in Edinburgh, five or six years ago?—Very well.

5527. Where did that come from?—I am not sure.

sure. I was examined on that Commission also, I think.

5528. How do you think it got into the country; do you think the cattle plague was imported from abroad, originally?—I could not say whether the cattle plague was imported or not. I have said it was imported to us from London, but how it got to London I cannot tell. I do think there should be some notice taken about the restrictions on sheep.

5529. *Chairman.*] You say you proposed to put a cordon round the City of Edinburgh, and to slaughter all the cows that were then in the city?—Yes.

5530. A cordon merely to prevent animals coming out?—Yes.

5531. Supposing any persons had been in cow-houses, and been in communication with the animals; if those persons were allowed to come out, might they not impart the disease as quickly as by allowing the animals themselves to come out; you would not have kept everybody in Edinburgh, I suppose; you would have let the people out?—My opinion was this: that every cow ought to be killed that was seized with the plague, so as not to let the infection spread. Immediately after that the store cattle came from Ireland, and were shown in Edinburgh, and thus spread the disease into the country.

5532. How did the beasts travel that brought the plague from London to Edinburgh?—By rail, by York.

5533. On the Continent, I have been told that when they put a cordon round a place to prevent the cattle plague, they do not allow any living creature to pass that cordon, out of the infected district, either human beings or animals; would you propose such a strong measure as that?—I do not think that. My meaning at the time was not to that extent. I thought, the disease being newly imported, by taking stringent measures at the time, it might have been stamped out; but it is a very difficult thing to stamp it out now. I believe it is simply impossible.

5534. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] How would you do if the same thing were to occur again; supposing England could be entirely free from the cattle plague, and it broke out on the Continent again, what steps would you take?—I would propose at once, not to allow a beast to go from the place which was infected, and kill every beast that was infected with it.

5535. Would you propose there should be a general law, like that in Ireland, that the animals should be slaughtered, and that compensation should be made, to be paid out of the common rate, out of the union rate?—Decidedly.

5536. Would you propose that that should be applied to Scotland and England?—Ireland would be in a better position than we have been in, because they have had the experience of England and Scotland.

5537. Do you not think for the future it will be best to apply the same system to Scotland and England as has been applied to Ireland?—Decidedly.

5538. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Can you give us some information with regard to the Edinburgh slaughter-houses?—Yes.

5539. There are no private slaughter-houses in Edinburgh?—None.

5540. Is there one or more public slaughter-house?—One in Edinburgh and one in Leith.

5541. And one in Granton?—Yes. There is a new one erected in Granton since the new Orders in Council came out.

5542. What system of arrangement is there in these slaughter-houses in Edinburgh?—In Edinburgh, all the principal butchers pay a rent of, I think, some 8*l.* or 10*l.* to have the right to the slaughter-house; they pay city dues besides; I think there are three or four common slaughter-houses for men who may send in their beasts if they can find room to hang up a beast or a sheep. I know when the new restriction came out we went and took two of the slaughter-houses for our own use; we paid a rent for the time we were in there. In Leith it is similar. In Glasgow they have three slaughter-houses. But the magistrates wished to convert them into one at the cattle market.

5543. Lord *Naas.*] Are there any private slaughter-houses in Glasgow?—None. There are three public ones. They had what is called the "Market Bill" last year. The butchers demurred to it; and I gave evidence upon it. In such a place as Glasgow, where there are 400,000 inhabitants, I could not see that it would be convenient, as it would be very expensive, for the butchers to come from the other end of Glasgow, where they have a slaughter-house at present, to get up to the market. I pointed out, that a man killing eight or nine beasts a-week, and keeping an extra horse and cart to drive the meat there, and sending a butcher away to kill a pair of lambs, or some such other little things, would occasion considerable expense to be incurred by him. I did think it would be very much against the trade to congregate all the slaughter-houses in Glasgow at one large abattoir.

5544. It would be inconvenient?—Yes.

5545. What has been done?—The three slaughter-houses continue as before.

5546. They are all three public slaughter-houses?—All public slaughter-houses. There is no private slaughter-house. To day, in the cattle market, some of the salesmen were speaking to me about London; I said, I was afraid that they would never get every butcher to have his own private slaughter-house; that they could never get the Government to allow that state of things to continue.

5547. What did they say to that?—They thought it was interfering with the trade; but in such a place as London, I do not see that it could be managed without there were a good many different slaughter-houses around the city.

5548. But still, from your knowledge of the way it is carried on in Glasgow and Edinburgh, if there were a sufficient number of public slaughter-houses established in London, you think it might be done without interfering with the trade?—I think so in London; but they would require a good many slaughter-houses in London with such a population.

Mr. JOHN SWALES, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Swales.*

11 June 1866.

5549. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—A Butcher.

5550. You live in Leeds?—Yes.

5551. The Leeds Cattle Market is the source of supply for Leeds and a considerable district around, is it not?—It is.

5552. What quantity of people have been supplied with meat purchased in the Leeds cattle market?—The number of inhabitants in Leeds borough is marked as 250,000, and the districts round about Halifax, Bradford, and other towns, bring it to nearly one million of inhabitants, we think.

5553. Where do the supplies of cattle come from which come to the Leeds market?—At this period of the year, chiefly from Scotland and Northumberland, and foreign cattle from Hull when they were allowed to come. Foreign cattle are not allowed to be removed from Hull to Leeds; we are now confined to Northumberland and Scotland.

5554. In other periods of the year, where do you get it from?—There are large grazing districts in the neighbourhood, Wharfdale and Airedale; and from the latter end of June to September and October, we have grass fed cattle out of those districts. This year is an exceptional year, and there are not the number of cattle in those agricultural grazing districts to supply Leeds that there have been in former years, owing to the cattle plague having been in those neighbourhoods. Farmers have been slow at purchasing cattle to graze during this year.

5555. Are the supplies from the north of England and Scotland sufficient for the Leeds cattle market?—No; cattle are only allowed to be sold now in Leeds, and slaughtered in the borough, and we require 500 weekly; the number in the market last Wednesday was 186.

5556. The supplies from Scotland and the north of England are very much lessened, are they not?—They are lessened, and they generally fall off altogether at the latter end of June.

5557. They are nearly exhausted now?—They are nearly exhausted now; last week there were 186, nearly all from the north; the week before there were 189, and in the previous week there were 280.

5558. Is there a prospect of a still further reduction in the supply of cattle in the Leeds market?—There does not appear to be any source of supply when they are exhausted in Northumberland and Scotland, in the district round about Leeds, the few cattle that there are are not yet ready.

5559. Can the deficiency be made up from other cattle markets?—We could have made up the deficiency last week, could we have been allowed to remove them from the metropolitan cattle market, or any other market, but that is not allowed at the present time.

5560. I did not quite understand what you stated about the cattle in the districts surrounding Leeds; did you say they generally come in at the end of June?—Leeds is a town which is on the borders of the agricultural districts on the one side, and the mining and manufacturing districts on the other; there is a great quantity of cattle grazed generally, and they are available for the butcher from the middle of June to the latter end of the year; say to October.

5561. Why do you say there was an exception this year?—Because the farmers have not the cattle this year in our districts.

5562. Then you cannot look forward to a supply from the surrounding districts?—At present we cannot.

5563. And not at all if they have not got the cattle?—It will be very late in the year if we get it at all.

5564. How do you supply the deficiency of meat for the consumption of the people of Leeds?—The deficiency has been supplied by dead carcases of beef from Hull.

5565. Foreign cattle slaughtered at Hull?—Yes; during the cold weather, but now foreign cattle cannot come from Hull in a slaughtered state; a little while ago the Corporation fitted up a dead-meat market in Leeds, and this dead-meat market was supplied every Wednesday and Thursday with carcases of foreign cattle slaughtered in Hull; slaughtered on a Monday or Tuesday, and brought to Leeds on Wednesday; that is not now practicable, because it would spoil before it could be consumed.

5566. Cannot the meat be kept a day or two in summer weather?—It has to be killed in Hull on the Monday and has to hang from 12 to 24 hours to get stiff, as it cannot be removed as soon as it is slaughtered. Then it has to be conveyed by the train to Leeds, and is exposed there for sale; then it is bought by the butchers, and a great length of time is occupied; the meat would be entirely useless by the time it got exposed in the butcher's shop for sale.

5567. How long must it be between the slaughtering in Hull and the exhibition in the butcher's shop in Leeds?—At the very least it would be two days; it might be longer, but at the very least it would be two. In hot weather we kill them in one day and exhibit them in the butcher's shop the next day direct from the slaughterhouse, without the tossing about there is in the transit of a dead beast from one place to another, and that has a tendency to make it spoil much sooner than otherwise it would do.

5568. The weather has become warm now; is this dead meat supply going on?—There was not a carcase at all in the market last week; not a single carcase.

5569. According to your account, if Leeds requires 500 head of cattle per week, and there were only 186 last week, and there is none coming in from the surrounding districts, and none from Hull, do you mean to say that the people of Leeds are not eating beef now?—Many of the butchers have not any beef in their shops to sell, and the price of cattle in the Leeds market last Wednesday was 1¾*d.* per lb. more than in the metropolitan market last Monday. We were present last Monday. I could have bought cattle here at 1¾*d.* per lb. cheaper than we could in Leeds on the Wednesday.

5570. What is the difference in price to the consumers now, when they buy from the butchers, to what it was a year or two ago?—I can recollect when it was not half the price it is now.

5571. Mr. *Dent.*] Take this time last year?—I should think it would be 3*d.* a lb. as an average.

5572. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What do you sell it at now?—We are selling the best cuts of beef, that is loins and crops, by themselves, nicely dressed meat, at 1*s.* a lb. I sell them at

11 *d.* where I am; and I am not in the very best part of the town.

5573. Where do you live?—I live in Hunslet-road. This meat has been as high as 1 *s.*, and I myself have sold it at 11 *d.*

5574. What was the price last year?—From 8 *d.* to 9 *d.*

5575. What do you pay for beef steaks at Leeds?—Fifteen pence a lb. the best.

5576. What was it last year?—Not more than from 10 *d.* to 1 *s.*

5577. Is there a lessened supply of the inferior parts of the animal for the poorest people in Leeds?—There must necessarily be, there is, in fact.

5578. Do you hear of any complaints in the town as to the want of a proper supply of meat?—Yes; people came to my shop last Saturday, when I told them the price, they went away, and said they would never buy any more meat at that price.

5579. *Chairman.*] Are you of opinion that it is necessary that foreign cattle should be allowed to be removed from Hull, and sold in the Leeds cattle market to be slaughtered at Leeds, for consumption there?—That is my opinion. I think it would be quite as safe as allowing them to come into the metropolitan markets here, for the same purpose.

5580. You would take precautions at Hull, that they were healthy cattle when they were forwarded to Leeds?—We do not want any but healthy cattle.

5581. You think there would be no injury to owners of stock elsewhere: any chance of spread the cattle plague by allowing the foreign beasts, if they are healthy, to be sent by rail from Hull to Leeds, to be slaughtered there?—I think there would be no danger, and from the report I have received from the cattle inspector, there has not been a single case of cattle plague at Hull, during the last 14 weeks there has not been a case at Leeds, nor within a radius of 10 miles round Leeds, during the last 19 weeks. We consulted the local authority, the cattle plague committee, as to whether they would have any objection to allowing foreign healthy cattle to come to Leeds, and be exhibited in the market for sale for immediate slaughter; and the local committee passed a resolution on the subject of which resolution I have a copy.

5582. Will you read it?—Yes. "Borough of Leeds Cattle Disease Act Committee, 8th June 1866. Resolved, that this committee are of opinion that it will be highly conducive to the interests of this town, and the comfort of the inhabitants, that live healthy cattle should be allowed to be sent from Hull to this borough, and sold in the market here for the purpose of slaughter; and, for the information of the Committee of the House of Commons on trade in animals, we beg to state that we will provide all the necessary accommodation for the slaughtering of such cattle. (signed) John Edward Smith, town clerk."

5583. You would not allow these cattle to leave the Leeds market alive?—We have no desire that they should leave Leeds alive.

5584. The foreign cattle are landed in the Thames?—Yes.

5585. And then brought to the Metropolitan Cattle Market for slaughter, but may be removed to any part of the district?—Yes.

5586. Do you see any difference between that and what you propose from Hull to Leeds?—I do not see any difference. The transit of live cattle from Hull to Leeds would occupy about three hours, and they could come direct to the Leeds market, and be sold there, and be slaughtered in Leeds; they would be slaughtered the same day, or the day following that on which they were exhibited for sale in Leeds, and consumed that week.

5587. Do you think that the prices will keep up, and the supply remain deficient, unless the foreign cattle are allowed to be brought from Hull to Leeds?—I think the supply will get less, and that the prices will consequently get higher.

5588. They say in the resolution you have read that, in case of necessity, the local authority would supply what was required by way of accommodation for slaughtering; but what have you got now, supposing the cattle were allowed to be brought there?—There are in Leeds six public slaughter-houses, as we call them; in one sense they are not public; that is to say, they do not belong to the corporation, they belong to private individuals; but there is a system in operation by which any person can take an animal into the slaughter-house and slaughter it, and remove away the carcase and everything belonging to it, on certain conditions. The new building, which has been recently erected in the Smithfield Cattle Market, and which has been used for the purpose of selling dead meat, can, and would be very easily turned into a public slaughter-house, belonging to the corporation, for the purposes we desire, if it is found to be necessary, and if there should not be sufficient accommodation under existing circumstances.

5589. You propose that these foreign cattle shall be allowed to be brought also to Leeds, and there slaughtered; do you propose that the slaughtering for the adjoining districts should be carried on in Leeds, and that the meat should be sent publicly from Leeds to the population surrounding Leeds, which you have mentioned?—Yes, I do mean that; and it would be a great benefit to them, inasmuch as there would be time saved by it. They would buy their cattle alive in Leeds market on Wednesday; they would kill them on Thursday, and remove them directly to their places of business on the Friday.

5590. Have not any of these places got cattle markets of their own?—Some have, such as Bradford; but they are markets which have only been instituted quite recently, since the "Cattle Plague Act."

5591. Mr. *Dent.*] Bradford was entirely supplied from Leeds and Wakefield, until the cattle plague began, was it not?—Yes.

5592. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] There was no cattle market at Bradford?—No; the two markets of the West Riding, were Leeds and Wakefield.

5593. *Chairman.*] I do not quite see why the same mischief should not arise from sending the dead meat from Leeds to these districts, that arises from sending it from Hull?—Leeds is much more central; and the butcher could buy one or two cattle, or so many as he wanted at Leeds, alive, and then he would have the cattle in his own hands to slaughter.

5594. But, as far as the hot weather is concerned, the mischief arising from not slaughtering on the spot where it is sold, as it were, for consumption, would apply to the case of Leeds and its districts, would it not?—No, not at all.

5595. Mr. *Dent.*] How far is Bradford from Leeds by railway?—Eight miles.

Mr. *J. Swales.*

11 June 1866.

5596. *Chairman.*] It is a question of an hour or two, more or less?—Not at all; a butcher cannot get from Bradford to Hull to kill the cattle and bring them from Hull; there is no cattle market at Hull; and the cattle there are in the hands of persons to whom they are consigned. They sell them in large numbers, and they are slaughtered on the Monday, generally.

5597. Who is it that slaughters them there; who superintends that operation?—I have not been there to see.

5598. They would be butchers, I suppose?—Yes; but they buy and slaughter them there, and they have to bring them to another intervening market to sell; instead of bringing dead carcases to an intervening market to sell, the live animals would be brought, and, instead of being dead on a certain day, they would be alive on that certain day, and it would save two, if not three, days in hot weather.

5599. You think that this is a very pressing case?—I do think so.

5600. Supposing nothing is done, what do you consider will be the state of things in a month at Leeds?—We are very loyal at Leeds, and I do not think we should kick up a row or make any disturbance.

5601. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You would not be strong enough for that?—I think we should submit to the grievance philosophically, and make the best we could of it.

5602. *Chairman.*] I want to know what would be your actual condition in a month's time, supposing nothing was done?—There would be no beef, or next to none, to sell.

5603. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] You would have mutton?—We have foreign sheep come, but foreign cattle do not. We have mutton, but it is 1½ *d.* lb. dearer than it is in London. Sheep come from the south, and go to our market in Leeds; when in the ordinary state of things they would come from Leeds to London.

5604. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you ever buy any meat in the metropolitan market to send to Leeds?—I do not. It would be worthless. The dead meat trade from long distances to the metropolis is almost entirely set aside in hot weather. Very little meat comes from Leeds in hot weather to sell at London.

5605. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are you aware of the quantity of dead meat that comes from Scotland to London all through the summer?—I am not.

5606. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Did you hear the last witness state, that cattle had been bought in the metropolitan market for the purpose of supplying Glasgow?—I did not hear him say so. I did not hear his evidence at all.

5607. Mr. *Dent.*] In ordinary seasons you very frequently send meat from Leeds to London, do you not?—It is a very common thing.

5608. Do the better parts of the carcases come from Leeds to London?—They do.

5609. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do not you think there will be some complaints on the part of the inhabitants of Halifax and different towns, that they cannot have the privilege of having the cattle, if you have that privilege at Leeds?—They would rather have it perhaps, but what I say is, they would be very thankful to get it at Leeds.

5610. The same arrangement would be good for those towns as it would for Leeds, and if we allow the importation of live cattle to Leeds, should it not be extended to the towns in the neighbourhood of Leeds?—I do not represent their interests.

5611. It affects them more than Leeds?—If they think proper to get the grievance remedied they are at liberty to do so.

5612. Mr Alderman *Salomons.*] Which is the nearest cattle market to Leeds?—Wakefield; but that is in exactly the same position as Leeds.

5613. How far is that from Leeds?—Eight miles.

5614. Mr. *Dent.*] Wakefield is not a consuming place, like Leeds?—No; Wakefield is a small place, and Leeds is a very large place.

5615. *Chairman.*] Do you ever get any dead meat from Scotland in Leeds?—There are some dead carcases that have come during the time the weather was entirely cold; the animals that otherwise would have come alive have been slaughtered there, and have come dead; but they could not come in hot weather.

5616. Mr. *Dent.*] Generally speaking, at this time of year you get a number of beasts from Northumberland and Scotland?—Yes.

5617. That supply is now almost entirely stopped?—It generally ceases at the latter end of June every year.

5618. And the grass-fed beasts from Wharfdale and all the grazing districts do not come in until July?—Not until July.

5619. There will be scarcely any beasts, therefore, to come in then?—It is thought not; none have come as yet.

5620. It is a fact that there are none?—Yes.

5621. You know that yourself?—I know it. There are very few to be seen in the fields about, and it is stated the farmers have not got any, or very few.

5622. *Chairman.*] You stated formerly, before these restrictions were in force, the Leeds Market was the place at which the butchers from the neighbourhood bought their live cattle for the surrounding districts?—Yes.

5623. Altogether, you say, the population is something like a million of people round about the West Riding?—Yes; I think so.

5624. When they bought these cattle formerly they took them away to their own place alive, did they not?—They did.

5625. They did not have them killed in Leeds?—They did not.

5626. Then you believe they would all have to be killed in Leeds?—Yes, the foreign cattle would; the cattle that we are asking to be allowed to remove to Leeds market, we are asking to be allowed to remove with the intention of killing them at Leeds.

5627. Formerly those cattle would have been bought by the butchers alive, and taken away to be killed at their own place?—They would.

5628. Would not that cause a great increase of slaughtering in Leeds?—It would.

5629. Would that be a healthy thing for the population in the hot weather?—The Cattle Plague Committee do not object, and they are the authority in the matter.

5630. I want to know whether causing such an increase of slaughtering in a crowded town like Leeds in the hot weather would not be prejudicial to the health of the public?—I do not think it would; I think there is nothing connected with the slaughtering of animals under proper restrictions and regulations as to cleanliness that is prejudicial to public health. I have been a butcher now nearly 30 years, and I never

was a day from my work from illness all that time.

5631. By your plan you would concentrate the slaughtering of animals in Leeds, for a very considerable population all round it; in that way it would become very much greater than it ever has been?—It would.

5632. Would not there be a chance of an escape of blood or other animal matter, or decomposition, in hot weather, which might affect the health of the public?—I do not think it necessarily would be so.

5633. Would the local authorities of Leeds take care it would not be so?—I have no doubt they would.

5634. Have you made any provision for that?—We have the six slaughter-houses I have already named; there is a very large building indeed which is situated in the Smithfield Market, close to the cattle market, that might be made available at very little cost for public slaughter-houses; and we have slaughter-house inspectors, and all the rest of the machinery necessary to cleanliness and health in connection with the slaughter-houses. They are regularly visited, and they are licensed. No person is allowed to open a slaughter-house without a license. We have slaughter-house regulations, and bye laws issued by the corporation under which we take out a license, and we are bound by those regulations, or we are subject to prosecution if we do not keep within them.

5635. Is the blood purchased by sugar refiners, or people who want that article?—I do not sell my blood; I do not know what is the practice.

5636. What becomes of it?—It goes with the manure; the garbage is taken right away.

5637. Is any of the blood washed away into the sewers?—No, not with me. It is put among the garbage with the manure, and removed right away.

5638. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you sell it?—I sell the manure.

5639. The blood forms part of what you sell?—Yes. A farmer in the neighbourhood fetches it away, and supplies straw to me for it. I do not know how other people do. I have seen it at several slaughter-houses put into large casks and bunged up and taken away.

5640. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is Leeds a weekly market?—Yes.

5641. What are the number of beasts brought into the market in ordinary times?—The weekly consumption in Leeds is 500 in ordinary times.

5642. Do you know the number that is brought into the market, supposing the cattle plague had not been there?—I have not the numbers, and I cannot speak positively.

5643. Mr. *Dent.*] Is it not from 700 to 900 a week?—I think about that; but I have not the numbers, and I do not wish to state any number that I cannot stand upon. 186 was the number exhibited last week.

5644. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What number are you getting from the Newcastle market?—They are all out of the North, or nearly so. They do not put them into the Newcastle market, and then remove them to Leeds; they do not bring them from one market to another.

5645. You are aware that Northumberland has been declared a non-infected district at present?—Yes; they come out of Northumberland to Leeds now.

5646. Do you have any dead meat from Newcastle now?—There were a few lots came under exceptional circumstances, and they came in a very bad state indeed. A dealer who was bringing them to the Leeds market, did not act according to the regulations; he did something he ought not to have done, and those cattle were stopped; they were killed at Newcastle and sent on to Leeds, and a butcher who bought some, said that they were worth 1*d.* per pound less to him.

5647. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Was that in consequence of the depreciation?—Depreciation by their being killed in Newcastle, and the carcases sent to Leeds. The weather was so bad.

5648. *Chairman.*] Do you belong to the Butchers' Association in Leeds?—Yes.

5649. Is that an association of all the butchers there?—It is the association of many of the butchers.

5650. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is their object?—Their object is to prevent persons taking advantage of butchers. They defend one another in case of any lawsuit, which they think is an improper one, but more especially they look after the interests of the trade, as I am supposed to be doing now. Besides that, it is a charitable association.

5651. Has it anything to do with fixing the prices?—Not at all; such a thing was never mentioned at any meeting I have been at.

5652. Have you any book of rules?—I have not got it here, but I could send you a copy.

5653. Never mind that?—It is also a charitable association; we help persons that are poor, and contributions are given to the widows of poor deceased butchers.

5654. Mr. *Dent.*] You would not object, if it was thought requisite, that all these foreign cattle should be slaughtered in the public slaughter-house of Leeds?—We should not object.

5655. You would not object, if the Government thought it right, at the present time to have them all slaughtered in the public slaughter-house?—Not at all.

5656. Have you ever turned your attention at all to the question of having nothing but public slaughter-houses in Leeds?—I have not thought much about it.

5657. Do you think it would be a great inconvenience if you had proper slaughter-houses provided, and that each butcher should have his own compartment under his own control?—I do not think it would be a great inconvenience.

5658. Supposing it were thought right for the public health to do away with private slaughter-houses, do you think the supply of Leeds would be well conducted by means of public slaughter-houses?—If there were two or three of them in different localities, I should not see any objection.

5659. Would you be able in that way to supply the out-townships of Leeds, do you think?—The difficulty as to them would be, having to go to the long distances.

5660. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You spoke of the condition in which carcases sent to you from Hull would reach Leeds, and that it could not be done with advantage; has this meat been forwarded by special meat trains, or only by ordinary goods trains from Hull to London?—It has come generally by the trains running on the Tuesday night, and has been put on the Leeds market for sale early on Wednesday morning. The butchers in Leeds, and round about, have bought it in its dead state, and removed it in their carts to towns round about on the Wednesday.

5661. I think you stated it would only be

Mr. *J. Swales.* 11 June 1866.

three hours on, the journey?—I do not think it would be longer.

5662. What is the distance from Hull to Leeds, direct?—About 60 miles.

5663. But it has not been forwarded by special train?—No; it is not the distance, but it is the time that is taken up in the sale of it. It has to be killed on the Monday night, and brought to Leeds, and then exhibited for sale on the Wednesday, and then taken by the buyer to his home to sell again by retail.

5664. You say it has come in an improper state?—In a very bad state.

5665. Was it brought in trucks, having proper ventilation; was it properly arranged in the trucks, and had it a fair chance?—I think so; the persons who brought it were the owners of it. They bought the cattle in Hull, and of course would do the best they could to bring it to Leeds in as good a state as it was possible, so as to get a good market for it.

5666. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You say you would wish that all foreign cattle should be slaughtered at Leeds?—All that come to Leeds market.

5667. Should they be slaughtered by the butchers of Leeds, or by the butchers of the neighbouring towns?—There are a number of slaughter men at Leeds that would slaughter them, if the butchers who bought the animal desired it, or he might slaughter it himself. There is no compulsion.

5668. Would there be accommodation for the butchers of the neighbouring towns to slaughter the foreign cattle which they bought at Leeds?—We think there is; but if there is not, accommodation would be provided by the corporation at once, according to the resolution which I have placed before the committee to-day.

5669. You do not want to throw the profit of the slaughtering into the hands of the Leeds butchers alone?—There is no profit at all in the slaughtering, none at all.

5670. Mr. *Dent.*] You get no supply of Irish fat cattle at Leeds from Ireland, do you?—Not at present.

5671. In ordinary times you do not?—I have seen cattle from Ireland at Leeds market frequently.

5672. I mean cattle coming from Ireland?—Yes; they have been bought at Liverpool and Manchester.

5673. Lord *Naas.*] Could cattle be imported from Ireland, and sent to Hull and Leeds, if there was a large demand for them?—They do not come. I do not know what there is to prevent it.

5674. There is nothing to prevent it?—It does not come.

Mr. Samuel Higgins, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *S. Higgins.*

5675. *Chairman.*] What is your calling?—I am a Butcher and Cattle Dealer.

5676. Do you belong to the Butchers' Association?—Yes; and I am consignor of meat up to London market, occasionally. Of course I do not send now; I have not sent any for three months. It has been dearer in Leeds than it has been in London for some time. and that is the reason that we do not send any.

5677. You are not exporters but importers?—That is it.

5678. You have heard what Mr. Swales has told us about the supply of meat for the population of Leeds and the districts surrounding it; have you anything to add to that evidence?—Yes; my point more especially is, to look after the interest of Leeds. I am not so anxious about supplying the neighbouring towns, as I am about supplying my own immediate town. I do not care so much about how all the meat could be slaughtered at Leeds for the Riding. I have no doubt that Halifax, and Sheffield, and Huddersfield, towns which I have visited on this question, would be very glad to have the cattle direct from Hull alive for slaughter, and we should be very glad to have as many to fit us up alive; we are not anxious to have a large quantity of killing in Leeds. There is another point as to which Mr. Swales, I thought, was scarcely clear. We have already ample accommodation in Leeds for the slaughtering of cattle; large slaughter houses, that are already under the control of the corporation; they are looked upon as public slaughter houses. I am under the impression that there is no real necessity for any talk about this accommodation for slaughtering: there is ample accommodation in Leeds, a very fair area to accommodate all the cattle, supposing that all the cattle that come to Leeds were required to be slaughtered in Leeds.

5679. You say you do not want to slaughter in Leeds for the places in the neighbourhood of Leeds; you think that those places would be glad to have their cattle direct from Hull?—If they can get them, or from other parts.

5680. If the foreign cattle were allowed to be brought to Leeds, would not they all come there, as being the great market?—At present the Orders in Council prevent them going out of the borough.

5681. Supposing the Orders in Council were waived, would not the foreign cattle be all brought to Leeds for sale, that being the principal market?—Yes; if the restrictions were taken away, they would come to Leeds and Wakefield.

5682. And if you did not want them to be taken away from Leeds alive, the effect of the change would be, that the slaughtering for the district would take place in Leeds?—Yes.

5683. Although you do not wish it?—We are not so anxious about that; but we can give them any amount of accommodation they want. I believe we could accommodate all those places. The foreign cattle are a sort of supplementary affair. We want the cattle out of Northumberland; we have got them, as has been stated, up to this time. It is falling, and generally does fall, entirely at the end of June, or about that time; but we prefer that kind of cattle; in point of fact, we are really dependent on it, for the foreign cattle suit the rougher kind of buyers. For my part, I never cut up such a thing as a foreign bullock or a foreign heifer either. I cut up Northumberland beasts when I can get them; and when I cannot get Northumberland beasts, I endeavour to get Irish beasts from Liverpool. I prefer that. I have not cut up three foreign cattle for the last ten years; it is a rougher kind of meat, which does for the working classes. To fill up, we have already those 180 beasts that have been talked about; they are all fine, splendid bullocks, as good as any cattle that have ever come into any market in the world. They do for the

the best butchers; but it is the low class of cutters who are without meat, and who supply the working classes. The working classes cannot get it: they have to give such high prices for the rougher portions of the meat.

5684. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Where does that good class of meat come from?—From the North, beyond Newcastle; out of Berwickshire and Fifeshire.

5685. *Chairman.*] That supply will finish very soon, we are told?—I have been a dealer in meat out of Newcastle and Berwick for many years; I was a dealer before ever there was a line of railway made on that road. I had them driven on the road. I have been a dealer for a long time, and my brother before me. We used to go to Morpeth, and right away down into Scotland. The Scotch beasts fall off generally about the latter end of June; we get none after that time, or very little indeed. There are the shorthorns, the real beast, short-horned beast.

5686. Then what are you to do; it seems there is no beef in the surrounding district, or at least much less than usual?—There is none; I ought to have been at Tadcaster to-day; I was at Wetherby last Thursday, and I was conversing with the farmers. There are places we ought to fall back upon after the North has failed. We ought to go about 10, 15, or 20 miles out of our own, and meet with a supply of home-fed or grass-fed, so to speak. Those farmers who now ought to have 150 or 200 cattle on their farms in Wharfdale have not a single beast likely to be ready for three months. The rinderpest has struck terror into them; they have a few extra sheep, but they have no cattle on hand.

5687. What is your proposal on the subject?—Our proposal is that you should give us an opportunity to go down to Hull to buy a few live cattle, and let us bring them into Leeds, so that we could kill them as we want them. The objections we have are these: we have only one good market in Leeds; on Saturday they have a dead-meat market in London every day, and there is a meat train right through from Aberdeen to London daily; but not much comes this time of year, and it is a very risky trade. I have been dropped on this time of year very seriously, and my pocket has been affected very seriously indeed; it is a very risky trade sending from Aberdeen to London, or from Leeds to London. However we do get a few lambs up by the night train, which get into the market fresh, and are sold by the London salesmen, even in the hot weather; but it is a very risky trade.

5688. I suppose the working classes in Leeds are pretty well supplied now, and generally in the receipt of good wages; there is no lack of employment?—The working classes are very well off, generally speaking.

5689. They have plenty of money to get beef with, if there is beef to be had?—No doubt, and they want beef; they like good eating and drinking in Leeds, and they would prefer to lay out their money, but they do not like the high prices. They were very sore on Saturday, very sore indeed. In our town some of them rebelled, and would not have it. They believe in beef and mutton if they can get it, but it is too high for them now. We have to charge the working classes something like 9*d.* and 10*d.* for rough cuts. I have sold bodies of beef in Leeds for 8½*d.* per lb., which could have been bought in London, last week, at 6½*d.* per pound. There is a difference of 2*d.* a pound in the carcase. Beefsteaks are sold at a better price in London, in some parts, than in others; and beefsteaks are not a criterion with regard to the price of meat. Mr. Swale has sold beefsteaks at 1*d.* and 1½*d.* a pound less than I have, and at other times, perhaps, he has been able to make more. It is not a fair criterion. You want to take the live cattle market to draw your conclusions. We visited the Cattle Market here last Monday; we went into the live stock market previously to going to Mr. Bruce, and priced some cattle, and we found we could buy the very best at a crown a stone here at London, and could buy the best mutton at 8*d.* a pound. On the Wednesday following, that is two days after, I bought my beef at Leeds, at something like 6*s.* 4*d.* a stone, that is 2*d.* a pound more.

5690. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Had not the weather something to do with that?—No.

5691. It was uninfluenced by the weather?—Yes.

5692. Generally speaking, you say Leeds is a cheaper market than London?—Yes, it is, generally speaking. I have been in the habit of sending bodies of meat up, and bodies of lambs for a number of years, ever since the Great Northern and the Midland Railways opened; of course we could not send, unless we could make a small profit, but, at the present time, in consequence of the scarcity of beef, there is no such thing as sending it up to London.

5693. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you tried sending beef from London to Leeds during the present scarcity of it?—Yes, we had some down not long ago; a friend of mine, who is in the habit of sending large quantities of mutton up, sent for some beef down.

5694. *Chairman.*] How did it come down?—It came down in a wretched state, compared to what it would have, provided we could have slaughtered it ourselves in Leeds. The meat that is in Newgate and Leadenhall markets is often in a wretched condition when it gets to Newgate and Leadenhall.

5695. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What do you mean by that?—It is musty, and looks badly; and unless the butcher when he gets it to his shop, trims it up, it would very soon be worthless to him. One half the meat that comes up is in a musty and stale condition, very often, when it gets to the butcher's shop.

5696. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] But we have had evidence before us that the best meat in London is the Scotch meat?—Yes, Scotland can send the best quality of meat of any place in the world.

5697. And it generally arrives in perfect condition, does it not?—I have no doubt that the Scotch people have had so much experience, that they know how to send meat that looks as well as any meat in the kingdom, but in muggy weather they are put to flight; in muggy, warm weather they get a warming.

5698. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose, with regard to the Leeds journey, the meat that comes up to London, and goes back there, has two journeys instead of one, and that may have something to do with it?—I do not know more than this. We got some beef down last week; one of our salesmen in Newgate, Mr. Holmes, was kindly invited to send a few bodies of beef down, in order that we might try it. It was an experiment, and such an experiment as would not be repeated.

5699. Do you know how it was brought down?—It was brought down in baskets by the Great Northern Railway, covered in cloths, but we did not like it. It was landed on Saturday morning.

5700. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] That was an exceptional

Mr. *S. Higgins.*

11 June 1866.

ceptional case; could you not have had it arrive at a later day; why could it not have come on the Friday instead of the Wednesday?—Our live cattle market was on the Wednesday, and they provided the dead meat market according to the request of the Privy Council, on the Wednesday, to accommodate not the town, but the district as well, but it was a very great inconvenience.

5701. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Could you not buy live cattle at the Metropolitan Market, have them slaughtered in London, and send their carcases to Leeds?—We were talking last week as to what would be best if we were compelled to have the dead meat trade; I preferred having them slaughtered in London and brought to Leeds by the line, in preference to having them from Hull; we could get them down from London in better condition if they were slaughtered in London, than we could get them from Hull, but the expense would be terrific; that is another portion of the evidence I wish to give; the additional expense of the dead meat trade is alarming; the carriage is more, and the cost of slaughtering is more; there is what we call the offal, or, in other words, the oddments, the hearts, the kidneys, and the tongues want to be sold fresh; we can make nice money of them fresh, whereas, if they are slaughtered in Hull, we cannot get them down to Leeds in a fresh state, and it is a drawback; the public lose the opportunity of having these little matters fresh and nice, and we lose the profit, and all these things is what is to be considered in large towns.

5702. *Chairman.*] There is this question on the other hand as to the cattle plague; these restrictions, of course, subject the community to inconvenience, but if we were to risk the continuance of the plague by suspending them, we might, perhaps, consult the convenience of Leeds at too high a price?—There is one thing I think it my duty to refresh the Committee upon, and that is, that the Committee ought to know that no diseased cattle have been received in Hull for some time back.

5703. You do not think there would be any risk of spreading the cattle plague, by letting these foreign cattle come by railway to Leeds?—No risk at all; sheep come from Hull to Leeds alive which have come over in the same boats with the cattle, and there has been no disease spread in consequence of those sheep coming; they have been coming all along; I am of opinion that you might with safety allow the cattle to come from Hull to Leeds alive, of course I mean healthy cattle; before they are removed, let them be properly inspected, and, go to any part of the Riding; I know they would be glad to have them in the Riding at other places; but I am here to advocate the claims of Leeds.

5704. Mr. *Dent.*] Some of these places have established cattle markets temporarily, have they not?—Yes.

5705. And they might be sent to those towns under these restrictions alive, without the butchers coming to Leeds to buy any at all?—Yes, that would be the best plan.

5706. I suppose Leeds, Huddersfield, and Halifax go to their own markets; they do not take them from Wakefield?—No, they must take them into their own towns, and there be slaughtered. They have made their own arrangements. The mayor of Berwick-on-Tweed, Mr. Ruddock, is a very large supplier to these districts. He undertakes to supply those large towns, but he supplies them at a greater cost than they would have to give if they were pitched into the market. He dictates his own terms.

5707. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Who has undertaken to do that?—Mr. Ruddock, of the firm of Ruddock & Co.; he is the mayor of Berwick.

5708. Who has he given the undertaking to?—To the various butchers in various towns.

5709. Mr. *Dent.*] Of course, if the Government thought fit to allow the animals to be taken into your market, the probability is they would allow them to go into Bradford under the same conditions, without their being slaughtered in your towns?—Yes, I think it would be fair to Bradford to allow them to have a few animals for their own use to be slaughtered there; that would be preferable to killing them in Leeds; but I have no doubt Bradford would prefer coming to Leeds than going to Hull. With regard to Hull cattle arriving, there is another point; there is no market, and they arrive at various times. They have to be kept until such times as the markets come on; unless it is that they bring them specially away to Leeds and distribute them to the butchers. They sometimes come a day or two after the market is over, and distribute them to the butchers immediately. I have had cattle consigned to me, and I have sold them in less than half an hour, as soon as I have got them in on the Friday morning. They have taken them in immediately, and had them slaughtered ready for the Saturday market. The salesmen they are consigned to at Hull would bring them early after they are landed, and distribute them to the various butchers in the town, or to any town in the Riding, if they had liberty to do so.

5710. Do you agree with the last witness, that the price of meat in Leeds is 3*d.* per lb. higher than it was last year?—Not quite 3*d.* a lb.; I think Mr. Swales would have been nearer the mark if he had said 2*d.* or a little over. I think that about this time last year we were giving somewhere about a crown a stone.

5711. *Chairman.*] We are told that Leeds takes 500 head of cattle per week for its ordinary consumption; the last witness said that?—Yes.

5712. There were 186 in the market last week; how many of these foreign cattle could you get from Hull, if you were allowed to bring them to Leeds?—Sometimes 200, sometimes double that quantity, sometimes more. It just depends upon how they arrive, and the price which will tempt men to send them over. It is a very uncertain trade. Sometimes none arrive, and sometimes a large quantity arrive.

5713. But you think upon an average you would bring the supply up to pretty nearly what it ought to be?—Something like 200 or 300 a week would fetch us up. The dealers would regulate it; if they brought too many one week, they would not bring so many next week; 200 or 300 a week is what we want in addition.

5714. You think you could get that?—Yes, I think we could.

5715. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you turned your attention to the question of having nothing but public slaughter-houses in Leeds?—I have thought of it.

5716. What do you think as to the practicability of it?—I have no doubt that it is practicable; but we do not want it, for we have got accommodation near at hand.

5717. Is there much slaughtering in Leeds in private slaughter-houses attached to the butchers' own shops?—Very little.

5718. Principally in these large registered slaughter-houses?—Yes.

5719. You may almost call them public slaughter-

slaughter-houses?—They are in reality public slaughter-houses.

5720. You do not think there is any difficulty in the supply of a town like Leeds from public slaughter-houses?—Not at all.

5721. You may, you think, get all your offal and everything belonging to you, and keep it under your own eye in public slaughter-houses as well as you can in the private slaughter-houses?—Yes; there is no difficulty about the matter.

Mr. *J. Higgins.* 11 June 1866.

Mr. James Stewart, called in; and Examined.

5722. Lord *Naas.*] What is your profession?—I am a Butcher.

5723. Where do you carry on business?—In the city of Aberdeen.

5724. Have you been long engaged in slaughtering meat for transmission to the London market?—Yes.

5725. What number of beasts have you been in the habit of killing per week during the last winter?—I have not a statement of the last winter, but during the year 1865, I had about 1,600 *l.* worth.

5726. Are there many butchers in Aberdeen who carry on the same trade?—Yes.

5727. Is it principally the primest meat which is sent up in this way?—Principally.

5728. State to the Committee what is the usual course of the trade from the time the beast is killed until the time it arrives in London?—If it was killed on Monday it would go away probably on Tuesday morning at nine o'clock.

5729. When will it be exposed for sale in Newgate Market?—On the Thursday following, I should think; it depends a little on the trade.

5730. Does the trade vary much between one part of the year to what it does in the other?—Yes; in cold weather it is more than double, I should say.

5731. When you speak of cold weather, how many months in the year is the weather sufficiently cool for this trade to be carried on successfully?—Eight months.

5732. Does it wholly cease during the other four months?—No.

5733. Is it carried on throughout the whole year?—Except it is very warm weather, it would be.

5734. I suppose the Committee may understand, that for the two months out of four to which you have alluded, it is carried on pretty briskly?—Yes.

5735. What becomes of the offal?—It is sold.

5736. To whom?—To the public.

5737. Is it consumed in Aberdeen?—For the most part.

5738. Is any of it salted or preserved for sending away?—No; part of it is sent to Glasgow and Dundee.

5739. In a fresh state?—Yes.

5740. Are any of the trades which manufacture different products from offal, such as blood-manure, and sausage-skins, and also preserving of tripe, carried on in Aberdeen?—Tripe, I believe, is preserved.

5741. Do you know the price that is obtained for the offal?—It generally ranges from 8 *s.* to 10 *s.* a beast.

5742. Do you know what price is got for similar products in London?—No.

5743. Or in Glasgow?—I do not.

5744. You cannot tell the Committee whether the price varies very much for offal, as between Aberdeen and Glasgow?—No; I could not say that.

5745. Have you any statement to make to the Committee generally about the trade. Have you any recommendation or wish to put forward to the Committee about the dead-meat trade?—No; I have nothing that I can say about it.

Mr. *J. Stewart.*

5746. Has it been an increasing trade lately? Yes.

5747. How long has the dead-meat trade been in existence, from Aberdeen to London?—I suppose nearly 30 years.

5748. Was it commenced almost immediately after the arrangements of the direct railway communication?—Long before that. We used to send up by the steamer.

5749. None goes by boat at the present time, does it?—Yes.

5750. That is principally in the winter time, I suppose?—Principally in the winter.

5751. It takes much longer going by boat?—It takes a day longer.

5752. What is the difference in the expense?—About 1 *s.* a cwt.

5753. In favour of the boat?—Yes.

5754. Have you ever considered the difference between the price of sending an animal alive to London from Aberdeen, and sending an animal dead?—It is cheaper by sending the carcase dead; there is less expense.

5755. Tell the Committee what is the actual difference between sending a beast of 8 cwt. to London dead, and sending the beast alive?—I could not state that.

5756. Mr. *Dent.*] What is the cost of a beast from Aberdeen to London, alive?—Twenty shillings by the rail.

5757. How much do you pay per cwt. for your dead meat to London?—We pay 3 *l.* a ton.

5758. Therefore 8 cwt. of beef would cost you 24 *s.*?—Yes.

5759. Then, as far as the actual cost between a live beast and a dead beast is concerned, the dead meat would cost rather more coming to London than the live meat?—Yes, if that is an average weight; but it is not an average weight.

5760. When you say that it is cheaper to send it dead than alive, how do you arrive at that conclusion?—Because if we send the animals alive, they have only to keep them one or two days here. We send them by the boat, which leaves on Wednesday; they arrive here possibly on Friday night, and they have to keep till Monday.

5761. Although the actual carriage by the rail of the animal may be something less alive, still the additional expense of keeping them in London comes to more?—Yes.

5762. The additional expense of carriage of the dead meat from the rail to the market, and all that, is less, of course, than the housing and feeding, and so on, of the live beast?—The 3 *l.* a ton includes all.

5763. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Does it include delivery? Yes, from my shop into Newgate Market; the price of meat taken out of my shop and put into Newgate Market is 3 *l.* a ton.

Mr. *J. Stewart.*

11 June 1866.

5764. Lord *Naas.*] Do you consign meat directly to a salesman at Newgate?—Yes.

5765. Do you buy the animal from the farmers?—Yes.

5766. Is it ever the case that the farmer consigns his meat through you to the salesman in Newgate, or do you always buy the animal from the farmers?—I have never had any consignments of the kind.

5767. Is that done according to your knowledge?—Not to my knowledge, but I know plenty of farmers consign their own cattle.

5768. Not as dead meat?—Yes; I mean that.

5769. Are the farmers in the habit of killing their own meat and sending it up to London dead?—Yes, many of them.

5770. Is that practised to a large extent?—I could not say to a large extent, but it is extending.

5771. The practice is increasing, is it?—Yes.

5772. As well for sheep as for beef?—I do not think it is for sheep.

5773. Merely for beef?—Yes.

5774. Do you send any mutton?—We generally send the sheep alive.

5775. Is there not a good deal of mutton sent up from Aberdeen?—No, not much.

5776. How do you send the beef, is it packed in sheets?—It is packed in sheets.

5777. Does the railway provide any particular description of carriage for it?—They prepare the trucks for it, and they only put a certain quantity of meat in them.

5778. Is there any particular dead meat carriage?—Not that I am aware of.

5779. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] They are cut in quarters and sewed into a sort of coarse cloth?—Yes.

5780. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Cut into halves principally, are they not?—Halves and quarters; most of it goes in halves now; but when the provision curers buy the fore quarters, they generally come up in hind quarters.

5781. If you are going to send a whole beast to London, what do you do?—We send it in halves.

5782. Lord *Naas.*] Are many of the prime joints sent up, and the inferior joints kept down in Aberdeen, or is the meat generally sent up in carcase?—Except as I stated, that if the provision curers purchase the fore quarters, it is generally sent either in hind quarters or in halves. We do not cut it less.

5783. Is there a large preserving trade carried on in Aberdeen?—There are two or three houses.

5784. For the purpose of sending to sea and abroad?—I do not know where it is sent, but they cure it.

5785. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What are called preserved meats are largely made in Aberdeen?—Yes

5786. Lord *Naas.*] Do they use the prime parts for that?—The fore quarters.

5787. Of those beasts, the hind quarters are generally sent to London?—Generally sent to London.

5788. Have you a trade to any other city in the United Kingdom, except to London; do you send to Glasgow?—I have sent to Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Newcastle; but only for a few months on the restrictions of the cattle plague being removed.

5789. That is a new trade?—Quite.

5790. Has there been a large demand from those towns?—It is very uncertain.

5791. Then you can only send, I suppose, as it is ordered?—I have not sent; I only made a trial at each place, and it did not suit, as I thought.

5792. Mr. *Dent.*] Has your trade increased very much since the restrictions, in consequence of the cattle plague; have you sent much more to London?—No.

5793. Not more than the ordinary course of the trade?—Not more than ordinary.

5794. Is the trade ever entirely stopped by the hot weather?—Yes.

5795. For how long?—I could not say; it might be a week.

5796. It would depend, I suppose, on the weather?—Yes; a week or a month, or something of that sort.

5797. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are your consignments of dead meat going on at this moment?—Yes.

5798. Are you consigning to Newcastle at the present time?—No.

5799. Have you had many complaints of the condition of the meat that you have consigned to Newgate Market?—Very few.

5800. Or its condition on its arrival?—Very few.

5801. At any season of the year?—At any season.

5802. Have you had complaints within the last week or ten days?—No.

5803. How long a period of time elapses between the slaughtering of a beast and its being put into the trucks at this season of the year?—Possibly 12 hours.

5804. Is it so short a time in winter?—Longer.

5805. I presume you consider it very essential that the carcase should be thoroughly cooled and stiffened before it is trucked for Newgate market?—Yes; but we could not wait to take it this season of the year in that short time.

5806. Does not a good deal depend upon the condition of the animal at the very time of its being slaughtered, as to whether it will keep cool and make the journey satisfactorily?—I quite agree in that.

5807. I ask you if it is so?—It is; the beast should be kept a certain time before being slaughtered.

5808. Mr. *Carnegie.*] And should be kept in a quiet state?—Yes, it should be kept in a quiet state until slaughtered; and the meat will keep double the length of time then.

5809. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You would consider that an animal killed in a cool state of blood would keep as a dead carcase very much better than one that had been driven and heated?—I should think it would keep double the time.

5810. Then, would you consider that the meat of an animal so killed, although killed long before it came into consumption, would be better at this season of the year than the carcase of an animal driven through streets and slaughtered, after being so driven in a heated state; I mean, which carcase would keep longest and be best fit for human food?—The one that is left to get cool before it is killed.

5811. Although it had travelled?—Although it had travelled, if it is left after that to cool.

5812. It would keep longer than the animal driven, we will say, from the Metropolitan Market to the west end of London, and then slaughtered?—I do not think a butcher would do that.

5813. He would give the beast six or eight hours to keep?—Twelve or 24 would be better.

5814. Lord

5814. Lord *Naas.*] Are there any foreign beasts brought to Aberdeen?—No.

5815. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I suppose you have had great experience in meat that has been slaughtered?—I think I have.

5816. Can you tell unwholesome meat from wholesome meat by merely looking at it?—I think I could.

5817. Could you tell an animal that had been unhealthy from one that had been healthy?—I think I could give a pretty near opinion.

5818. Do you think you can tell by looking at meat whether it is fit for human food or not?—I think I could form a pretty good opinion.

5819. But do you think the opinion that you formed would be pretty accurate?—I should think so.

5820. Do you think that when the carcase of a diseased animal is sold, the butcher is aware that he is doing a great wrong?—I do.

5821. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you send any live cattle to London?—Yes.

5822. Do you send them at all seasons of the year, or at any particular season?—More particularly in the winter season.

5823. Do you make any difference in the qualities of the animals which you send alive and dead; do you send the primest animals alive or dead?—Just as we chance to get them.

5824. Do you send the heaviest animals alive or dead, or just as you chance to get them?—Just as they come.

5825. I have heard it stated that the primest animals are sent alive, and I have heard the reverse stated. I want to hear your opinion upon that. You buy largely all over the north of Scotland, do you not?—In the county of Aberdeen principally.

5826. Have you any trade in Banffshire and Morayshire?—I have been in Banff and Moray, both for sheep and cattle.

5827. When you buy cattle in the outlying parts of Aberdeenshire, do you bring them into Aberdeen to be slaughtered, or do you slaughter them in the neighbourhood of the railway stations?—I generally have turnips in winter, and grass in summer, and put them into the fields, or to the farmers; and I take them to Aberdeen as I want them.

5828. You take them by train?—Generally by train.

5829. Do you send many live cattle by sea to London?—I send them by sea, rather than by rail.

5830. For what reason do you prefer sending them by sea than by rail?—We have a chance then of giving them a little meal and water. We have none by rail.

5831. Do you consider that the arrangements of the railway companies for the transit of cattle from Aberdeen to London are good or bad?—They are the only ones we have, but I think they could be improved greatly.

5832. Do you think it would be advantageous if they gave the cattle food and water on the journey?—I think it would be to their advantage to give them water above everything.

5833. Have you seen any plan for giving the cattle water in the trucks?—No; I have heard of such a thing, but I have never seen the plan.

5834. Do you think it would be possible to give them water in the trucks?—Yes; I think it would.

5835. In what sort of condition do the cattle that you send arrive in London, generally; what reports do your agents give on that subject?—Well; if we can believe the parties in the boats, they always arrive in good condition. I have gone out with them myself, and the experience I have had shows that it depends very much on the cattle themselves. A beast that was timid would be shaken very much, and there would be very little difference in a quiet animal.

Mr. *J. Stewart.* 11 June 1866.

5836. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Are the boats reasonably well fitted for the conveyance of those animals?—They are very well fitted up.

5837. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What is the cost of sending an animal from Aberdeen to London by the boat?—The same as railway, 1 *l.*, only they are allowed hay and water.

5838. Do your agents in London use the telegraph much for informing you as to the state of the markets?—I never get a telegram, except I write to say, send me one; it would be a rather uncommon thing if I did.

5839. Then you trust entirely to your own convenience for sending cattle to the London market, and not to telegrams that are sent that meat is required?—We never trust to that; we do not get them indeed.

5840. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is the meat trade entirely a ready-money trade?—Entirely.

5841. The same as the live-stock trade, that is also a ready-money trade?—The same.

5842. If you send up your meat for one market, do you get your money back the next?—We get the money back in the course of a day and a half afterwards.

5843. It is understood not to be a credit trade?—Yes; it is all ready money.

5844. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you had much loss by meat spoiling on the journey?—Very little.

5845. Have you had much loss by the railway detaining it longer than the ordinary time?—Sometimes we have suffered by that.

5846. Are they willing to give compensation in such cases?—Very unwilling.

5847. But do you get it?—Not always.

5848. In Aberdeen do you have private slaughter-houses or public slaughter-houses?—There is a slaughter-house which belongs to the Corporation, and I think there are six of what you would call private slaughter-houses where parties slaughter, themselves.

5849. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] How do you transact the slaughtering for you own business; where do you slaughter?—In the slaughter-market.

5850. The public slaughter-house?—Yes; I do not know whether you could call it a public slaughter-house; but it belongs to the Corporation.

5851. You pay for using it?—I pay the shop rent, or the rent for two shops, if I like to take them.

5852. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Have you a retail trade yourself?—Yes.

5853. What do you suppose to be the fair difference between the wholesale and retail price; that is, selling a bullock wholesale, and selling it retail at the shop; is it 1½*d.* or 2*d.* a pound?—I should say it would be about 2*d.*, or hardly so much as that.

Thursday, 14th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Dent.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.
Mr. Holland.
Mr. Leader.
Lord Naas.

MR. HUNT IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Robert Herbert, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. Herbert.* 14 June 1866.

5854. *Chairman.*] You supply the newspapers with accounts of the prices in the markets?—Yes; I supply a great number of them, and have done so for upwards of 30 years.

5855. Do you supply all the papers?—Not the whole of them. I principally supply the "Mark-lane Express," "Bell's Messenger," and most of the other agricultural papers.

5856. Mr. *Dent.*] I think you also supply the "Royal Agricultural Journal"?—I do.

5857. *Chairman.*] What prices do you supply; do you supply the prices of the live or dead-meat market?—Of the live and dead as well.

5858. The prices at the Islington Cattle Market, and the prices at Newgate and Leadenhall Markets?—Quite so.

5859. How do you obtain the prices?—From my own judgment, frequently. An inexperienced man would have great difficulty in ascertaining the state of the trade, either in Newgate Market or in the cattle market; and hence it is you frequently see a wide discrepancy between the prices quoted in the agricultural papers and the quotations in the "Times," and some other leading journals.

5860. Which are the most correct quotations?—I should say my own. None but a purely practical man could, by possibility, get at the correct state of trade in the markets.

5861. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] We want to know how you arrive at it; it is fair to tell you there have been great complaints made of the prices on both sides?—I have heard them frequently.

5862. *Chairman.*] When you are going to quote prices on any given market day, what is the course of proceeding?—First of all I consider the state of trade in Newgate Market, and the supply of dead meat Next, I consider the state of the weather; next, I consider the extent of the supply; next, I consider its quality; next, the number of buyers in the market; and then I go to a practical salesman, that is to say, I go to one salesman who sells Scotch bullocks, to another salesman who sells Devonshire bullocks, to another selling Herefords, and to another selling short-horns, and so forth. Sometimes I find a very wide difference in their opinions respecting the prices; but being a good judge of the matter, as well as them, I do not find any difficulty in arriving at a correct conclusion in a very short time.

5863. When there is a number of animals sold for so much alive, you, from your own judgment, estimate what the dead meat would be, and then you quote the price of the live animals at so much per stone?—I take it at a fair average; take, for instance, a bullock of 80 stone, which is a very favourite weight; it will fetch perhaps 5 *s.* 4 *d.* a stone, but a bullock of equal quality, weighing 120 stone, will not fetch more than 5 *s.*, so that that would make the average top price 5 *s.* 2 *d.*

5864. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Will you tell us the cause of the difference between a bullock of 50 stone and a bullock of 120 stone?—Because it is not so saleable; it is too large for general consumption. If you have a sirloin of beef off an ox weighing 120 stone, it would weigh nearly 30 lbs.

5865. *Chairman.*] I take it you ascertain from the salesmen the actual price at which animals of different sizes and qualities are sold; you estimate what the dead meat weight of each of those animals on the average would be, and then in that way you estimate the price per stone by the carcase?—For 8 lbs.; that is the way we calculate.

5866. Per stone of 8 lbs.?—No; it is illegal to quote at "per stone" of 8 lbs. We are obliged to ride through the Act of Parliament by quoting 8 lbs.; not "per stone" of 8 lbs.; because every newspaper proprietor is liable to a fine of 5 *s.* for every copy of a paper that goes out of his office in which the meat is quoted at "per stone" of 8 lbs.

5867. Mr. *Dent.*] But you do calculate it at the stone of 8 lbs.?—Yes; and I do it on this principle; that the farmers, and graziers, and butchers know nothing about 14 lbs. When the Act was passed, they said we will still buy by the 8 lbs., and evade the Act of Parliament.

5868. *Chairman.*] You evade the Act of Parliament by calling it a quantity of 8 lbs., and not a stone of 8 lbs.?—Yes.

5869. Your quotation is so much for 8 lbs.?—Yes.

5870. Do

5870. Do you regulate your judgment in this, by going to the dead meat markets?—Certainly.

5871. Do you go to the butchers?—To the salesmen.

5872. The complaint made by butchers here is this, that the prices are obtained by going to the salesmen; and they think the butchers ought to have a voice in it; what have you to say about that? — Of late years the butchers have been paying frightful prices for meat, there is no doubt about that; and I think the butchers in many cases have great cause to complain of the quotations they see in "The Times" and other newspapers.

5873. What they complain of is this, that the prices are quoted lower than what they have to give: and that their retail customers complain that while they see in the papers meat quoted at such and such a price, they are paying so much more?—Yes; but the customers run their heads against the quotations in Newgate Market. If they liked to go into the live market they would find a different state of things. Observe the risks which the butcher has to run. There is a difference in the price of live meat and dead meat. In the price of beef there is a difference of 6*d.* to 8*d.* per 8 lbs; in the price of mutton in the wool there is a difference of 1*s.* and 1*s.* 2*d.*, and sometimes more, when there is a great quantity of wool and a very fine fleece; out of the wool the difference is about 2*d.*, and it goes on increasing as the wool grows.

5874. When you quote the price of mutton sold in the wool, do you reckon the wool in or not?—We reckon by the dead meat weight.

5875. Do you take into consideration what the purchaser will make by the wool?—No. I make the estimate the moment the sheep come into the market; some of them are out of the wool; and I make the distinction and say, "The old Downs in the wool have fetched 6*s.* 4*d.*, and out of the wool 5*s.*"

5876. Do you think that the quotations in "The Times" and other newspapers mislead the country senders of cattle?—You see, if you send 100 head of cattle to market, and find 5*s.* quoted, and you only get home 4*s.* 8*d.*, you would feel very much dissatisfied with your salesman.

5877. Do you think that the prices are wrongly quoted?—Sometimes they are right and sometimes it varies very much.

5878. Are they ever quoted too high? — I think so.

5879. They are quoted both too high and too low, in your opinion?—Yes.

5880. Can you tell us how the daily papers get their information?—I presume they send some one to the market.

5881. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You do not supply the daily papers?—No.

5882. *Chairman.*] Do you know the gentleman who supplies the daily papers?—No, I do not.

5883. Do you ever ask the butchers?—Yes; and I put their opinion against the opinion of the salesmen, and against my own.

5884. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You arrive at the price by striking a sort of average?—Just so. If I find Down sheep selling at 6*s.* 4*d.* a stone, as an extreme price, I call it 6*s.* 2*d.*, and then I say, "in extreme instances 6*s.* 4*d.*," which I think is the fairest way of doing it, because it stops a good deal of murmuring on the part of those who are in the country.

5885. You do pretty well what is done on the Stock Exchange, with shares and other things; if you are selling consols you never get the price you see quoted in the papers?—But you ought to.

5886. Have you any statement here which you have sent to the papers in any one week?—No.

5887. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] At what time do you get your average prices?—About 10 o'clock in the morning.

5888. I asked the question, because fault has been found with you, that you do not get them sufficiently late, and that they cannot be properly obtained until 11 o'clock?—All the best stock, which regulates the price, is frequently sold before 8 o'clock in the morning.

5889. *Chairman.*] Have you been in the market this morning?—Yes.

5890. Have you sent your quotations to any paper?—Not yet.

5891. But you are going to?—Yes.

5892. Can you give us now the result of your morning's work?—The price is very firm, at about Monday's quotation; that is, 5*s.* 4*d.* for the top price for beef; 6*s.* for mutton; 8*s.* for lamb; 6*s.* 4*d.* for veal, and 5*s.* 2*d.* for pork.

5893. Mr. *Dent.*] What sort of supply is there to-day?—A very moderate supply.

5894. *Chairman.*] In the way of beasts, what is the principal supply this morning? — The returns had not reached me when I left; but I should think there were about 350 English bullocks, and the rest foreign.

5895. How many foreign?—I should think about 900 foreign.

5896. That is a short supply, is it not?—It is. The quality of the meat is inferior, and the weight is very small, although the number may appear large.

5897. The foreign beasts are, for the most part, smaller than the English?—Yes; nearly all the Dutch bullocks and the Holstein bullocks.

5898. The Dutch bullocks do not come in now?—No, not at present. They have a way of running them to Antwerp, and shipping them off from there a little. I can tell by the black and white.

5899. You think that we do get Dutch beasts, although not from Dutch ports?—Yes, exactly.

5900. Were there any Danish beasts there this morning?—I should think about 60.

5901. And Spanish?—About 20. The Spanish beasts are very light in weighing, very light indeed.

5902. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Not as a general rule, are they?—They are as bad as the Irish.

5903. We have had evidence here that they were the finest beasts in the market?—That must be evidence from a salesman.

5904. They were Liverpool butchers who said so?—I do not think it is the case.

5905. *Chairman.*] Do you mean they are light in flesh?—You estimate a bullock to weigh, perhaps, 100 stone, and he does not weigh above 90, or, perhaps, 85 stone, when you get him home.

5906. Mr. *Dent.*] They do not, to use a butcher's phrase, "die well"?—No.

Mr. R. Herbert.

14 June 1866.

5907. *Chairman.*] Is it the case that they are large in the bone in proportion to the meat?—I should say they were; the French are the largest in bone.

5908. You think the Spanish beasts are not so profitable, for their size, as other beasts?—I should say not; but the Spanish are very showy-looking animals.

5909. With fine branching horns?—Very fine; I have seen Spanish animals with a span of seven feet between the horns.

5910. They make a very good picture alive? Yes, they do, with their black eyes, and so on.

5911. Mr. *Dent.*] What do you say with respect to the French bullocks?—Some of them are very largely framed, no doubt, and some very good.

5912. *Chairman.*] I asked this question, because we have had conflicting evidence about it in this room. Is the class of customers who buy the foreign beasts quite a distinct class of customers from those who buy English, as a rule?—I have found lately that some of the foreign beasts go to the west-end butchers: formerly, when they were in a much worse condition than they are now, they went down to Whitechapel, for east end consumption.

5913. But latterly they have been better?—Yes; I have seen good bullocks come.

5914. And they have been more purchased by west-end butchers than formerly?—A great deal more.

5915. Some of the west-end butchers we have had here have told us they do not buy foreign beasts?—I dare say they would tell you that.

5916. You think that the meat of the foreign beasts is not so popular, that there is a prejudice against it amongst the higher classes of consumers?—The prejudice arises in this way. After having cooked a quantity of meat, you will find the foreign meat will shrivel up in cooking very much, and there is a great loss as compared with the Scotch and the best English breeds.

5917. It wastes away in cooking?—Yes.

5918. Can you give any reason for that?—I suppose it is in consequence of the inferior quality of the food?—I should say so.

5919. You think that is the reason why there is a prejudice against it?—Yes. They can sometimes trim those things up very nicely, and make the meat look very nice in their shops. If it has got a fair quantity of fat upon it, of course it sells at a fair price.

5920. The contractors for the Government establishments principally buy foreign beasts, do they not?—They buy a great number.

5921. The price of an English beast of the same size as a foreign beast, in the market, would be very much in favour of the English beast, would it not?—Of the same weight, I should say from 3*l.* to 4*l.*

5922. Now, about the hides. Would the hides of the foreign beasts be of more value, or less value than the English?—As to the bullocks that come from the north, their hides sell at a price varying from 15*s.* to 1*l.* Those that come from France sell for about 20*s.* or 22*s.*

5923. What do the Spanish hides sell for?—The Spanish hides sell for about 23*s.*; it depends upon the size of the hides.

5924. Do you hear of any complaints from those who consign cattle to salesmen at the London market that the quotations are wrong?—I have often heard very great complaints.

5925. They are disappointed at the price which they obtain?—Yes.

5926. Do you think that they have good grounds for that?—Yes, I think they have.

5927. Can you suggest any mode of arriving at a more correct quotation in prices?—I do not know. Supposing you had a committee in the market, consisting of salesmen and butchers, both parties would be interested in giving higher prices than probably the state of the market would warrant.

5928. What we are told now is, that those who furnish the prices are interested in keeping the prices down?—It depends upon the position and standing of those gentlemen in the market, and their customers.

5929. What has been alleged is this; that if the butchers were taken into consultation, the butchers would be interested in keeping the prices up, and that that would correct the tendency of the salesmen to keep the prices down. Is that your opinion on the subject?—In that case the only plan would be to have the butchers' report, and the committee's report, and then the public would have to judge for themselves which report was correct.

5930. It has been suggested here that there should be a joint committee of salesmen and butchers, which should furnish the quotations, or which should furnish prices to those concerned, like yourself?—The accuracy of their statement would entirely depend on their position in the market, that is to say, if they had a large business they would be disposed to give you correct and proper figures.

5931. Do you think, supposing the best class of men, both butchers and salesmen, that the butcher element would correct the salesmen's element?—You would always have to strike an average between the two.

5932. But they might strike it themselves?—There would be no objection to that, certainly.

5933. Have you considered the question of having a separate foreign market to the English market?—My opinion is, that if we had had a separate foreign market in the first instance, when the present tariff was passed, we should never have had the cattle disease in this country; if we had had a separate market, it would never have been here.

5934. Your opinion is, that we got this cattle plague from the foreign beasts?—Yes; it is the very same description of disease that they have had in Holland for a great number of years; I call it gastric fever.

5935. Mr. *Dent.*] Have they had it in Holland for a great number of years?—For centuries; exactly the same description of disease.

5936. Rinderpest?—Yes.

5937. Do you not think it is the genuine rinderpest, from the east of Europe?—Possibly it may be.

5938. If they have had it in Holland for a number of years, do you mean they have had it lately, or that it is a disease that has appeared there at one time, and then died out again?—Yes.

5939. You

5939. You do not mean that it has been existing in Holland within the last five or six years?—It has made its appearance, during various periods, for centuries.

5940. *Chairman.*] You do not mean continuously in Holland?—No, from time to time; every two, or three, or four years.

5941. We have been considering in this Committee whether it would be advisable to have a distinct foreign cattle market for the future. What is your opinion upon that?—I think, myself, that it would be beneficial to the country.

5942. As regard the trade; do you think the foreign trade would suffer?—Not at all.

5943. Can you give your grounds for that opinion?—Because the number of beasts and sheep in this country is certainly decreasing every year; I mean English beasts and sheep.

5944. Have you any data for that assertion?—It is my opinion that it is decreasing. I believe we have got some four or five million less sheep in the country than we had in the country 20 years ago.

5945. In what part of the country?—I take the whole country.

5946. I should like to know on what you found your opinion?—Principally on this fact, that prior to the passing of the present tariff, London was wholly supplied from our home countries, from Ireland and Scotland. We had not the aid of a single foreign bullock or foreign sheep. If the price of beef got up to 4*s.* 4*d.* a stone, it was considered very high, and if you got it to 4*s.* 6*d.* everybody was in a state of alarm. Then when the mutton in the wool got to 5*s.* a stone, people were greatly alarmed at that.

5947. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you ever taken into consideration the number of beasts that are killed in London in each week now, in comparison to what were killed in those days?—Yes; the number has increased very much, of course.

5948. *Chairman.*] The population has increased, and is it not the case that the consumption of meat has also increased very much. Do not the lower classes of the population eat more meat than they used to?—Yes, perhaps at the particular period I am alluding to, a labouring man would not have more than two joints of meat in the week, now he has three or four.

5949. Do not all classes of society eat more meat than they used to do?—I do not know; I dare say the upper classes were always able to get it.

5950. But is it not the case that more meat is consumed in gentlemen's families now than there used to be per head?—I dare say there is.

5951. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] When you talk of the number of beasts being less, do you not think that upon every farm in England where 100 sheep used to be kept during the last century, 500 or 600 or 700 sheep are kept now?—It depends upon circumstances.

5952. Do you not know that it is the case, in consequence of improvements which have been going on in the drainage?—It would require great alteration in the system of tillage.

5953. *Chairman.*] Has there not been a great alteration in the system of tillage?—Possibly there has been; but if you take the lease of a farm, you are bound by certain covenants in it.

5954. Do you know, that with the present system of tillage in all parts of the country, a greater head of stock is kept on every farm than used to be kept 50 or 60 years ago?—It may be so.

5955. You have no statistics upon which to proceed?—None were published until recently.

5956. You go upon the number of foreign animals, cattle, and sheep which now come into London, and which we formerly did without?—Yes. Then you must look at the price. The price is now between 30 and 40 per cent. higher than it was 30 years ago.

5957. If you put alongside those facts, the fact that the population has increased, and that persons now eat more meat than was eaten in the last generation, that would then correct your view, would it not?—Perhaps it would in a great measure do so.

5958. Supposing that there was a foreign cattle market established at the river side for London, as has been proposed, do you think the buyers would come down there to purchase?—Yes, those who could get rid of the foreign meat easily.

5959. Do you think it would be convenient for the buyers?—The present system is certainly more convenient.

5960. To have them all in one market?—Yes.

5961. That convenience is bought at the risk of introducing disease from abroad?—Yes. Years ago they brought a great number of half-fed foreign bullocks and half-fed foreign sheep, and they were taken to Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge and Essex; more than two-thirds of them died of disease; hence, in my opinion, the rinderpest was thus communicated to our own stock.

5962. Do many store animals come into the London market?—No, it is not a market for store beasts.

5963. There is nothing to prevent their coming in, although practically they do not?—The store beasts seldom come lower than Barnet fair, where they are disposed of.

5964. Do any store sheep come in?—Perhaps two-thirds of them are fat; they are purchased again for grazing.

5965. Do you know to what part of the country the store sheep go?—Generally into Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, and Leicestershire.

5966. Mr. *Dent.*] Do not the milch cows for the supply of the dairies come into the London market?—Yes, but it is a very small supply after all; it is only about 100 or 120 a week; that is the largest number I ever recollect.

5967. The dairies are principally supplied by the dealers going to the local fairs?—Yes.

5968. Do a great many cows come for the London dairies?—There were, a few years ago, a great number.

5969. Are they not sold generally in the Islington market?—Yes, certainly.

5970. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] How were the prices of beasts to-day in the market?—About the same as on Monday. It is a firm market; that is the consequence of a short supply to Newgate Market, and the consequence of a strong rise in price there.

5971. *Chairman.*] Have you been in Newgate Market this morning?—Yes.

5972. And in Leadenhall Market?—Yes.

5973. Was there much meat in those markets this morning that had come up from the country?—A very small quantity.

Mr. *R. Herbert.*

14 June 1866.

5974. Is that on account of the weather?—On account of the weather.

5975. For how many days has there been a cessation of sending much meat from the country?—Since Monday last.

5976. We had some very hot weather just before that?—Yes.

5977. The weather being cooler now, do you think there will be a greater supply next Monday?—The price of 5*s.* per 8 lbs. for dead carcases will bring up a supply if the weather be sufficiently cool.

5978. Are you able to tell us whether much meat is supplied now from the country?—The fact is the people in the country are very cautious in hot weather. When the weather is hot very few people, unless living close to London, will be disposed to slaughter for the London market.

5979. Of that which is sent very little comes bad?—Very little comes bad, but they are obliged to sell it immediately.

5980. Mr. *Dent.*] You have paid a great deal of attention for some years to the supply of meat for the London market?—Yes.

5981. And formed your opinion from statistics you have obtained?—Yes.

5982. You think there is serious danger of there being very small supplies of English stock for the London market?—Yes.

5983. The quantity that is sent half fat in the autumn to the markets, and the cattle plague together, will have the effect of causing a prospective diminution?—Yes, and keeping up the prices.

5984. Unless we have a considerable increased importation of foreign cattle, the prices are likely to be seriously higher?—I think if you were to double the importation of foreign cattle, the prices would be very firm still, unless the foreign cattle should come in a very much improved condition.

5985. You say there is an improvement in some classes of foreign stock; is that general?—Yes. The merino sheep, for instance, which come from Hamburgh, would not weigh more than 3½ stone, and now some of them weigh eight stone.

5986. Some very good foreign sheep come into the London market?—Yes, I have seen Dutch sheep with good fleeces sold for 65*s.* a head.

5987. Are the foreign sheep sought by the west-end butchers?—Many of them of that weight and kept, but then they are cross-breed sheep with our Downs.

5988. The importation of fat cattle from France is quite a new thing?—Yes, but the prices in France are nearly as high as they are in this country now.

5989. Are the French that are brought here of the pure breed, or crosses with short horns?—Of the pure breed; they are nearly seven years old, after four years working at the plough.

5990. Is it not the fact that recently we have not had so many worked oxen coming into the market, but that there have been more steers?—Do you mean foreign or English?

5991. I am speaking of foreign cattle. We have not many worked oxen in the north of England?—No, but we have in the south.

5992. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] In Sussex?—Yes.

5993. And Kent?—Yes.

5994. Mr. *Dent.*] With reference to foreign beasts, are there not many more steers coming here in proportion than worked oxen?—I think the aged bullocks are in greater numbers than formerly. They are very stately looking beasts, and consequently fetch a long price if they are good and well fed.

5995. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] They always fatten much better after work?—If they come here in poor condition they are unfit for sale.

5996. They are not, just as a man would be who had been working at the plough for some years?—Yes; but the meat is generally very tough.

5997. *Chairman.*] Not so juicy?—No, the sinews are all stretched. You see, the beast has to perform a labour for which it was never fitted; it has to perform horse labour.

5998. That is the view we take in England; but they do not take that view in other countries?—They do not cook the food abroad as we cook it here. You were talking in reference to the establishment of a market, which would of course comprise an abattoir for the slaughter of these foreign animals. It has been thought in this country that the greater portion of the meat consumed in Paris is slaughtered outside the barriers. I have some statistics from Paris, and they embrace the whole of the year 1864; I think they are rather interesting at this time. In 1864, according to the official returns, the meat slaughtered in the abattoirs, taking oxen, cows, calves, sheep, and goats, amounted to 96,213,497 kilogrammes; that is equal to about 96,000 tons English weight; that was slaughtered at the abattoirs of Paris within the barriers. Then, "meat offal," as it is called here, of pigs, 10,000,000 kilogrammes (that is, 10,000 tons). Then, "brought from the country," 17,268,014 kilogrammes; that is, 17,000 tons as against 96,000 slaughtered in the barriers. So you see that Paris is principally supplied from within; the cattle are brought in, in a live state, and they are slaughtered. In addition to that, there were 7,000,000 kilogrammes of pigs, boars, sucking pigs, and so forth, brought from the country.

5999. Where are the dead-meat markets in Paris?—I cannot tell you exactly where they are; I have been in Paris, but never had the curiosity to go and look at them.

6000. Do you think there would be any inconvenience in having slaughter-houses attached to the Islington market of sufficient size for a radius of three miles round it?—There are slaughter-houses already there.

6001. They are not sufficient, I think; there are but two private slaughter-houses in the City?—They have hitherto slaughtered all the animals which have been offered to them. They have not slaughtered more than 120 or 130 a week in the slaughter-houses in the cattle market itself.

6002. Do you know what the consumption of the metropolis is, and how many animals are slaughtered in a week?—It is impossible to tell.

6003. Do you think it would be an inconvenience to the trade if they were required to slaughter all their animals at the Islington market?—There would be very great inconvenience.

6003*. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you think there might be public registered slaughter-houses in different districts of London without inconvenience?—That would get rid of the present inferior system, certainly.

6004. If the butchers had to slaughter at public

public slaughter-houses, they would lose a certain amount of fat, and other parts of the animal, by reason of their having no one to look after it, I suppose?—No doubt they would.

6005. Do you think that a system of suitable supervision might be devised, that would prevent that?—Such a thing is possible; that is all I can say.

6006. On the other hand, a Leeds butcher told us the other day they do not find that the case with regard to the registered slaughter-houses in Leeds?—But the slaughter-houses of Leeds would be only on a very moderate scale as compared with those of London.

6007. But if you had district slaughter-houses, you might have them for a population not much larger than there is at Leeds?—Yes, in various parts of the town.

6008. *Chairman.*] Have you any more statistical information which you propose to give us?—I was merely going to say that the charge for slaughtering bullocks at the cattle market is 4 *s.*; for sheep and pigs 1 *s.*, and for calves 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per head.

6009. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you mentioned what the points of inconvenience, with regard to public slaughter-houses, are?—I believe that the inconvenience will be very great, because if a butcher now buys a whole bullock, he can have it taken home to his own slaughter-house, and can kill that bullock whenever he pleases, his own men can do it; but if it is compulsory that his bullock should be slaughtered in the abattoir, he must send a cart, or perhaps two or three carts to take away the carcase; hence there would be an additional expense, and very likely he may fancy from the appearance of the bullock, there is 10 or 12 or 15 stone of fat in it, but his account may only show eight or nine stone of fat. The difficulty in removing meat about is very great. Now you can send a bullock all the way from Aberdeen to Leadenhall by railway for 1 *l.*; you can send from places south of Aberdeen a truck which will carry five, six, or seven bullocks for 9 *l.* Then dead meat from Aberdeen to London is 3 *s.* a cwt., and the commission on sales at London 1 *d.* in every 8 lbs. Then in sending dead meat, you run the risk of its spoiling, and we all know that country killed meat sells for 2 *d.* a stone less in London than meat killed in London of the same description.

6010. *Chairman.*] We have been told by butchers that the meat which the retail butchers like best is the meat that comes from the country?—If you were to place a sirloin of beef from a Scot killed in London by the side of a sirloin killed in the country, beef of the same quality, you would soon see which the buyer would prefer.

6011. We have had evidence from butchers that their customers prefer the Scotch beef to any other. I do not say compared to the live Scotch killed in London, but merely compared with the other meat?—That is the point.

6012. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you happen to know how the quotations of the prices of meat are regulated in Paris?—I do not.

6013. Mr. *Leader.*] A good deal of foreign cattle are landed at Harwich?—Yes.

6014. You would have a market, then, conveniently placed for the railway, as well as for the boats, I suppose?—Yes; you see the actual outlay to the grazier on the selling of stock is very small; what I should call commission on charges.

6015. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You mean selling the live animal?—I mean on the animal sold alive in London. The market charge for the bullocks is 3½ *d.* per head.

6016. For coming into the market?—Yes; that is what is called a toll. Then for driving from the railway into the market, the drovers charge us 6 *d.* per head, and from the waterside 6 *d.* That is for the foreign and Scotch cattle; the sheep pay 2 *d.* per head. Then the salesman's commission is 3 *s.* upon the bullock, so that the charge against the grazier is in reality about 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

6017. *Chairman.*] Do you remember the discussion that took place in the House of Commons when the importation of foreign cattle was first regulated by Act of Parliament?—Yes.

6018. The importation of foreign cattle was not called for by any demand for meat?—Neither from demand for meat nor from any want of supply, because we had then prices from 30 to 40 per cent. less than they are now.

6019. Still I suppose if we had not a foreign supply now meat would be very much higher in price?—Meat would be unobtainable by the lower classes.

6020. Although it was not at that time?—Yes.

Captain William O'Brien, called in; and Examined.

6021. *Chairman.*] You are the General Manager of the North Eastern Railway Company?—Yes.

6022. We understand that there is great difficulty in getting meat conveyed from Hull to the towns of the West Riding within any reasonable time; are there no special meat trains, or quick trains, by which the meat can be sent?—I am not aware that there is any difficulty in getting meat sent in reasonable time from Hull to any of those places.

6023. What is the distance from Hull to Leeds?—Fifty-one miles.

6024. Are there any trains by which meat can be forwarded at night, so as to be at Leeds early in the morning?—Yes; a train leaves Hull at half-past 12 in the day, arriving at Leeds at four in the afternoon. Another leaves at a quarter past nine in the evening, arriving at Leeds at a quarter to one in the morning. Another leaves Hull at two in the morning, arriving at Leeds at half-past five in the morning.

6025. Have you any special vans for the conveyance of meat?—No, we send it in trucks.

6026. As a matter of fact, does much meat go in that way?—Not a great deal; in fact, the dead-meat trade from Hull to Leeds is only beginning.

6027. Is the railway company anxious to give every facility for the traffic?—Of course we are quite ready to facilitate every traffic out of which we can make money.

6028. Do you favour the live-cattle traffic, or the dead-meat traffic, in the interest of your line?—It is perfectly indifferent to us which it is.

 6029. Can

Capt. *W. O'Brien.*
14 June 1866.

6029. Can you tell us by what train the dead meat, which goes from Hull to Leeds, is generally sent?—I could not say; we have no particular train set apart for it; but I know anybody may use any of those trains as he pleases.

6030. It is a matter of three hours, is it not?—Say three hours and a half from station to station. There is additional time occupied in getting the meat from the slaughter-houses to the market, of course.

6031. Do you know where animals are slaughtered in Hull?—There is a place not very far from the quay. There are several places used.

6032. How far is it from the trains to the principal place where they are slaughtered?—It may be half a mile.

6033. Is it your opinion that meat could be sent during this weather from Hull to Leeds without being spoilt?—There can be no doubt about it, seeing that meat is sent from Aberdeen to London and not spoilt.

6034. We are told, that during the last few days, there has been very little meat sent from Scotland to London in consequence of the weather. Do you suppose that a journey of three or four hours would affect the meat even in hot weather?—It cannot possibly affect it. We know that meat, which will take forty hours from leaving the railway station at Aberdeen to get in to Newgate Market, in ordinary weather comes in very good condition. We know that in hot weather it comes in good condition, and we know it only is when the weather is very hot, and very damp, close weather, that any taint of the meat begins. I infer from that, that to send it from Hull to Leeds is safe in any weather, assuming that the meat is properly set when handed to the Company for carriage.

6035. We will take, for instance, Bradford. What would be the time the trains would take going from Hull, which is in direct communication with Bradford?—Our railway stops short at Normanton. It would then be on another railway.

6036. Do the trains run through?—The waggons run through, but Bradford is only 13 miles beyond Leeds at the furthest, and therefore there is no difficulty.

6037. Would there be any detention of the meat trucks at Normanton?—There would be a detention, because the trains conveying the meat are mixed, and there are other trucks conveying goods of all kinds, and to a great variety of places, and therefore at Normanton or Leeds the trains must be stopped, and the waggons shunted to go to the different places, and therefore detention will occur.

6038. Could no arrangements be made so as to avoid that detention?—I think not, unless (which is out of the question) the meat trade assumed such magnitude that there would be sufficient trade, say from Hull to Bradford, to warrant running a train of meat waggons the whole of the way, without other waggons.

6039. But the trade is not likely to assume that importance?—It is impossible. We call a special train, a train say of 20 waggons; that would carry 50 tons of meat, and that, running every day in the year, would be 15,000 tons to one town. It is quite out of the question to suppose that that would be the case.

6040. Mr. *Dent.*] The same would apply to Halifax and Huddersfield as to Bradford; you do not run direct meat trains?—No. The principle is simple. At Aberdeen, where you have great gathering grounds, you get a great deal of meat. To a large place, like the metropolis, you would get special trains without any difficulty, but with reference to meat sent to any one particular town, from one particular place, the supply of meat is generally very small.

6041. *Chairman.*] What do you say with regard to Wakefield?—Wakefield is only four miles beyond Normanton, and the same thing will apply as to Leeds.

6042. What time will one of these night trains take in going from Hull to Bradford, including the detention?—It depends, of course, upon circumstances, but if I allowed two hours more than to Leeds, it would bring it to five hours and a half.

6043. Mr. *Dent.*] It would not be certain that your train would catch the train at Normanton for Bradford, Huddersfield, and Halifax?—That is quite certain. That is to say, that the meat train from Hull to Bradford would be treated like the Continental imported goods train from Hull to Bradford.

6044. *Chairman.*] Is it your opinion that all the meat which would be wanted from Hull would travel by the trains which now run to each of those towns, and the meat not be spoiled?—Certainly; beyond all doubt.

6045. You think there is no occasion, even in summer, that the cattle should be taken alive to Leeds, Wakefield, and Bradford Markets?—I think not.

6046. Lord *Naas.*] Suppose a beast is killed at Hull at 6 o'clock in the morning, and is fit for transmission by the railway at 8 o'clock in the evening, how soon do you think that meat could be in a butcher's shop, at Leeds, ready for the retail trade?—By the time the retail shop would be open in the morning.

6047. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you deliver the goods as soon as they arrive by the night trains?—Yes. It would be treated exactly like a bale of merchandize. Our system for the merchandize trade is to have a train leaving any particular town as late as possible in the evening and that train has the whole night to run to wherever it is going to; the goods are delivered the first thing in the morning, so that all those towns would be included in the same rule, and the delivery made early in the morning.

6048. Have you had any complaints from different consignees of meat, as to the badness of the meat, when it arrived?—No; I have had none.

6049. The company have had none?—I mean to say the company have had none. I do not know of any. We have had disputes with the senders about various things.

6050. But not as to the condition of the meat after it arrived?—No; I do not remember any. There have been complaints of its arriving too late for market at certain times.

6051. The reason of the very high charge for dead meat is in consequence of the number of claims the company have had to sustain?—It is only one of the reasons, but, perhaps, in comparing the charges the Committee will bear in mind that with reference to the live meat it is put into the train without labour, and the other has to be carted at both ends. Of course that is a very material thing.

Capt. *W. O'Brien.*

14 June 1866.

6052. Mr. *Dent.*] You collect the dead meat at Hull and deliver it at Leeds, and other towns?—Yes.

6053. What is your charge per bullock?—We charge the live beasts at so much per truck.

6054. What do you charge for trucks of beasts to Leeds?—We charge for a middle-sized truck containing seven beasts, 1*l.* 9*s.*

6055. What do you charge, per cwt., for dead meat?—Taking it per ton, we charge 18*s.* 4*d.*, including collection and delivery; and deducting the cost of collection and delivery, the charge for dead meat would yield us about 3*s.* 4*d.* per truck more than the charge for live cattle; and against that increase we have to set all the risks and difficulties.

6056. Have you any fish traffic between Hull and Leeds?—Yes.

6057. How do you carry on the fish traffic; it is attached to the passenger traffic, I presume?—We do so occasionally.

6058. I know it is done from Scarborough to London; you attach the fish trucks to the passenger trains, and come all the way to London with them?—For this reason; the trains run from Scarborough up to York, where they catch the Great Northern trains, and that traffic is so slight that we only run one train a day. The Hull trade inland is so very large that we have plenty of trains in the course of the day to carry it.

6059. Your fish traffic from Hull to Leeds would be done by goods trains, and not by passenger trains?—Yes; we should not use passenger trains unless there was anything special.

6060. Then why should you not do the same, if necessary, with perishable goods like meat?—We should, but that we do not like sending anything we can help by passenger train. In cases of emergency we do send it, but if it were done where not absolutely necessary we should have to turn our passenger trains into goods trains.

6061. We had a witness here who said the deficiency had been supplied by dead carcases from Hull during the good weather, but when the weather became warm there was not a single carcase last week in the market; do you know whether that is correct?—I have no knowledge as to the supply of meat in the market.

6062. *Chairman.*] Have you any knowledge whether you have conveyed any meat by your line?—I have no knowledge as to any particular week. If the Committee should wish to know, I should be happy to get the information for them.

6063. Mr. *Edward Egerton*] Could you give any return of the quantity of meat sent since the prohibition against carrying live animals?—Perhaps the Committee will confine it to a certain date.

6064. *Chairman.*] Can you give it us for the last four weeks?—Yes, certainly.

6065. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Would that be a difficult return to get at?—No.

6066. Then, give us the return for the last five weeks of dead meat from Hull to Leeds, ending last Saturday?—Yes, I will send down for it at once.

6067. Mr. *Dent.*] Will you also let us know whether there has been any dead meat taken to Bradford or any other part of the West Riding?—Yes.

6068. *Chairman.*] You collect for Hull, and for all the other towns?—Yes.

6069. You would be able to tell from your books?—We should have to search through a mountain of consignments to pick out a consignment of a little dead meat; if the Committee could confine it to one or two places, I should be glad.

6070. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Would you object to making a return of any complaints you have had?—I should not object; but we have many complaints which get settled, and many which do not get settled, that I should hardly know which to pick out. I know there was some general complaint made before the Committee by some person. We are in litigation with him.

6071. We ask really for information, because people have come here and said there were great difficulties in the way of supplying dead meat, and we want to see whether that is so?—Yes.

6072. *Chairman.*] Does the meat come over fresh from Rotterdam to Hull?—I do not know.

6073. It is sheep principally, is it not?—Both sheep and cattle. It is a passage of about 24 hours.

6074. There was a large live cattle traffic between Hull and Leeds and the West Riding before the restriction, was there not?—It was not a very large one; there was a fair supply.

6075. Mr. *Holland.*] I dare say you can tell us whether you have any experience in watering and feeding cattle while they are in transit?—We find chiefly at Hull that the importers object to our giving cattle water. There is no great opportunity of feeding on the road, of course.

6076. You have no experience of feeding animals on the transit?—No, they are not fed on the transit, as far as I know.

Mr. Thomas Betts, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *T. Betts.*

6077. *Chairman.*] You are a Butcher, at Maidstone?—Yes.

6078. We understood that the butchers of Kent wished to give information to the Committee; and we requested them therefore to send two names to represent their interest. What points do you wish to give evidence upon?—First I beg to state that our supplies in Kent are totally exhausted.

6079. How have you usually been supplied?—During the many years that I have been in business I have been in the habit of coming to the great Metropolitan Cattle Market; say for eight months out of 12.

6080. You depended on the Metropolitan Cattle Market?—Yes; and since we have been prohibited from getting cattle down the line we have depended on our own county. At this time the supply of the county of Kent is totally exhausted; we have nothing but a little mutton and a little beef.

6081. Do you have dead meat down now?—We have had, but the weather will not permit of that at this time.

Mr. *T. Betts.*

14 June 1866.

6082. Where have you got it from?—From Newgate Market.

6083. Do you have any foreign supply?—I do not; mine is a private trade, what you might call a family trade; and I, of course, buy the very best I can get, Scotch beasts and Norfolk beasts; it depends on the season of the year.

6084. Has the price of meat risen very much lately?—It has been very dear for a long time.

6085. What are the prices of meat now?—As regards the present moment, I do not know that there is any really quotable prices, because there are no beasts sold in country markets in Kent.

6086. You say there is no price; do you not sell any beef now?—Of course we have a little, but we are just on the brink of being exhausted.

6087. You supply a good many families; have you refused any family during the last week a single joint of meat?—Not one. I have a little on hand.

6088. You have not yet refused?—No, and I hope not to do so.

6089. Have you refused a customer mutton?—No; we have got plenty.

6090. You charge them for the meat you supply them with?—Yes, and no more.

6091. What are the prices now at Maidstone; what are you selling at?—Our very best joints are 10*d.*

6092. I do not want to know the secrets of the trade, but simply to know at what prices you are selling?—The very best joints of beef, 10*d.*

6093. What do you charge for mutton?—The very best joints of mutton, legs and loins, 10*d.*

6094. And the inferior joints?—Say from 6*d.* up to 10*d.* The breasts do not make more than 6*d.*, and the legs 10*d.*

6095. How long have you been selling at these prices?—A considerable time.

6096. Six weeks?—More than that.

6097. Thirteen weeks?—Perhaps for a twelvemonth.

6098. You have not raised your prices to your customers for a twelvemonth?—There has been a little fluctuation. I am not prepared with any particulars respecting that. If we buy it extremely dear, we are obliged to sell accordingly.

6099. You say for about a twelvemonth your prices have not varied?—There has been little variation.

6100. Do not you find when there is a great difficulty in the supply that there is a rise in the price?—Of course, if we cannot get it we cannot sell it.

6101. If your supplies are exhausted, how is it you are able to supply your customers on the same terms as before?—At present we have been supplying them with beasts purchased in the county; but now the county of Kent is very nearly or quite exhausted in the way of fat stock.

6102. Do you not find, if the meat is on the point of being exhausted, the price rises; do not you always anticipate exhaustion by your prices?—We have been living in hopes of having the line opened.

6103. Is it your position that up to this day you have been enabled to go on supplying your customers, but that next week you will have no stock to supply them with?—I am speaking now of the county of Kent. I, as an individual, have some stock on hand. I bought a certain quantity of beef from a gentleman at so much per stone of 8 lbs.; they will last me next week, and after that time I do not know where to go.

6104. You think you will be able to go on for a week more, and then you will not know where to go?—Yes.

6105. Have not the owners of cattle in Kent found that out, and raised their prices?—They have indeed, I can assure you.

6106. Do you pay one-fourth more than you did three months ago?—I should think, upon an average, the meat is 8*d.* per stone dearer, that is 1*d.* per pound, on the average.

6107. Notwithstanding that you have treated your customers so well, you have not raised their prices?—We do the best we can for them, I assure you; that, I believe, is our character.

6108. I have no doubt you conduct your trade in a very respectable manner, but I want to know this: if the supply of Kent is now so nearly exhausted that it will only last a week longer, how is it that it has not told more upon the prices?—I cannot tell. I assure you that what I tell you is correct; the beef is 1*d.* per pound dearer than it was some months back.

6109. You are still purchasing of farmers and graziers in the country?—We have been allowed to get what we could; we have not been allowed to go to the cattle market, and we have been allowed to go to farmhouses and buy what we could find.

6110. You have bought dearer in consequence?—Of course we have.

6111. You do not know where to go to get a beast; is that so?—I do not know what have been already purchased for the last fortnight or three weeks.

6112. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The people have lost their cattle much quicker this year than they ever did before?—I think the cattle in Kent have held out much better than I expected; and you must recollect that Kent is not a grazing county.

6113. Have you not had the disease very bad in Kent?—No; it was very trifling down about Dover, I think.

6114. *Chairman.*] How does the railway run in Kent?—There is the South Eastern and the North Kent Railway; and the Paddock Wood branch.

6115. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you ever attend Tunbridge market?—Yes.

6116. That has been well supplied all this year?—We have not had a cattle market for the last six months, only a market for sheep; neither at Tunbridge, nor at Ashford, nor at Maidstone. There has not been a cattle market open for a long time.

6117. *Chairman.*] Have you ever thought of employing an agent to buy in other counties for you?—I think not; that would not answer at all.

6118. You have never thought of doing it?—No.

6119. Supposing there was not another animal to be got in Kent, do you think you might turn your attention to that mode of proceding?—I should turn my attention to shutting up my shop; that is what I should turn my attention to, and very quickly too. No, no, that would not suit; not at my time of life, at all events.

6120. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Could you not get dead meat at the metropolitan market?—The dead meat is at the present moment in this condition: you may come to Newgate Market and buy any amount of meat, and after it has been sent to Maidstone, and shifted from one train to another, it would be only fit to be thrown away, fit for nothing else. I have seen

meat

meat recently brought into Maidstone that has really been fit for nothing; it has been quite a sacrifice. It perhaps has come a long distance to London, and then has been taken down to the Bricklayers' Arms station, and sent to Maidstone to hang up in a shop, and perhaps been a day or two before the customers might want it; it has got into a most frightful state; it would be much more fit to be hung up on a tree to feed the dogs upon.

6121. Mr. *Carnegie.*] But could you not buy live animals in the metropolitan market, slaughter them in London, and take the carcases to Maidstone?— The last cattle that I bought at the metropolitan market, I sent to the Bricklayers' Arms station, and they stated they would be sent on as before; instead of that, they had to be sent back to the metropolitan market and slaughtered, and sent to Newgate and sold; and the 12 beasts lost me 36 *l.*

6122. Could you not buy live cattle in the metropolitan market, slaughter them in London, and send the carcases to Maidstone; answer the question?—It could be done if the weather was fit for it; it could not be done now.

6123. *Chairman.*] How long does it take going from London to Maidstone by railway?—About five or six hours by goods trains, and by passenger trains two hours.

6124. Are there any night trains?—There is one which arrives at Maidstone at eight in the morning.

6125. Is that early enough for your customers?—No.

6126. What is the earliest time at which you receive a visit from a customer in the morning?—We are obliged to have a supply, and like to have a supply over night; we like to have our shop furnished.

6127. What is the earliest time at which you receive a visit from a customer in the morning?—We have customers coming in as early as our shop is open, but they would be of a very minor character.

6128. At what hour do you open your shop?—At half-past six.

6129. Do you sell much before eight o'clock?—We sell all we can.

6130. You do not sell many joints of meat?—Not very many; unless we have a wholesale customer in; we might have one in.

6131. What is to prevent your making arrangements for slaughtering animals in London, and getting them down by the night goods trains to Maidstone?—I do not believe any man would do it, I assure you; I do not believe anybody would purchase cattle, and have them slaughtered in London, and then convey them home.

6132. Is it not possible to arrange with some man, who has a slaughter-house in the neighbourhood of the Bricklayers' Arms station, to slaughter cattle for you, and send them down to the Maidstone station?—We should get robbed of half the offal, and very likely of half of the fat.

6133. What is there to prevent your buying the dead cattle now of a man in London, and having it conveyed to Maidstone?—It would be unfit for human food by the time it got to Maidstone.

6134. You were alluding to the meat that is sent up from the country to London, and then sent down to Maidstone; but what is there to prevent your buying the sides of a beast killed by a butcher in London, and sent down by the night train to Maidstone?—We could not be subject to such impositions; we do not believe any man in our trade could exist under them.

6135 Where would be the imposition; if you bought the sides of a beast, you could weigh it, and sell it again at so much per pound?—A man should be able to go into the public market and buy an article fairly.

6136. You mean it would be an alteration of the system of the trade?—A great alteration.

6137. And that you would not like?—No.

6138. It would be possible to do it?—I do not think I could possibly reconcile myself to it; I do not think I could.

6139. Mr. *Carnegie.*] You would soon shut up your shop?—Yes, I would as soon as possible; in spite of everything. I would sooner be conveyed to the union workhouse than have to do it.

6140. You are aware there are many very large buyers in this town who only buy the dead meat themselves?—If I were on the spot in this great city, I should be very likely to go and buy my supply also in that way; I should go whereever I could get it best. The London trade in the winter, I believe, is 30 per cent. in advance of the country buyers, by having their goods so much better; and as a gentleman stated just now, with respect to slaughtered meat from Scotland, I believe in winter months it is very much better. I believe meat has been packed and pressed in cold weather, and come very much better for the consumer by odds; but if you pack and press meat at this time of the year, you must judge, as gentlemen of business, what sort of state it will come to you in. A great many French beasts are sold in Newgate Market for Scotch beasts; that you may depend upon; there is no mistake at all about it.

6141. *Chairman.*] You have not been much affected with cattle plague in Kent?—Oh dear, no, we have known nothing of it. I have not felt the slightest alarm. I have a butcher's shop and a little farm. I have cattle on my farm, and I have not felt the slightest timid or nervous about it, I assure you. All I can say is, we are placed in very great difficulties at present; very great indeed.

6142. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] What is your remedy for this?—To allow the butchers in Kent to buy their meat wherever they can, whether it is in the great metropolitan cattle market or elsewhere, and have it conveyed home and slaughtered by themselves.

6143. *Chairman.*] You wish the butchers of Kent to have that advantage, and not the butchers of other counties?—I am only representing Kent; I think every county ought to represent itself.

6144. You know the reason for these restrictions?—Of course I do.

6145. Have you not discovered that those retrictions have tended to get rid of the cattle plague in a great measure?—I think I can enlighten you on that subject a little, as regards Kent, which I told you before is not a grazing district. I should think Kent, according to the size of it, is dependent more on the supply of this great cattle market than any other county in the kingdom, and we have less cattle plague. If that is worth anything to you, I can assure you it is a fact. We have had hundreds of beasts go out of this cattle market to Ashford, to Tunbridge, to

Mr. *T. Betts.*

14 June 1866.

Maidstone, to Rochester, to Canterbury, and to all the local markets throughout the county; it has been wholly supplied with cattle from the cattle market; and I should say there has been no county in Great Britain that has been less afflicted with cattle plague than the county of Kent.

6146. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] They have had the cattle plague in Sussex?—To a very trifling extent.

6147. Some 1,200 beasts died there; those are the figures?—I believe it has been to a very trifling extent.

6148. Probably you are aware that the whole of those 1,200 beasts died in consequence of four calves which were bought in the metropolitan market?—I believe those suckling calves have done more mischief than anything else, and they were taken from the sheds of the London cow-keepers.

Mr. GEORGE WAKEFIELD, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *G. Wakefield.*

6149. *Chairman.*] ARE you a Butcher from Canterbury?—From Maidstone; from the same town as the last witness.

6150. Do you agree in what has been stated by the last witness?—Yes; mine is the same grievance precisely as his. I am perhaps rather worse situated than Mr. Betts.

6151. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Why?—I have a contract business and a carcase business as well.

6152. With whom have you contracts?—I have several contracts in the town of Maidstone.

6153. *Chairman.*] Contracts with public establishments?—Yes.

6154. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you supply the jail?—Yes; the jail, the asylum, and the troops.

6155. *Chairman.*] How do you get your supply now?—Principally from Newgate Market.

6156. Has any of the meat which you have supplied been rejected by the Commissary?—No; we have not had the weather very bad until quite lately.

6157. When was your last delivery of meat?—This morning.

6158. Was that meat purchased in Newgate Market?—No, it was meat I bought at home alive principally.

6159. Have you delivered any by virtue of your contract which you have obtained from Newgate Market during the last few days?—I have.

6160. When?—I delivered some portion this morning, and some home killed meat.

6161. For the troops?—For the troops.

6162. Have you had complaints?—Yes, I have had continued complaints.

6163. From the Commissary?—From the officials at the depôt.

6164. What has been the nature of these complaints?—They have not liked the appearance of the meat at all, it has been in such a bad state.

6165. Have they complained that it was bad when it was eaten?—No, they have not complained of its being bad when eaten.

6166. Is it not the case that meat, if it travels about, gets a shabby appearance on the surface?—Yes, very.

6167. And that it is none the worse eating?—I do not know that it is.

6168. Have you had any complaints that the meat has eaten badly?—I have had some few complaints.

6169. Who from?—From the establishments which I supply.

6170. What complaints have you had from the troops?—I have had complaints from the captains, that the men had found fault with the meat.

6171. At the table?—Yes.

6172. On what ground; what have they said was the matter with the meat?—They have said it was not fresh; and there have been various complaints for a long time, since I have had meat from here.

6173. During the last week have they made complaints?—Yes; I have had complaints lately.

6174. What was your reply?—That I did not know in what other manner to supply them; that I was compelled to get it from here, as my supply was exhausted from home.

6175. Have you had any official complaint?—No, not any from the Commissariat.

6176. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Were those complaints made at the time of the inspection of the meat in the morning, or at the time of the officers going down to dinner?—At both times.

6177. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Was any of the meat rejected?—No. I must say they have been as lenient as possible with the contractors. They have known the position the contractors have been in. I had meat from Newgate Market last week.

6178. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] What is your contract price?—The present contract price is 6½ *d.* per pound.

6179. For the jail or for the troops?—For the troops.

6180. What has been the price for the jail?—Seven pence per pound, without bone.

6181. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you ever tried buying live cattle in London, and having them slaughtered, and the carcases sent to you, at Maidstone?—I bought some last week, for the first time.

6182. Where were they slaughtered?—They were slaughtered at the cattle market.

6183. And the carcases sent to Maidstone?—Yes.

6184. In what condition did they arrive there?—In very bad condition. I had several quarters green when I cut them up the next morning.

6185. To what do you attribute that?—To the constant moving of them; the repetition of the movement.

6186. Were they well dressed?—Yes, very well dressed.

6187. Were they allowed to get cold?—Yes; they were killed the night before, and loaded the next morning.

6188. In what way did you pack them?—In a van, and they came by road the whole way, that they should not be more often moved than could be avoided.

6189. You did not send them by rail?—No; I have only sent two lots of meat by rail.

6190. Have you ever seen the way in which the meat comes up from Scotland?—Yes, often.

6191. You

Mr. *G. Wakefield.*

14 June 1866.

6191. You are aware that it comes by rail?—I am.

6192. Did you not think packing yours in the same way as that would be best?—No; I think why the Scotch meat comes in best condition is, it is not killed off the drift.

6193. What is the meaning of the expression "off the drift"?—It means after it has been driven a long distance; meat bought at Islington on Monday would be killed the same day perhaps, and then it might have travelled a long distance in the morning, or on the day previously.

6194. *Chairman.*] Have you a butchers' association in Kent?—I think not; I do not know of one.

6195. Have you seen butchers from any other towns in Kent on this subject?—Yes; I have met many of them.

6196. But I mean had you seen any of them on this subject before you came here to give evidence?—No.

6197. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Are the cattle that are fed in the marshes entirely exhausted?—I think so; I do not know where to find more. I have seven or eight beasts at home alive, and I do not know where to buy any more when they are gone.

6198. Do you usually get a great number of animals from the marshes?—No; what beasts we do get are stall-fed beasts in our own districts.

6199. You get mutton from the marshes?—Yes, we get mutton from the Romney Marshes.

Mr. THOMAS BETTS again called: and further Examined.

Mr. *T. Betts.*

6200. *Chairman.*] YOU say there are very few beasts in Kent?—Very few indeed.

6201. And that that is the usual thing?—Yes; it is not a grazing district.

6202. Do you know how Kent stands in that respect with regard to other counties in England?—I cannot say I do. What grazing there is in Kent is grazing for sheep; we have no beasts, or scarcely any. Here and there we have a few milch cows. What beasts we have in the winter months are principally fed by the hop-growing farmers, for the purpose of getting the manure; they come in about Michaelmas time, and they go out about this time.

6203. Lord *Naas.*] Where do you buy your meat in summer time?—We come to the metropolitan market. I have been in business for 36 years; I have never known any other market.

6204. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is not the Weald of Kent a grazing country?—Oh dear, no; they could not live there; the land is poor in the Weald of Kent.

6205. *Chairman.*] Should you say Kent is worse off for beasts than all the other counties of England?—I should think it is the very worst of all counties.

6206. We have had a return presented to us of the number of cattle, distinguishing cows and other cattle, in the different counties of England, up to the 5th of March last; perhaps you would be surprised to learn that there are 17 counties in England that have less foreign beasts, of two years of age and above, than Kent has?—I should be very much surprised to hear it.

6207. Bedford has about half of what Kent has; Berks, less than half; Bucks, a fourth less; Cambridge, rather more than half; Hertford has about one-third, or not more than one-third; Huntingdon, not more than one-third; Oxford, two-thirds; Rutland (being a very small county), has one-third less than Kent; Surrey (extra-metropolitan), about one-third of Kent; Westmoreland, rather more than half; Wilts, about two-thirds; Worcester, about three-fourths; does that surprise you?—It does very much.

6208. Now I find the number of cattle in Kent (extra the metropolitan district), on the 5th of March, of two years of age, excluding milch cows, was 16,708; and there were 17 counties at that time that had fewer cattle within them than Kent?—Is it not possible that those counties you are speaking of are counties that have been suffering by this cattle plague, and burying their cattle by thousands.

6209. Some have and some have not; then, on the other hand, would it not be fair to take the population of Kent into consideration?—I should think Kent is more thickly populated than any other county.

6210. The population of Kent is half a million, in round numbers; it is nearly the same as Cheshire, and about the same as Gloucestershire; are you aware that in Kent, besides the metropolitan part of Kent, there are 18,000 odd milch cows?—I was not aware. Of course, in these thickly populated towns there are a great many cows kept for milk purposes, and I am not prepared to say anything about them.

6211. What would you say with regard to sheep; is Kent well off for sheep?—Yes; it is better off than any other county, I should say, because we have the Romney Marsh to go to.

6212. It stands third, as to its number of sheep, of the counties of England?—I quite agree with that.

6213. Then, if you are badly off for beef, you are very well off for mutton?—Yes. I hope you gentlemen will do the best you can for us, and will give us relief as soon as you can.

Mr. JAMES HUTCHESON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Hutcheson.*

6214. Mr. *Carnegie.*] YOU come from Inverury?—Yes.

6215. How many miles north of Aberdeen is Inverury?—Sixteen miles.

6216. You are a butcher?—Yes.

6217. Are you a farmer also?—No; I am a butcher. I do business entirely with London; I have had no retail business for the last seven years; it has been London business entirely.

6218. Do you take grass parks or turnips, or do you buy entirely?—I buy entirely; I buy and kill, and send to London.

6219. I suppose you buy from all round Aberdeenshire and Banffshire?—Yes.

6220. Do you go to Morayshire at all?—No, I do

Mr. J. Hutcheson.

14 June 1866.

I do not go to Morayshire; I buy principally in Aberdeenshire.

6221. Do you slaughter in Inverury?—I slaughter in Inverury.

6222. The trains with your meat go straight through to London without change of carriage?—Yes.

6223. How long does it take for the dead meat to go from Inverury to London?—The time that it should be, if the train arrangements were properly kept, is 38 hours. It is 36 hours to Aberdeen. There is one dead-meat train, the Aberdeen express goods train, which leaves Aberdeen at 11 5 a.m.; another train, bringing the north of Scotland meat, leaves Aberdeen at 12.45, and catches the first express train at Perth. That is the second train which takes meat off the railway with which I am connected.

6224. Do you send at all times of the year?—At all times of the year; but I find for four months of the year it is at a considerable risk.

6225. Still you send at all times of the year?—At all times; but when the weather is extremely warm we are obliged, in safety to ourselves, to guard against it. The weather is cool to-day, and if we had a few bullocks we might go and kill them; then perhaps the weather may change immediately, and be warm by the time it arrives here. We find the meat is oftener spoiled when the weather is excessively hot in London, than it is when it is excessively hot in Scotland.

6226. Has there ever been a week in which you have stopped sending meat altogether?—Well, scarcely so; but then I have seen a week or two weeks when, if you could get here safe, you would make a fine market; but very often it happens you may lose some of it.

6227. Have you suffered much loss by the meat spoiling?—Yes, a good deal.

6228. Have you suffered much by the unpunctuality of the railway?—Yes, a good deal.

6229. Have you in such cases succeeded in getting compensation?—Very seldom. Sometimes we have got it, but not very often. As a general rule, and I have been in the trade for the last 16 years, in the winter, when the weather is wet, and damp, and windy, the dead-meat trains are heavy. It is a season of the year in which our principal bullocks are fat in Scotland. The dead-meat trains are heavy, the rails are wet, and in that way we are often two or three hours behind our time.

6230. But in such weather the meat keeps sufficiently well?—It does keep; but in damp weather, when it is slaughtered in Scotland, and comes to London, it would not come to London in such a good condition if it were damp weather all along. If it arrived here at the proper hour of delivery, it might be in fair order, but not if it was detained.

6231. I suppose you send it all in sides?—We send it all in sides.

6232. And packed in cloths?—Yes.

6233. What do you do with the offal?—We send it generally to Dundee and Aberdeen; I contract in Aberdeen with parties to consume my offal at so much the beast for the 12 months; that is the small offal, heads, livers, hearts, and tongues.

6234. What do you do with the tripes?—We generally feed our pigs with that; it is not so much eaten in Scotland as in England.

6235. What do you do with the blood?—We do not care for that either.

6236. Do you waste the blood, or keep it for manure?—We waste it.

6237. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you waste it altogether?—We waste it altogether; I think we have acted very wrong in that, but then we have never taken it into our heads what to do with it. It is a town of 3,000 population, and a long, scattered town. There is a slaughter-house here and there, and perhaps a quarter of a mile off there is another one, and here and there again. If there had been two or three together, we should have been able to afford to get a person to take care of it; but the fact has been that we have never known the actual value of the blood.

6238. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you thought of making arrangements for public slaughter-houses at Inverury?—It has been often thought about.

6239. Do you think your trade look with favour on the idea of public slaughter-houses?—There is no question about it. The town of Inverury is a Royal burgh, and there is everything to favour trade. There were 355 beasts killed there a few years ago, and during the last year from the 31st March 1865 to the 31st March 1866, we killed 4,065.

6240. In this town of 3,000 inhabitants?—Yes.

6241. I suppose that, independently of the hot weather, you have more cattle fit for killing in the winter and spring months, than you have in the summer months?—Most decidedly.

6242. Aberdeenshire is more of a winter feeding district than a summer feeding district?—Much more so; we have not the cattle in summer.

6243. The grass there is light?—It is light.

6244. I suppose the cattle you are killing now, have been principally fed upon turnips, and just finished off upon grass?—Yes; but then this is a year not like many other years. We have been extremely short of keep this winter; the winter keep of turnips was shorter than usual, and then some of the stock that ought to have been kept for grazing was obliged to be killed, because they could not be kept on until the grass came to maturity.

6245. You send no live cattle to London?—I have sent live cattle, but both myself and the butchers in the trade at Inverury, send extremely few now; we may have sent a few bullocks in summer alive for safety, to get them slaughtered in Newgate Market, when we thought the weather too risky to send them dead, and the bullocks were rather heavy.

6246. Do you work the telegraph at all?—We do.

6247. Do your agents send to you to say, send us so many beasts, or do you take the chance yourself?—What the salesman does is this: if there is a rise in value, a rise of perhaps 4*d.* or 6*d.* a stone, they would telegraph at once to give us the advantage, so that we might get up the meat as soon as possible. Then if the weather got soft and warm, they would telegraph at once to us, at their expense, not to send it, but on the other hand, if we want information ourselves, we telegraph ourselves, and pay for it.

6248. How long does it take to send a telegraphic message from the salesman at Newgate Market to Inverury?—I can scarcely explain that. There is a break at Aberdeen in the Great

Great North Railway; we are differently situated at Inverury with regard to telegraphs than they are at Aberdeen. It is a single line, and they have got the wires on the Great North of Scotland line to work their own traffic. They do not hold themselves responsible to forward it to us if they have occasion to use it on their own line. I have known a telegraphic message delayed for two or three hours, but not generally. It could be sent there and back in three hours, I think. I could send a message, and get the answer back in three hours. I think it might be done sooner; but still that is about a fair average time.

6249. Do you consign to the same salesman or to a different salesman?—I generally do my business with one, but it is not the general way.

6250. The general custom of the trade in the North of Scotland is to employ more than one salesman?—Yes; some men, killing very largely, will divide their meat in one morning amongst six salesmen.

6251. Mr. *Dent.*] How many beasts would he send among these six salesmen, do you suppose?—Allowing him to kill eight beasts, he would perhaps give some of them a side a piece.

6252. Mr. *Holland.*] You have animals coming in to you at times?—Yes.

5253. And from all distances?—From all distances.

6254. Have you any rule, if you have a telegraph and an order for any animals, with regard to slaughtering them at a certain period after they come upon your premises, after travelling?—We have no definite rule. Before this cattle plague commenced in the country we had local markets about four days a week or sometimes five, and sometimes nearly every day. They went away in the morning by the trains leaving Inverury at eight o'clock; the Great North Railway gives us a special train up to the market, and takes up the trucks and the carriages, and returns special from the markets with the cattle and passengers, and probably arrives at Inverury about four o'clock. If the weather is fine the cattle would be all slaughtered that night, and sent off for London the next morning.

6255. Lord *Naas.*] How long does a carcase hang, after it is killed, before you put it in the train?—If the weather is fit for it, we should be killing at four in the afternoon, and get away at seven o'clock a.m.

6256. About 14 hours?—Yes, but it is better to hang 24 hours.

6257. Mr. *Carnegie.*] You very often, from press of business, are not able to give it so long as that?—No.

6258. Mr. *Dent.*] The farmers do not send you their beasts to kill; you buy them?—We buy them.

6259. Lord *Naas.*] At the fairs, or at the farmers' houses?—They were almost all bought at the markets until last year.

6260. But now you are obliged to go to the farmhouses?—Yes.

6261. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I suppose, even before the time of the cattle plague, it was a common thing for a farmer to send for you to come and look at a lot of beast on his farm, and say, "I will not risk the markets, for fear of pleuro-pneumonia?—Yes, that was very common; but then I considered, as a general rule, it was not giving us justice, and it was not doing justice to the farmers, letting us be without markets.

6262. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you not like buying at home, as a rule?—No; I prefer to fight the battle in the open market.

6263. *Chairman.*] Are the farmers tougher customers to deal with than those in the open market?—The greater number are not good judges; they think their cattle are heavier than what they are; they think the cattle are worth more than they really are.

6264. Mr. *Carnegie.*] An Aberdeenshire man is rather a stiff hand at making a bargain?—Yes; but the markets make them quick.

6265. *Chairman.*] Do they ever go to see their beasts killed?—Yes, they do go sometimes.

6266. To see them cut up?—Yes.

6267. Mr. *Carnegie.*] It is not customary in Aberdeenshire to buy by weight?—It is not customary, but it is done. More of it has been done in Aberdeenshire this year than any former year.

6268. The farmers sell by dead weight?—Yes.

6269. Mr. *Carnegie.*] As a rule you just make a price, and make a bargain with the farmer, without weight, and independent of it?—Yes; but as a general rule we go and look at the cattle. When we appear there they ask us what we are able to give per cwt. I always speak in a very fair manner, and tell them at once what they are worth per cwt., and as near as possible to that I will give. I find, as a general rule, with regard to the dead meat springing up in such places as Inverury, unless it be near a large populous town where you can get clear of your small offal 24 hours earlier than the meat itself, it would be utterly worthless.

6270. Mr. *Dent.*] You send the whole of the beasts to London; you do not pick out the best parts to send to London?—No; I send the whole. Sometimes it happens to be damp weather, and the market is bad here. The curers in Aberdeen buy the fore-quarters; we could send a number of fore-quarters to Hoggarth's, at so much per cwt., and then we feel the benefit of sending the hind-quarters to London; but as a general rule we do not send it to Aberdeen.

6271. Lord *Naas.*] You send some live beasts to London occasionally?—Yes, I have sent some, but not many, some time back.

6272. Do you find it more profitable to kill at home?—We realise better market value by sending them dead. We get the weight of a bullock, and we get the market value. Sending them alive, if you get a good customer, and a good price, it is all right.

6273 *Chairman.*] You know best what you are killing?—Yes; we can weigh it before sending to market.

6274. Lord *Naas.*] Used you to send more live beasts to London when you first began business, than you do now?—I did.

6275. Can you give the Committee any idea of what the difference of the average profit of the live beasts as against the dead beasts is?—No; I do not think it is possible.

6276. But still you believe the dead-meat trade is far more profitable to the north country butcher than the live-meat trade to the north country trader?—Yes, it is. In one sense the profit is more steady; perhaps during three or four months of one season of the year the party sending the live cattle will realise more value than we do; and in the public markets they would

Mr. *J. Hutcheson.*

14 June 1866.

would be inclined to buy them a little dearer per cwt., that is to say, the neat beasts. But then at another time again they lose a lot of money, in order to compete with us. It has been found, for a number of years, that the best judges in Scotland have not pursued the trade with the live cattle; they are fewer in number.

6277. Taking one period of the year with another, the risk and uncertainty of sending the live cattle is greater than it is with regard to the dead?—Yes, keeping away the warm weather.

6278. Do you think that the prices you get for the live beasts and the dead beasts in London vary much; is there much difference between the two on the same day. If you send a dead beast to Newgate Market, and a live beast to Copenhagen Fields on the same day, would there be much difference in the price you would get?—Yes, on some days there is a good bit of difference; on some days the live-cattle market is heavily supplied, and Newgate is light; taking this morning for the live and dead-meat markets, I may say the live market is full of fine cattle, and the dead market is pretty light. The dead market prices would be good this morning, because the rest of the meat is not ready for consumption; but the moment the other meat is killed and turned into dead meat, it affects the market at once.

6279. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Is there any dead meat trade north of Inverury?—Yes.

6280. Do the Elgin people send dead meat?—Yes; Elgin, Huntley, and a number of towns.

6281. *Chairman.*] To London?—Yes.

6282. Mr. *Holland.*] They have done so for years?—Yes; the railway is brought up to their doors. They are not doing such a large trade at Inverury as at Aberdeen, but they are travelling in their wake.

6283. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do they send any from as far north as Inverness?—Yes.

6284. You know of your own knowledge that it goes as far north as Elgin?—I am quite sensible of that.

6285. Mr. *Holland.*] Did these men take the supply of the live-meat markets previously to the appearance of the rinderpest?—Yes; the fact of the matter is this: butchers generally do not now do so much in the live trade. It is generally farmers, and people of that sort, who work the live-meat market, and not the real butcher. Some of them do so, but not generally.

6286. Lord *Naas.*] Do the farmers themselves kill the beasts in your neighbourhood?—They have done a little this year under the impression that we were taking advantage of them, and that they would kill on trial, in order to see whether we were honourable or not.

6287. Do you think that a farmer who brings his beast to a man to slaughter in the north of Scotland will get more for his beast than a farmer who sends the same beast up to London on his own account. Do you think the farmers find it more profitable to sell their beasts to you for the purpose of being slaughtered and sent to London, than to send their beasts to London on their own account?—There is no question at all that the farmers find it better to sell to us.

6288. You can afford to give more for them than they would be likely to get in the metropolitan market?—It is not in that way. Suppose a farmer is feeding 24 beasts a year, and bringing them to maturity at great care and expense, then when his beasts are ready for going away he exports them on his own account; but unfortunately it may be that the trade is at its worst, and he may have had all his year's labour and expense for nothing. I have the rise and the fall, and it would be better for him to sell to me. If he chooses to kill them himself, he may, perhaps, forfeit all his year's labour at once.

6289. The effect of it is that so far as the farmers are concerned, it makes the price better?—Yes.

6290. He can be more sure of a certain price?—Yes; they realise the full value for their cattle, taking all in all, in Aberdeenshire.

6291. I suppose another advantage the farmer has is, that he will sell his beasts in small numbers, as they are fit, to you, instead of sending them in a lot?—Yes, he will.

6292. Whereas if he is obliged to send them to London, he is obliged to send them in a truck-load?—Yes.

Mr. Joseph Butler, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Butler.*

6293. *Chairman.*] Where do you reside?—At Aberdeen.

6294. What is the nature of your business?—I am in the dead-beef trade.

6295. Do you purchase live animals on your own account, and slaughter them?—Yes.

6296. Do you consign them to Newgate Market?—Yes.

6297. How long have you been in that business?—For 35 years. During the six months previous to the rinderpest, I bought 1,322 cattle, beginning on the 1st of December 1864, and ending on the 31st of May 1865.

6298. Since the rinderpest has been introduced into this country, has your trade increased or decreased?—It has decreased.

6299. How is that to be accounted for?—The farmer is always sending out, and never getting a beast in to supply the place of those that are gone out.

6300. They have been afraid to purchase?—They could not get them in; they were prohibited.

6301. Mr. *Carnegie.*] A good deal of cattle are imported into Aberdeen from the south to feed, are there not, during the time that there is no disease?—Yes, they come from the Falkirk markets.

6302. *Chairman.*] Is Aberdeenshire more a feeding than a breeding district?—Both; but inclined to fattening.

6303. What is the breed of animals that you generally kill to send to London?—The first cross between the short-horn and the home cow.

6304. Do you still continue to send during this weather?—Every day during the year. We never stop.

6305. What is your experience as to meat travelling to London in the hottest weather that we have in this country?—There is sometimes a little risk of a loss.

6306. Do you depend upon the consignee to let

let you know whether the meat has arrived badly or not?—Yes; we must leave it to him.

6307. Supposing you hear from him that so much of the meat is bad, you take his word for it?—Yes.

6308. Have you had any complaints lately of the meat being bad?—No, not yet.

6309. Up to this point it has travelled in good condition?—Yes.

6310. Last year had you much meat spoilt?—Yes, just about the middle of May last year.

6311. We had some very hot weather then?—Yes, it was a very sudden change, and the winter-fed cattle would not stand the warm weather. We had a great quantity of fat stock last year.

6312. Had you much loss then?—Yes, of course.

6313. Can you give us the proportions of loss you had upon one consignment?—I lost in one day 60 *l.* 3 *s.* 5 *d.*

6314. Mr. *Dent.*] That is in money; can you give us any idea of what weight of meat it was?—There was 973 stone, which would be about 3 ton 9 cwt. 2 qrs.

6315. *Chairman.*] They were all spoilt?—Yes.

6316. Did you get anything for it?—Yes; it was sold at 3 *s.*, 3 *s.* 6 *d.*, 3 *s.* 4 *d.*, 2 *s.* 8 *d.*, and 2 *s.* 6 *d.*

6317. Mr. *Carnegie.*] That was the whole consignment for that day?—For that day alone.

6318. Was none of the meat that was sent that day good, or had you some good?—It was detained by some break down on the railway, I believe.

6319. *Chairman.*] Did you make any demand upon the railway company?—Yes, but they would pay nothing.

6320. Did you go to your lawyer about it?—Yes, but I did not make anything of it.

6321. Is it a very uncommon occurrence for you to lose so much?—It occurs frequently through the year; some three or four times.

6322. But still it is not such as to make you give up your business?—No, I would not do that.

6323. It is a pretty good trade, notwithstanding that?—Some people have been fortunate in it.

6324. When any of your meat gets bad on its passage by rail, do you have advice by telegram to that effect?—No, I never mind the telegrams. About 10 or 12 years ago I had a telegram from four different salesmen in one day, one Monday forenoon, to kill and send as much meat as ever I could. In 24 hours I had another telegram from each of them to send none. I never take any notice of them.

6325. You send up according to your own judgment?—Yes.

6326. Mr. *Dent.*] Is your supply much the same every day?—Yes, daily.

6327. Mr. *Carnegie.*] You send more in winter than in summer?—Of course.

6328. You have more cattle to send in winter?—Yes.

6329. Lord *Naas.*] Have you sent any during the last few days of the hot weather?—I sent some on Monday. This account refers to my traffic in dead beef from 1st December 1864, to 31st May 1865. This is the account of them (*handing in a Paper*): December, 50 tons; January, 50 tons; February, 51 tons; March, 62 tons; April, 48 tons; May, 54 tons.

6330. Is that this year?—No, it is 1864 and 1865, before the rinderpest.

6331. *Chairman.*] You have not got the account for this year?—No.

6332. Do you send a much shorter supply in June and July?—We cannot get them then; they are turned off to the grass.

6333. Mr. *Dent.*] When does your grass-fed supply begin in Aberdeenshire?—There is very little grass-fed; but sometimes, perhaps, about the middle of September. We kill a little off in August, but not much.

6334. Do you buy it all yourself off the farms, or do the farmers send it to you to be slaughtered on their own account?—I buy all.

6335. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do you farm at all; do you grow turnips?—No, I have not done so for six or eight years.

6336. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you find any difficulty in the disposal of the offal?—None.

6337. *Chairman.*] How is it disposed of?—It is disposed of in Aberdeen.

6338. By the word "offal," do you mean the coarser parts of the meat?—The hides, feet, tongues, and tails; that is what we consider offal.

6339. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What do you do with the tripe. Do you dispose of that in Aberdeen?—Yes, the provision curers make up the tripe and send it abroad.

6340. They buy the tripe from you?—Yes.

6341. Lord *Naas.*] Do you know where it goes to?—To India, I believe.

6342. Mr. *Carnegie.*] A witness from Inverary just now stated they wasted a deal of it?—I dare say they do.

6343. Mr. *Holland.*] Have you more than one slaughter-house?—Yes, I have two.

6344. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Are those two your own, or are they in the market?—They are not mine; they are in the market, and belong to the Corporation.

6345. Lord *Naas.*] Do you rent them from the market trustees?—Yes.

6346. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you send up the fore-quarters as well as the hind-quarters to London?—No, I do not; I supply John Moore & Sons, the provision merchants, and they generally have 80 or 90 tons of fore-quarters in six months.

6347. You seldom send fore-quarters, do you?—I do when his price will admit of my cutting them for him. He sometimes fluctuates a good deal in his prices.

6348. Was there any of this dead-meat trade to London before the railways were established?—Yes, long before the railways.

6349. Mr. *Carnegie.*] You sent by steamers?—Yes.

6350. Do you send by steamers now?—Yes.

6351. Mr. *Dent.*] Dead meat in winter?—Yes; we send mostly all the days of the year by the steamers also.

6352. Lord *Naas.*] How much longer is the steamer coming than the railway?—The steamer took about 40 hours at that time, but they have now got one which can go in 36 hours, as quick as the rail. She has made her passage frequently in 36 hours.

6353. Mr. *Dent.*] There is a special dead-meat train from Aberdeen which brings nothing else?—I do not know.

6354. What time of the day does the meat leave

Mr. *J. Butler.*

14 June 1866.

leave Aberdeen?—At five minutes past 11 in the forenoon.

6355. I suppose all those beasts are killed the day before?—Generally.

6356. Is the meat packed in cloths or baskets?—In cloths.

6357. Have they any special carriages on the line for the conveyance of the meat?—No, they are just common trucks covered with tarpaulin.

6358. Lord *Naas.*] Do the steamers carry cheaper than the rail?—Yes, 1 *l.* a ton cheaper.

6359. Is the steamer which comes in 36 hours a new boat which has been lately put on?—Yes, she came upon the passage, I think, about the beginning of December.

6360. She is put on to run in opposition to the railway, I suppose?—No, the Company required a new steamer, and they had her to work their general trade.

6361. Is there any dead-meat trade to the manufacturing districts of England, that is to say, to Yorkshire and Lancashire?—There has been, this season, on account of the stoppage of the live cattle, but never before.

6362. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you sent any meat to Glasgow within the last fortnight?—I have sent nothing; I never send any but to London.

6363. Mr. *Holland.*] Is the meat packed in the same way on board the steamers as it is by rail?—The same way.

6364. In cloths?—Yes.

6365. Mr. *Carnegie.*] There is no import of foreign cattle to Aberdeen, is there?—None. I was asking the local authorities (there are some up here at present) whether they would have the foreign cattle, and they said they would not. I was thinking of going across and sending some, but they would not have them.

6366. Mr. *Dent.*] You were thinking of going to buy them to kill?—Yes.

6367. Do you think you could get them good enough for the London market?—Yes.

6368. Where could you get them?—Very likely in Denmark or Sweden.

6369. Have you been in the habit of buying any foreign cattle?—I have bought them in London, and taken them down to Aberdeen.

6370. Mr. *Carnegie.*] To feed?—Partly to feed and partly to kill.

6371. Mr. *Dent.*] Not to send them back again to London?—No; I mean at the time of the Crimean war, for the provision merchants.

6372. Mr. *Carnegie.*] There is a very large provision trade in Aberdeen, is there not?—Yes.

6373. Lord *Naas.*] That is for the preserved meats as well as for the salt meats?—They do not salt it; it is preserved.

6374. Do not they preserve any meat, except beef?—It is all fresh meat and vegetables.

6375. Do they preserve mutton?—Yes.

6376. Pork?—No, no pork; beef, mutton, and veal.

6377. Do you know the price of offal in London as compared with the price of offal in Aberdeen?—Yes.

6378. How does it sell now; does it sell at as high a price in Aberdeen as it does in London?—Yes; I have had many a bullock killed in London.

6379. Have you been able to get as much for the offal in London, or less?—About the same; some of it fetches more in price, and some less; and it comes to about a balance, about the same money.

6380. There is no rise in the price of offal by selling it in London?—No.

6381. In Aberdeen there is no large manufacturing population to consume the offal; it is not consumed fresh, I suppose?—Yes, all fresh.

6382. But by what class of people?—By the general labouring classes of people; they consume the head and the heart; the feet goes to the provision merchants.

6383. Mr. *Holland.*] And the tripes?—The tripes generally go to the provision dealers.

6384. Lord *Naas.*] Do they consume the beef livers?—Yes; the fisher people buy a little of it for bait to catch the fish, but most of them are consumed by the labouring class.

6385. And actually eaten in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

6386. What is the retail price per lb. of the liver?—Twopence.

6387. And the heart?—They generally sell them whole; but when they are cut down they sell them from 2 *d.* to 5 *d.* per lb., according to the demand.

6388. How are the heads sold?—They are sold in halves, or in wholes.

6389. For immediate consumption?—Yes.

6390. Are they consumed fresh?—Some people buy a few, and cut off the fleshy parts, and salt them.

6391. Are the skins manufactured in Aberdeen by the tanners?—No; but we have two markets, and the tanners come from a distance and buy them. We have no tanners in Aberdeen just now.

6392. They all go away green?—Yes.

6393. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Where do they go to principally?—I have heard them speaking of Galashiels and different places through Scotland. Some, I believe, come to London.

6394. Lord *Naas.*] What is done with the blood?—It is sold for manure.

6395. Is it sold for any manufacture?—Some few years ago a man in Glasgow bought the blood, and gave so much per gallon for it, but he dropped it.

6396. I suppose the blood of each beast does not come to much?—It is of no value at all.

6397. *Chairman.*] Do not they make blood manure in your part of the world?—No.

6398. Mr. *Carnegie.*] The manure and the refuse goes altogether from the shambles, does it not?—Yes, the blood and the refuse, and so forth.

6399. Lord *Naas.*] It is sold at so much a load for manure?—Yes.

Mr. JOSEPH NELSON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Nelson.*

6400. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Surveyor, are you not?—Yes, I am a Land Surveyor.

6401. Have you been employed by some gentlemen who are desirous of establishing a company to carry out a market for foreign cattle?—Yes. I may mention that last year I was concerned in promoting the construction of a landing stage at Gravesend, and also in the extension of the North Eastern Railway down to the Isle of Grain; and I had to inquire very much upon the subject of the foreign-cattle trade, and the fish trade, and so on. By that means I became conversant

versant with the whole of the foreign cattle trade.

6402. Have you concerned yourself in endeavouring to maintain what would be a suitable landing place for cattle, with a quarantine ground attached?—I have.

6403. Have you turned your chief attention to the Port of London?—I have.

6404. What have you been endeavouring to find?—I have examined the Thames, on both sides of it, all the way down as far as the mouth of the Medway; and by far the most eligible site we have been able to discover is that of the Isle of Grain.

6405. What have been the requisites you have desired to find?—In the first place, a good landing place, free from the navigation of the River Thames. Last year a landing stage was proposed to be erected at Gravesend. That was objected to by the Thames Conservancy; and they threw the Bill out in the House of Lords. They said it interfered with the navigation of the river where it was very much crowded. However, a Bill was passed for the erection of a landing stage, down at the Isle of Grain, in the Medway, where it was free from any objection of that kind. The Isle of Grain possesses an excellent place for landing cattle; it is very fertile; it comprises about 3,000 acres; the middle part of the island is of good elevation; there is a gravelly soil, with good water. The low land is excellent grazing land, in summer. (*The Witness described the situation of the island to the Committee, on the map.*)

6406. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What railway communication is there?—There is the North Eastern Extension Railway, and that Railway, I believe, will be completed this year. Arrangements are being made with the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, and the South Eastern Railway, as joint proprietors of the line.

6407. Lord *Naas.*] How far is the Isle of Grain from London?—It is near Sheerness, 37 miles from London.

6408. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Does that belong to the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, or do the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company find the money for the completion of it?—No; the South Eastern Company; it is in direct communication with the South Eastern. There is an arrangement almost complete by which the South Eastern guarantee a certain rental for this line, and that will be worked by the South Eastern.

6409. It will be opened as soon as the station is finished, I believe. The line is finished, is it not?—The line is not quite finished yet.

6410. You propose that the foreign cattle market shall be there?—Yes. Why we consider it so eligible is, that the isolation is perfect, and therefore it will be an excellent place for the quarantine of live stock.

6411. Lord *Naas.*] What port will you have there?—It is proposed to erect a landing stage here (*pointing on the map*). An Act of Parliament was passed last year for the erection of a landing stage on the Medway.

6412. *Chairman.*] Has it not the disadvantage of being at the wrong side of the river for the metropolitan market; namely, on the south side of the river?—It is on the south side of the river, but the railways on the south side of the river have much better terminal accommodations in London than the railways on the north side. This line of railway runs almost in a straight line here (*pointing on the map*); it runs to London Bridge and Cannon-street, in connection with the London, Chatham, and Dover. The junction is formed by a line being constructed from Greenwich. Then you get to Ludgate-hill, you go to Charing-cross, and you go to Victoria station, and the connection will be complete.

Mr. *J. Nelson.*
14 June 1866.

6413. In order to get to the Islington market, where would you cross the river; would you propose, if you had this landing place at the Isle of Grain, that the fat animals should be slaughtered there, and sent dead to London?—Of course we propose that, if Parliament should determine to adopt such regulations.

6414. What has been your view in looking out for a site?—The view was, looking out for an eligible site for slaughtering cattle, if necessary, but more especially for quarantining lean stock. We feel certain that lean stock imported from abroad will never obtain admission into the metropolitan market: that there must be two markets, one for the sale of foreign lean stock and the other for the sale of home lean stock.

6415. Lord *Naas.*] How will you get a beast from the Isle of Grain to the Islington market?—That we should not do.

6416. *Chairman.*] Supposing animals were saughtered at the Isle of Grain and had to go to Smithfield or Newgate Market, how would the dead meat get there?—You would go as direct as possible by going by railway, either to Cannon-street, or as I say in this way (*pointing on the map*) forming a connection with a line which is not marked here, of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway, which forms a connection with the South Eastern Railway, near Lewisham. They will go direct from the Isle of Grain into the dead-meat market at London.

6417. Have you examined any other sites down the river?—Yes, I have examined all those sites.

6418. Was your attention called to the debate on the Cattle Plague Bill in the House of Commons?—Yes.

6419. Have you looked at a site, which I then brought before the House, at Plaistow Marshes?—Yes.

6420. Have you considered whether that would do for the purpose?—In any case, wherever you establish it, I fancy it would be so far down the river that it would be necessary to send the cattle or dead meat some distance by the railway. Then what we considered was, what was the most eligible site for the landing stage, where ships could lie with perfect safety. That was one consideration. Then the next was, where land could be had cheap for the buildings, and all necessary purposes for quarantine for lean stock, and extensive establishments carried on. Then another consideration was, isolation, and taking all these together, we came to the conclusion that the Isle of Grain was by far the best and most eligible site of any. We came to that conclusion after talking over the matter with Mr. Eborall, Manager of the South Eastern Railway, Mr. Watkins and others.

6421. Did you examine this site at Plaistow Marsh?—I did not examine it particularly.

6422. With regard to the Isle of Dogs, did you consider the propriety of establishing such a place in the Isle of Dogs?—No, I consider the Isle of Dogs too far up the river; and another

Mr. *J. Nelson.*

14 June 1866.

consideration, I must tell you, is this, we considered that this, although some distance down the river, had direct communication with the railway. This was only an hour and a quarter's distance from the best station in London, and by landing cattle at the Isle of Grain, instead of taking them up to this part of the river, where the detention is very much greater than it is out here, we considered it would be an advantage to land them at the nearest and most eligible landing place, and we considered it would be something like six or seven hours' sail in the sea voyage, and that part of the sea voyage which I say is most deteriorating to cattle.

6423. You think the river voyage is more deteriorating than the sea voyage?—Yes; that I have discussed with all the captains of the steamers, and they say the ventilation at sea is sometimes a little too much, but the moment they get into the river then the cattle begin to suffer; that the cattle have suffered more especially off Blackwall whilst waiting for unloading; they have suffered more during the few hours of the day than during the whole of the voyage. I saw a number of owners of land here, and one gentleman said, "I will place 100 acres of land at your disposal for the purpose of carrying out the new quarantine arrangements for lean stock, or to erect the abattoirs for slaughtering cattle, or whatever you determine upon." The South Eastern Company have, of course, a manifest interest in supporting such a thing as that, and they state that they would be happy to render their assistance in carring out such an arrangement, if Parliament should determine upon it.

6424. There is a company formed for establishing such a place at Thames Haven?—I have heard so.

6425. Have you considered whether that would be a good site?—The railway communication with the great mass of London is much better on this side of the river than on that (*pointing on the map*).

6426. Have you looked at the Thames Haven site?—Yes; I know Thames Haven well.

6427. There is direct communication with it, is there not?—Yes, but its connection with London is not so good as on the south side.

6428. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Does it not run into the Metropolitan Market direct?—Yes. In selecting this site, we went on the assumption that lean cattle would not be sent to the Metropolitan Market.

6429. Mr. *Dent.*] Lean cattle would not want to go into the market at London at all?—No.

6430. Therefore what you want is, a depôt from which your fat cattle could get into the Metropolitan Market?—Having read the Report of the Cattle Plague Commissioners, we went upon the assumption that fat cattle would be slaughtered at the port.

6431. How would the meat get into the dead-meat market better by coming up on that side of the river than on this?—At present, they get to the Cannon-street station, which is the best station in London at the present time for Leadenhall and Newgate Markets.

6432. But those markets are to be done away with, and there is to be a deadmeat market in Smithfield?—By the time the new market is established, the London, Chatham, and Dover, over this line will have immediate access to the dead-meat markets.

6433. There is another line, from the Thames Tunnel, which runs into Smithfield Market? —I do not know what the connection is here, but I assume the southern lines would have a connection with the Metropolitan Cattle Market by that line which has utilised the Thames Tunnel.

6434. That runs to Finsbury, I think?—Yes, but there is a line crossing from the south, which goes by way of Thames Tunnel, and forms a connection with the North London Railway.

6435. Where do you think the lean cattle that come into quarantine are all to go to?—The great portion of these would go to the London dairies.

6436. For milch cows?—Yes.

6437. That is not a very large trade?—I should think it is the bulk of the lean cattle trade.

6438. *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to add?—I do not know that I have anything further to add; I wrote to Lord Granville, pointing this out; and I saw Colonel Harness, and the said Government had considered the question of the Isle of Grain, and that the only objection they saw to it, was its distance from London.

Monday, 18*th June* 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Lord Naas.
Viscount Cranborne.	Mr. Norwood.
Mr. Dent.	Sir M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Edward Egerton.	Mr. Banks Stanhope.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Mr. Alderman Salomons.

MR. HUNT IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. THOMAS RUDKIN, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *T. Rudkin.* 18 June 1866.

6439. *Chairman.*] YOU are Chairman of the Markets Committee of the City of London?—I am.

6440. Will you tell the Committee how that committee is appointed?—It is elected from the Court of Common Council; one member from each ward, and each side of a ward, of the City.

6441. The Markets Committee elect their chairman?—They do.

6442. How long have you been on the Markets Committee?—Eight years.

6443. How long have you been chairman?—I have been chairman now for some six months; I was chairman before, four years ago.

6444. Will you tell us what the duties of your committee are?—We take the entire control and management of the various markets of the Corporation: Newgate Market, Leadenhall Market, Farringdon Market, Billingsgate Market, and Copenhagen Cattle Market, at Islington.

6445. Are you concerned in making bye-laws for the regulation of the markets?—The bye-laws are framed by the committee, submitted to the Court of Common Council, and ultimately placed before the Home Secretary, who gives his sanction before they become law.

6446. Your duties consist of considering what bye-laws should be made, and framing them?—Yes; and also the general detail and management of the markets within the bye-laws.

6447. Do you give your personal attention to see that the bye-laws are complied with?—I do, myself; but it is not the custom for the chairman or members of the Corporation personally to attend to that; it is invariably left to the officers, which I consider to be a very objectionable course.

6448. How frequently do you attend the markets for that purpose?—I attend the Copenhagen Cattle Market every week.

6449. Once a week?—Yes, once a week, and other markets occasionally.

6450. Do you attend the Monday or Thursday market?—Never at any fixed time.

6451. You attend the dead-meat markets occasionally?—I attend the dead-meat market occasionally. I may say I reside in one of the dead-meat markets, Newgate Market, and therefore I am on the spot.

6452. You have some statistics to produce to the Committee?—I have. If you will allow me I will explain them; they are in reference to the number of animals in the market in 1865 and 1866.

6453. Be good enough to give them as you have them there?—I have taken the returns showing the number of animals in the market for eight weeks, commencing on the 16th April and ending on the 10th June 1866, and the corresponding weeks in 1865. I thought it would be desirable that the Committee should have these returns, because since the last Order in Council, admitting animals coming from the country by railway, we have been practically in the same condition as we were in the year 1865.

6454. Have you found them come in in great numbers?—Very nearly; the returns will show you that.

6455. Mr. *Dent.*] The slaughtering within the metropolitan districts has been stopped?—Not to any large extent. In 1865 the number of cattle during the eight weeks was 45,258. In 1866, 36,072. The number of sheep in the year 1865 was 261,665. I have also a return showing the number of animals in the lairs during those periods in 1866 and in 1865. The returns were handed in. (*Vide* Appendix.)

6456. Those are the lairs attached to the market?—Those are the lairs attached to the market; under the Act of Parliament.

6457. A great many animals go to lairs outside the market?—Since the last Order in Council, not so many have gone as before. The fact is, the effect of the last order has been especially to send most of the foreign animals to the Copenhagen Cattle Market.

6458. The radius within which they could get them was restricted?—Yes. I may say, that that Order in Council was brought about mainly through the suggestion of the Corporation, that it was a very objectionable course that animals coming from abroad should be permitted to go into lairs in different parts of the town, so that by such means the inspectors and police have no control over them.

6459. Mr. *Dent.*] Are they in lairs before they go to the market, or between that time and the time at which they are slaughtered?—Before the market. They generally commence coming into the lairs on the Saturday prior to the Monday's market, and remain in the lairs all day, Sunday, and commence going into the market at half-past 12 o'clock on the Monday morning.

6460. Are they principally foreign cattle that have been in the lairs?—We have had a vast number of foreign cattle; but the English cattle also

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

also come, and we have had a great many Irish cattle.

6461. In those returns you have given us their is no distinction shown?—There is no distinction shown at all.

6462. *Chairman.*] Have you any other statistics with regard to the Islington Market?—As to the price of cattle; what is callled the return price, or list price.

6463. What do you mean by "return price"?—The clerk of the markets makes a return to the newspapers.

6464. At Islington?—Yes. When I was here the other day, I thought the Committee might probably want some information on that subject.

6465. We are very anxious to have information on that point?—I thought that would be so, and I am prepared to give you it.

6466. You have no returns for those weeks during which the Act of Parliament was in force, prohibiting the amount of cattle by railway?—I have not; but I can produce it for you.

6467. We should be glad if you would be kind enough to procure it for us. The Act of Parliament came into force on the 20th of February, and the prohibition was continued by Order in Council until the 16th April. If we could get the number during those weeks of last year, we should see what effect that restriction had upon the market?—Yes.

6468. Will you give us the prices of which you have the return?—I have taken these return prices for the corresponding weeks, similar to those returns I have handed in.

6469. Can you give us the prices in the same way for the other weeks?—Yes, and the corresponding prices for the year previously. I find that in the year 1865 the average price of cattle at the market ranged from 3 *s.* 4 *d.* to 5 *s.* per stone, sinking the offal. The offal, of course, belongs to the purchaser.

6470. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] From what date is that?—From the 17th of April to the 10th of June 1865 inclusive. The price of mutton during that period ranged from 3 *s.* 10 *d.* to 6 *s.*, veal from 3 *s.* 8 *d.* to 5 *s.* 3 *d.*, pork from 3 *s.* to 4 *s.* 8 *d.*, lambs 6 *s.* 1 *d.* to 8 *s.* In the corresponding periods in 1866, beef 3 *s.* 6 *d.* to 5 *s.* 2¼ *d.*, an increase of about a farthing per pound; mutton 3 *s.* to 6 *s.*, veal 5 *s.* to 6 *s.* 3 *d.* You see there is a vast increase in the price of veal during that period. Pork 3 *s.* to 4 *s.* 10 *d.*, lambs 6 *s.* to 8 *s.* These are the returns taken officially from the books at Copenhagen Cattle Market, and signed by the clerk of the market.

6471. Mr. *Dent.*] How does he get those prices?—Those prices are obtained by the clerk going to various salesmen in the market, and asking their opinion as to the prices. Of course he does not take the particular statement of one individual; but obtains the best information he can by passing from one to the other, and shifting about from week to week to obtain that information. (*The Returns were handed in.*—Vide *Appendix.*)

6472. *Chairman.*] He gets from the salesmen the prices at which the cattle are sold?—Yes.

6473. How does he form his judgment as to what the dead-meat price is?—That is about the price they are sold at. The salesmen state to him that, to the best of their judgment, that is about the price per stone they have sold the animal at.

6474. I understand the salesman estimates the weight of the animal, and gives him the prices?—Yes.

6475. He depends on the judgment of the salesman?—Yes, clearly so.

6476. We had a witness here on the last occasion, Mr. Robert Herbert, who said he got the prices the live animals fetched, and depended on his own judgment as to estimating the weight of the animals?—It would be impossible for any individual to see every animal to estimate the weight.

6477. The question which was put to him was, "When there is a number of animals sold for so much alive, you, from your own judgment, estimate what the dead meat would be, and then you quote the price of the live animals at so much per stone?—I take it at a fair average; take, for instance, a bullock of 80 stone, which is a very favourite weight, it will fetch, perhaps, 5 *s.* 4 *d.* a stone; but a bullock of equal quality, weighing 120 stone, will not fetch more than 5 *s.*, so that that would make the average top price 5 *s.* 2 *d.*" A previous question was put to him to this effect by me, "When you are going to quote prices on any given market day, what is the course of proceeding?—First of all, I consider the state of trade in Newgate Market, and the supply of dead meat; next, I consider the state of the weather; next, I consider the extent of the supply; next, I consider its quality; next, the number of buyers in the market; and then I go to a practical salesman, that is to say, I go to one salesman who sells Scotch bullocks, to another salesman who sells Devonshire bullocks, to another selling Herefords, and to another selling short-horns, and so forth. Sometimes I find a very wide difference in their opinions respecting the prices; but being a good judge of the matter, as well as them, I do not find any difficulty in arriving at a very correct conclusion in a very short time." Do you think that a person taking the prices in that way can form a correct judgment?—I do not think the question of the price in Newgate Market has anything whatever to do with it. I do not think it can be by any possibility a guide to him. The price in Newgate Market varies in consequence of the weather very frequently; and when the price of meat in Newgate Market is very low, the price of cattle in Copenhagen Market may be very high.

6478. You think it is a better way of getting it, to take the judgment of the salesman as to the prices of the lots which he sells?—Mr. Baldry, the clerk of the market, informed me on Saturday, that he did at times ask the opinion of buyers and of butchers, and he used the best information he could get to make a fair return. He knows the importance of it, and has been told by the Committee the importance of making a return that will bear investigation.

6479. Are the salesmen obliged to make a return to the clerk of the market?—No.

6480. It is entirely voluntary?—Entirely voluntary.

6481. Is it within the official duties of Mr. Baldry to state those prices?—It is not within the official duties of Mr. Baldry to do that.

6482. It has been stated by some of the witnesses here, that the salesmen have an interest in keeping the prices down?—I can easily understand that; I think they have.

6483. You think they have an interest. Do you think, as a fact, that operates to keep the quotations down?—I have no doubt it might to a certain extent; I think possibly it does.

6484. It

6484. It has been suggested to us, that if there was a committee of salesmen and butchers to give the prices jointly, that would correct it. Do you think that would improve the state of things?—I think it would be a very desirable thing.

6485. Do you see your way to such an arrangement?—There can be no objection to it at all. There must be some stringent rule laid down as to the mode in which the decision is to be come to. You must make it so stringent, that it should go according to the opinion of the majority of the persons who are appointed, and that their decision should be final, or they would never come to any decision at all.

6486. I suppose your markets committee could lay down such a rule?—I think we could, but I think it would not be desirable for us to do so.

6487. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Do you think people at this time of day would submit to that, and that the markets committee, or any other committee would be able to fix prices for them?—I do not understand that that is the question that is put.

6488. It comes to the same thing. How could you make a person buying a bullock tell us the price of it. If I were a salesman, how could you compel me to return to you what I bought a bullock for, or sold a bullock at?—I have long since been of opinion that the returns of prices for the dead-meat market were very fallacious as we have seen them in the paper from time to time.

6489. *Chairman.*] We are told that presses wrongly in two ways; first of all, the butchers say that their customers are constantly complaining of the prices they charge, because they see the prices quoted lower in the paper. You think there is something in that, do you?—I think that is because the public at large do not understand the mode in which the trade is carried on. A person going to Newgate Market and buying a carcase of beef, had to buy all the inferior portions of the animal with it; he buys the entire carcase. The fact is, that for the last six months the prime parts of the beef have been fetching a very enormous price above the wholesale in Newgate Market; and, in fact, I may illustrate that statement by stating that, to my own knowledge, this morning one salesmen informed me that out of some 50 or 60 carcases of beasts he had sold this morning, selling the whole of the hind quarters, he had sold none at a less price than 6*s.* 8*d.* per stone, and that is 10*d.* per pound for the hind quarters. Of course we know that at the west end of the town that class of the community residing there will insist on having prime joints. The rinderpest caused an immense number of inferior animals to be sent into the market, and those cut down the price of the inferior quality of meat. Therefore, the clods and stickings, and shins, and thin flanks, and thick flanks of the best animals were reduced in price to a considerable extent, because they had to buy the carcase at an enhanced price when they wanted to supply the best customers with the prime joints.

6490. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What is the wide difference between healthy animals which would command the best trade, and those inferior animals that would go to the inferior trade?—There is this difference, that the one animal, in all probability, has not been half fed, and may have had some sickness.

6491. I mean, what is the difference in price?—The difference in price ranges from 3*s.* to 5*s.* 2*d.*, as the list I have handed in to-day shows.

6492. And the dead animals?—From 3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.*, or from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.*

6493. Double?—Yes.

6494. Do you mean to say that one animal, a healthy animal, may be worth 5*d.*, and another worth 10*d.* a pound?—Yes, clearly so; the whole carcase, and each animal perfectly healthy.

6495. *Chairman.*] When we see these quotations in the papers, independent of the difference between what the butcher charges a retail customer, and the prices quoted in the papers, the butcher gets in the offal, does he not?—If he buys the animal alive; but I am now speaking of the price at the dead-meat market.

6496. Mr. *Norwood.*] Do not the salesmen issue prices current of their own, market advices to their customers?—They do; but they are very fallacious.

6497. Do not these large salesmen issue a printed circular after every market, informing their customers in the country their range of prices in the day?—Do you refer to the dead-meat salesmen, or the cattle salesmen?

6498. To both?—I do not think either of them do; I think the business of the Copenhagen Fields Market is conducted on a different principle to the business of Newgate Market.

6499. *Chairman.*] The cattle salesmen only send a sold note to their customers?—They send a sold note, and also put the name of the person to whom they have sold the animal upon that note. The meat salesman does not; he returns what price he thinks fit.

6500. With regard to the cattle salesman, he does not accompany the sold note with any list of the prices in the market?—No, certainly not.

6501. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Then you would say, there is at least a uniform variation every market day for dead meat, according to the quality of it, of 2*d.* or 3*d.* a pound?—Clearly so; more than that.

6502. *Chairman.*] I called your attention to a point as regards the complaints of the butchers; we are also told that it is against the interests of the senders of cattle from the country, and that in the prices quoted the salesmen keep down the quotations in order to prevent those who consign from the country knowing the state of the market?—I should think there would be something in that, were it not for the fact, that the salesman returns the name of the person to whom he has sold the animal; that is, of course, a protection to the country sender.

6503. If they take the trouble, they can ascertain whether the salesman returns the real prices?—Clearly so.

6504. Of course, there may be collusion between the buyer and the salesman?—There may be.

6505. Do you think there is, as a rule?—I am afraid in all these businesses there is something of the sort going on; I have no knowledge, but I have a very strong opinion there is.

6506. I suppose, if the cattle are killed in the country, and sent up in the shape of sides, the man can tell exactly what his beast weighs, and has more opportunity of ascertaining and getting the correct price?—He has no opportunity of knowing what the price is, none whatever.

6507. He has an opportunity of knowing what the weight is?—Yes, he has an opportunity of knowing the weight, but no opportunity whatever

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

of knowing the price; he is entirely at the mercy of the salesmen.

6508. In Newgate Market?—Yes; I think that is a very objectionable course, and that some steps should be taken to remedy it.

6509. Now, you say it is a very objectionable state of things; will you suggest a remedy for it?—I think that the same custom that obtains in the Copenhagen Fields Cattle Market should also exist in the dead-meat market at Newgate, that the salesman should be compelled to name the person to whom he sells the animal, or the carcase, in his sold note.

6510. Is that part of your regulations?—We have no power of laying down such a rule.

6511. Why do they do it in one case, and not in the other?—It is a system that has been in existence, I believe, since the memory of man; they have always done so.

6512. It is the custom of the trade, in fact?—It is the custom of the trade.

6513. And it is not the custom in the dead-meat market?—It is not.

6514. How would you enforce such a practice in the dead-meat market?—By Act of Parliament.

6515. Is it not in the power of the consignors to require it?—It is, if they think fit.

6516. Every consignor might say, "I will not consign to you, unless you send me the name of the purchaser"?—He might do so.

6517. Why is it not done?—I suppose he feels satisfied with the return of the price that he gets.

6518. You think if he knew the facts, that he would not be satisfied?—In some instances I think not.

6519. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is it not competent for the City to make their own regulations?—We have no means of making bye-laws. At the present moment, our market is in rather a curious position; we have a chartered market, and there are also houses in the immediate vicinity over which we have no control, which have been permitted, from time to time, in consequence of the growth of the market, to exist as salesmen's shops; we have no control whatever over them.

6520. Surely the City might be allowed, by Act of Parliament or prescription, to levy a certain toll?—We were allowed to do so; but those tolls are in abeyance.

6521. Are no tolls paid in your market?—There are no tolls directly paid.

6522. Is there any payment at all?—Yes, but it is in substitution of the ordinary tolls that were levied under the charter.

6523. *Chairman.*] Are you speaking of the market at Copenhagen Fields?—No, I am speaking of Newgate and Leadenhall Markets.

6524. What tolls are paid now in Newgate Market and Leadenhall Market?—In Newgate Market, I think, about 30*s.* per week; and in Leadenhall, from 12*s.* to 15*s.* I may say this: originally, the charter gave us the power to levy a toll; so much toll "per pad," or "pack," and so much per hamper of meat which was sent to the market.

6525. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You say you have the power; how have you the power?—By the charter.

6526. Was that charter ever confirmed by Act of Parliament?—I am not aware.

6527. Surely you know the regulations of your own City?—Not sufficiently to answer that question.

6528. You have never had those tolls disputed, I suppose?—Not in my time.

6529. Have they been disputed at any time?—I believe they have been.

6530. Do you know what remedy was taken by the City?—I believe the remedy was this, that they were commuted. Instead of levying the tolls persons were obliged to pay a certain stated sum per week.

6531. *Chairman.*] Was that for stallage?—That was in lieu of tolls.

6532. How do you take it; from every person who occupies a certain stall in the market?—We let the stalls in Newgate Market at per week, to certain individuals. They pay a stallage or rent for their stall, and in addition to that some of them pay; not all, there are a few who pay, but the majority do not; and I believe, that in point of fact, if the Corporation were to insist upon it they would find they could not levy it; it is a nominal amount paid by old tenants, and having paid it for some time they still continue to pay it.

6533. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What is the nature of the regulations allowed in the new market?—Under the Metropolitan Meat and Poultry Acts we are allowed to levy ¼*d.* for every 21 lbs. of meat that is taken into the market.

6534. *Chairman.*] Is that the Act under which Smithfield Market will be held?—That is so.

6535. When you get to the new market you will be able under the Act of Parliament to charge all these dues?—Yes.

6536. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is the due you have mentioned the only due, or is there a stallage besides that?—Yes, there is a rent of 1*d.* per foot per week.

6537. *Chairman.*] Under what authority do you levy these substituted dues?—Under charter. I believe actions were brought by the Corporation of London to enforce those tolls, but they were opposed, and the result was that a compromise was come to, whereupon these individuals agreed to pay a certain sum per week in lieu of tolls.

6538. Do you know the date of this charter?—I do not.

6539. You do not know whether it has been confirmed by a recent Act of Parliament?—It has not been confirmed by a recent Act of Parliament.

6540. Do you consider that under the old charter the Corporation are in a position to enforce these rates?—I do not. I think they are in abeyance in consequence of desuetude.

6541. I understand you to say that in addition to the sales within the precincts of the market, there are salesmen outside over whom you have no control or any pretence of control?—Yes, that is so, precisely.

6542. This unsatisfactory state of things will be entirely remedied when you get your new Smithfield Market, by having the provisions of an Act of Parliament saying what you can do and what you cannot?—Yes.

6543. What prospect is there of this new market being established?—The ground is now being excavated for the railway station to be completed under the market. As soon as that is done the Corporation of London will be in a position and perfectly ready to commence the construction of the market. I may say that at the last meeting of the Market Improvement Committee the desirability

sirability of sending to some 20 or 25 contractors to send in tenders for the purpose of erecting the market was under consideration.

6544. In what space of time do you think it possible the market will be opened?—I think this midsummer two years.

6545. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Have you any idea of the rent which the Corporation of London get out of those tolls in the markets that at present exist?—I think it is about 30*s.* per week in Newgate Market, and from 12*s.* to 15*s.* per week in Leadenhall.

6546. We want you to furnish us with the total of that?—I will do so.

6547. It is a very material point that the consumers should know exactly what the price of their meat in the market is. Have you, from your experience, the power of suggesting any means by which accurate information on that subject could be published?—I think the best means would be for the Corporation to be empowered to cause an exact return to be made and published in the newspapers.

6548. Do you apprehend there could be any objection made on the part of the salesmen to furnishing such information?—I do not. Even supposing there should be an objection raised on their part, there would be no difficulty in obtaining the information independently of them.

6549. There should be some person whose duty it is to furnish it?—I think the clerk and collector of the market should be the person to make the return, subject, of course, to the control of the Corporation.

6550. Do you know the system that is adopted in other public markets throughout England, which are held either under charter, or by Act of Parliament?—I do not.

6551. Would you be able to supply us with the exact amount for the last two or three years of what the City of London received in the shape of tolls either for stallages or anything that comes into the market?—I should be able to do so.

6552. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I do not know whether we have clearly got from you what would be the new rates in the market?—The rent will be 1*d.* per foot superficial, and the toll will be ¼*d.* for every 21 lbs. of meat or provisions taken into the market.

6553. Are the regulations, with regard to the new market, very much like the regulations in the old, that they will be limited to wholesale dealers?—That is not decided. It is a moot question whether there shall be a retail market in the after-part of the day, as well as a wholesale market in the morning.

6554. In the earlier part of the day it is to be entirely a wholesale market?—I think it would be so, but that is only my own opinion. It is not decided at present.

6555. I was contradicted by one of the witnesses, some time ago, as to my impression about the live market. Is not the best standard market early in the morning before 10 o'clock; that is to say, for the live market in Copenhagen Fields?—Do you mean for purchasing, or for sale?

6556. I mean altogether. Is it not the object of the Corporation that that market should be as early as possible?—I may say that that suits itself entirely to the views of the salesmen. They sometimes sell their things early in the morning, and sometimes late in the day, in accordance with the advice they get as to the price they ought to obtain.

6557. I thought there was some desire on the part of the Markets Committee that the markets should be held very early in the morning, so that the cattle should be got away as early as possible?—As far as I understand the views of the Corporation, we have had no desire for anything of the kind. The only view we have had is, that the market is to open for sales at four o'clock on the Monday morning, and remains open until two o'clock on the Monday afternoon.

6558. There are no regulations with regard to sale?—No, it is perfectly competent for them to sell animals at any time during those hours.

6559. Practically, when do the heaviest sales take place?—I should say from 8 to 10 in the morning. I may say that the market is very much later than it was some 10 or 15 years back, when it was held in Smithfield. In Smithfield it was a common custom to see everything sold by torchlight; now the custom is to see the market at its density at 9 or 10 in the morning.

6560. Mr. *Dent.*] With respect to the returns in prices, both of live and dead meat, I take it there is a considerable competition amongst the salesmen in business?—There is.

6561. If consignors of either live cattle or carcases are dissatisfied with the prices, they would easily change from one to the other?—Yes; it would be simply out of the frying-pan into the fire.

6562. You have no decrease of consignment of dead meat, or of the consignment of live stock?—We have no decrease in consignment of dead meat, but we have a slight falling off in the consignment of live stock.

6563. That does not seem as if there was much dissatisfaction on the part of the Commissioners, with the prices they have made?—My view of the case is this: that the consignors of meat are entirely at the mercy of the salesmen.

6564. The Aberdeen and north countrymen are not usually considered blind to their own interests?—No; I believe they are alive to it now, and are taking steps to remedy the evil which they have admitted to exist for some time; in fact, always.

6565. Do you think it would be really possible to make it compulsory on salesmen to return the prices obtained?—Not necessarily: but I think it might be compulsory to make them return the names of the persons to whom they have sold the carcases.

6566. You say the custom is to do that in one branch of the trade and not in the other?—Yes.

6567. Do not you think the custom of the trade is much more likely to regulate it than legislative enactment?—Possibly so. I am opposed to legislative enactment to enforce any regulations in a trade, if possible.

6568. You would not recommend interference between buyer and seller by law in any way?—No, possibly not; it ought to regulate itself.

6569. There would be more chance of doing so in the new market than in the old market?—Yes; circumstances will be altered when we get to the new market.

6570. There will be a greater opening to the trade?—Yes. I think it will be much better for the person who consigns the meat.

6571. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is there not this difference between the Newgate Market and the Metropolitan Market, that the salesman in the Metropolitan Market is an agent between buyer and seller, and that in the dead-meat market he is only doing his own business, or very frequently?—

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

frequently?—Yes; and so do the salesmen in the Copenhagen Market.

6572. Mr. *Norwood.*] The Honourable Member for Scarborough has brought before your mind several questions which I intended to put to you. You do not seriously imagine that you could compel dealers in any produce, whether cattle or anything else, to declare their prices by Act of Parliament, or by the regulation of a Corporation?—I have never made such a proposition.

6573. I thought there was a suggestion of the kind; that you would compel them, as far as the Corporation was concerned, to disclose their prices?—Not to disclose their prices; but to return the name of the purchaser.

6574. Do not you think the best way of achieving the object would be this; that the authorities of the Corporation should endeavour, by friendly negotiation, to bring buyers and sellers together, and get them voluntarily to agree to form a committee for that purpose; do not you think that is the only way in which correct prices could be obtained?—I know the trade so well, that I see immense difficulties in the way of getting anything like an opinion from them. There would be such a divergence of opinion between the buyer and the seller that they never would be able to settle it.

6575. Do you know of any trade of any kind that exists in England, where there are anything like compulsory arrangements for the declaration of prices. Do you know of any place where that exists, except upon the Stock Exchange?—I have no knowledge with reference to that.

6576. Do you know of any trade carried on in England, except the Stock Exchange, where there is anything like compulsory arrangement as to declaration of prices?—I do not.

6577. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] As to prices, have you ever compared the prices given by some of the London papers, such as the "Times," and others, with the prices given by what may be called the mere agricultural papers, such as the "Mark-lane Express," and so forth. Have you seen any greater justice or greater truth in any one return given in any one paper than in the other.

6578. Are you yourself aware of what the system of giving in the prices in the larger country markets, such as Wakefield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and so forth?—I have no knowledge on the subject.

6579. What do you think in your opinion is the earliest hour at which a fair statement of prices could be given in the markets?—Do you refer to the dead-meat market, or the live-meat market?

6580. The dead-meat market?—I should say nine o'clock in the morning.

6581. That is not too early?—It is not too early.

6582. And as regards the live-meat market?—I should say 12 o'clock.

6583. Twelve is the earliest hour in the one case, and nine in the other?—Yes; because, of course, the market may drag, and if it drags, that drag would tell.

6584. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Would prices be of any use whatever, unless you put the quality at the same time?—The prices are returned for the various qualities, and they range from 3*s.* up to 6*s.*

6585. From 3*s.* up to 6*s.* is a pretty wide range. Would it be of any use to a man to know that the prices ranged from 3*s.* to 6*s.*?—I do not think it is a guide to the consumer. I think it is a guide to a man who sends his meat to London. He knows the quality of the meat he has sent to London, and therefore is the best judge of the price he is likely to get for it.

6586. *Chairman.*] You are acquainted with the slaughter-house system in the City, are you not?—I am.

6587. You are acquainted with most of the private slaughter-houses in the City?—Yes; and I may say I am tolerably well acquainted with the slaughter-houses throughout the metropolis generally.

6588. What is your opinion as to the desirability of doing away with all private slaughter-houses within the city, or at all events within a certain radius of the dead-meat market?—I say at once, it will be a very desirable thing.

6589. What are your grounds for that opinion?—On the score of public health, and the great desire there is now to put a stop to the driving of cattle through the streets of London.

6590. Do you think that the present slaughter-houses are prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants?—I only speak of course, and form my opinion, from the opinions of medical professors, who have expressed their opinions on those subjects. I am not so strongly opposed to living near a slaughter-house myself as some people may be; I do not see the objection to it, which possibly the general public may have.

6591. Do you think that the nuisance of animals being driven through the streets of London is very great?—I think that is the strong objection.

6592. Supposing that all these private slaughter-houses were done away with, where would you have the public slaughter-houses?—I do not think it is desirable to do away with private slaughter-houses. I may say that I am taking the view that it is necessary to feed the people of the metropolis as well as to protect their health, and to regulate the traffic of the streets.

6593. I thought you said in one of your previous answers, you thought it desirable to do away with the private slaughter-houses?—So I do; but I do not think it is practicable.

6594. Then, what would you propose?—I would propose that every retail butcher should be permitted to have a slaughter-house attached to his premises, and that he should have that slaughter-house licensed to slaughter as many animals as he would be likely to consume in his own business. It should be licensed, say, to slaughter 10 head of cattle in a week, and 40 sheep, or anything that he might be likely to sell in his shop in which it was situated.

6595. Why would you regulate him as to the numbers you would allow him to slaughter?—Because I do not think there is any necessity for private slaughter-houses to be in existence in London, simply for the purpose of carcase butchers. I think carcase butchers are altogether in a different category to those who are simply retail butchers.

6596. I understand you think that carcase butchers ought to be made to slaughter at public slaughter-houses?—I am of opinion that carcase butchers ought to be compelled to slaughter at public slaughter-houses.

6597. But that retail butchers should be allowed to slaughter at their own slaughter-houses?—I think it is absolutely necessary, under existing circumstances. I know that in Paris slaughter-

ter-houses do not exist privately, but everything is carried out at public places.

6598. Are you well acquainted with Paris abattoirs?—I know something of them.

6599. Are you able to tell us whether great inconvenience arises to the trade or the inhabitants of Paris by reason of that law?—I believe not.

6600. Then why do you think that could not be done in London if it is able to be done in Paris?—On account of English custom. An Englishman likes to carry on his business as he has been in the habit of carrying it on hitherto. Englishmen do not like breaking through old rules and prejudices.

6601. We quite understand that it would be against the wishes of the trade; but would there be any practical difficulty in it?—I think there would be in the summer time. Londoners eat much more meat than Parisians; and I think the supply of meat to the metropolis is of a vast deal more importance than the supply of meat to Paris.

6602. Supposing you allowed these private slaughter-houses, you would then not get rid of the nuisance of the animals being driven through the streets of London, so far as the retail business is concerned?—Not so far as that is concerned, but it would mitigate the evil to an enormous extent.

6603. Can you give us an idea of the number of animals that are slaughtered by retail butchers and carcase butchers?—I cannot give you any data, but I can give you an opinion. My opinion is, that about half the number of animals that are slaughtered in London, are slaughtered by carcase butchers.

6604. Do you mean in the metropolis, or the City?—In the metropolis.

6605. Is the greater part of the meat of the animals killed by the carcase butchers exposed in Newgate Market and Leadenhall Market?—It is; of course some of it is sold at the different slaughter-houses where it is slaughtered. They get customers from the country to go to the slaughter-houses and purchase them.

6606. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Are there any carcase butchers in London, properly so called. When I say London, I exclude Deptford and Greenwich?—Yes, an immense number of carcase butchers.

6607. *Chairman.*] Supposing you required all the carcase butchers to slaughter at public slaughter-houses, where would you place those slaughter-houses?—At the Copenhagen Cattle Market.

6608. You think that would be enough for the whole of the metropolis?—I do.

6609. You think there would be no occasion to have any on the other side of the river?—I think there would be no occasion to have any on the other side of the river.

6610. Nor out in the suburbs?—Certainly not; I go upon this principle. I think an animal, when it is slaughtered, may be just as easily carted from the Copenhagen Cattle Market to any other part of London, as from any other part of London to the district it is required to be sent.

6611. You contemplate railway communication between Copenhagen Fields and Smithfield Market?—Yes; and that would communicate with every other district of London.

6612. Would there be a provision for a siding to go into the slaughter-houses in Copenhagen Fields?—Yes.

6613. So that there would be less shifting and handling of the meat?—A great deal less than there is at the present time.

6614. Mr. *Carnegie.*] The suggestion that there should be one public slaughter-house at the Copenhagen Cattle Market is founded upon the supposition that the retail butchers would still have their private slaughter-houses?—Yes, it is on that supposition.

6615. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] What do you call a carcase butcher?—A person who buys an animal, either in the country or at the Copenhagen Cattle Market, and slaughters it for the purpose of sending it to the public market to be sold wholesale. He does not slaughter it for the purpose of selling it to the consumer direct.

6616. *Chairman.*] Do the carcase butchers ever cut up their sides into joints?—Not into joints, only into quarters; and that is simply for the convenience of transit.

6617. Nothing less than quarters?—No.

6618. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Tell us whether there are any carcase butchers except those at Aldgate and Whitechapel?—Yes.

6619. Where?—There are carcase butchers at the Copenhagen Cattle Market now; there are also carcase butchers at Newgate Market. There is a slaughter-house at Rose-street, Newgate Market, now, where they slaughter from 12 to 20 beasts during three days of the week.

6620. Are there any cattle slaughtered in Newgate Market; anything larger than calves?—Yes.

6621. There are no carcase butchers, except at Newgate Market and Whitechapel?—Yes, there are slaughter-houses at other parts of the City, and in other parts of London as well.

6622. Where?—In Maiden-lane there are slaughter-houses.

6623. Are these slaughter-houses belonging to carcase butchers?—Yes.

6624. Who sell the animals wholesale?—Yes.

6625. Maiden-lane is Newgate Market, is it not?—No; Maiden-lane runs from the King's Cross Railway Station up to the Copenhagen Cattle Market.

6626. It is still close by, is it not?—No.

6627. At all events, it is London?—It is in the vicinity.

6628. *Chairman.*] Is it your opinion that it is desirable to have one central dead-meat market for the metropolis?—Yes, I think so; in fact, any attempt to divide the markets would fail; any division of markets always does.

6629. That is as regards the dead-meat markets; are you of the same opinion with regard to the live cattle market?—I am.

6630. You would object to having a division between the foreign cattle and English cattle in the market?—I think so.

6631. We have been told by most witnesses who have been examined, that a different class of customers purchase the foreign cattle; is that your opinion?—No; I think the best butchers in London now purchase foreign cattle; of course they also purchase English.

6632. The West-end butchers whom we have had here have denied that they purchase foreign cattle; you think they do?—A great many of the French cattle that come now are very prime, and they are purchased, as I know, by West-end butchers.

6633. Supposing that there was an enactment that foreign cattle should be slaughtered down

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

by the river side, do you think the foreign trade would suffer?—I do. I may say in reference to the foreign animals coming to London, I think that unless foreign animals are permitted to come much in the same manner as they do now, it would be practically impossible to feed the metropolis.

6634. Supposing that all the foreign cattle were slaughtered at the port of London, and that there was railway communication direct from the place at which they were slaughtered to Smithfield, do you think there would be any difficulty then in feeding the metropolis?—I do.

6635. Why could you not then have the same supply of meat as you have under present circumstances?—Because the retail butchers would be not able to purchase the animals alive and slaughter them on their own premises; and at this time of the year that is absolutely necessary.

6636. The retail butchers buy most of these foreign cattle?—The retail butchers do buy foreign cattle.

6637. Can you tell us whether the carcase butchers or the retail butchers buy most?—I should think it is very equally divided. The contractors, as a rule, buy foreign animals.

6638. With regard to the interest of the contractors, is there any objection to their being slaughtered at the port of landing?—I think it would be much better for the contractor to be enabled to purchase his animals in a market where there is free and open competition. He purchases them much better than he would do if he were simply to go down to the water side, where there are no English animals in competition with the foreign.

6639. Do you think the foreign animals ought to be allowed to come freely into the metropolitan market?—I do. I think the metropolitan market should be what it represents itself to be, namely, a market for the supply of animals for food; for the supply of animals for slaughter, not for store animals at all.

6640. Would you have all the animals that come into the metropolitan market marked for slaughter?—I should. I believe, looking over the matter as to the mode of marking animals which should be permitted to pass into the country, if bought by butchers or contractors, I should suggest they should be marked with a tar or pitch brand, with the date at which they pass away from the market, and that they should not be permitted to live more than seven days.

6641. Should they be marked under the superintendence of the market authorities?—Yes.

6642. You would allow no store animals to come into the London market?—I would not; it would be a very objectionable thing altogether.

6643. Not even sheep?—Not even sheep; no store things of any description.

6644. You would confine the metropolitan market to the fat stock market?—Clearly so.

6645. You propose that all animals should be branded, and that the animals that passed into the country should all be killed within a week?—Yes; as to all animals for consumption in the metropolitan district, there would be no necessity for branding them.

6646. Would you allow the cattle so branded in the metropolitan market to be exposed for sale in country markets?—Certainly not.

6647. You would only allow them to be sold to go to the slaughter-houses, either in the metropolis or in the country?—Yes.

6648. Have you considered the question of subjecting store animals, coming from abroad, to quarantine?—I think there should be a quarantine established at the port of landing for store animals, and a market established also, to which farmers and others desiring to buy stock should be able to go and purchase from the quarantine.

6649. Have you considered what would be the best site for such a thing?—I have not, indeed; the nearest port, I should imagine; the port most convenient for landing.

6650. You would have the same rule at all ports?—I think so.

6651. Would you limit the number of ports to those ports at which foreign animals could be landed?—I think it would be better to limit them, and district the seaports out, so as to permit animals coming from abroad to be landed at that port where the quarantine was established.

6652. What regulations would you make with regard to fat animals about to be landed at ports other than London?—I think the same plan would work well. There is a market at almost every place where there is a landing; I would allow them to go into that market to be sold, and, if permitted, to pass out of the town or place at which they were landed; they should then be branded similar to those which left the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

6653. You said you should like to see the metropolitan market confined to the sale of fat stock; but that would not be possible at all these ports of landing throughout the kingdom, would it?—I think for that purpose it could not; but then I look upon the Copenhagen Cattle Market as very much larger in extent, and more liable to spread disease than any other smaller market.

6654. But the same reason that would require store animals to be kept out of the London market would also require some regulations to be made requiring fat animals from abroad to be prevented from meeting store animals from the country in that particular market?—I apprehend it would.

6655. What would be your proposal with regard to that?—I have not thought of that branch of the subject; I have confined my thoughts on that subject to what would be desirable in the metropolis.

6656. Do you know anything about the supply of milch cows for London?—The supply of milch cows, as I understand now, is this, they come to London from all parts of the country.

6657. There are a great number of milch cows come from abroad?—Yes.

6658. You would require all these animals to be quarantined?—Certainly; I think the system under which the cows are purchased to restock the cowsheds is very objectionable.

6659. What is the system, and what are the objections to it?—Animals coming from abroad now, come, we will say, to Blackwall, and they may come over in the vessel with the animals to pass up to the cattle market; oxen and cows come in the same vessel; they are taken away from the wharves at the water side, and the cows are taken direct to the cowsheds. The fat cattle are brought to the Copenhagen Cattle Market; they are there sold and slaughtered within a given time. Possibly the germs of the disease, if there be any of it, may not have shown themselves prominently before the animal is slaughtered; but in the case of the cows, they are not kept a sufficiently long time when they land to ascertain whether there is really any disease in the cow or not;

not; they pass from the wharves to the cowsheds, and if they have the germs of the disease in them they spread the disease; whereas if they come from the Metropolitan Cattle Market there are no means of their doing so, because they are slaughtered, under the recent Order in Council, within four days.

6660. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I think you said that animals for slaughter might be sent from the metropolitan market to country butchers?—Yes.

6661. If they were to go by rail, how would you prevent infection remaining in the trade?—I would not permit any truck to be used for any other purpose except for the conveyance of cattle from the market to the butcher, and the railway companies would be quite ready to fall into that view if a slightly increased price was paid them.

6662. You say trucks should never be used for any other purpose?—They should never be used for any other purpose; they should be kept entirely for the purpose of conveying fat animals from the market to the butchers, and the same trucks should not be used for any other animals. It is the same thing that exists now under a recent Order in Council. Trucks are compelled to be kept distinct for bringing animals from the water side up to Copenhagen Cattle Market.

6663. Supposing one of these trucks to be full of animals fit for slaughter which might have the germs of infection in them, and it was to run into a station and remain standing by the side of trucks with store animals in them, what would happen then?—In all probability it would give them the disease.

6664. You cannot see any way of preventing the disease but the plan you suggest?—I do not think it is possible to lay down any system absolutely to prevent it if you permit animals to move at all.

6665. Is there any way in which country butchers could supply themselves without buying in the metropolitan markets at all?—Not with foreign animals.

6666. But with any animals?—Yes, with English animals.

6667. If there was a foreign market held at the water side, could they not kill them there, and have them sent down 20 or 30 miles by rail?—It might be done by the establishment of slaughter-houses at the water side.

6668. I think you recommended that carcase butchers should kill in the metropolitan markets?—Yes, in the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

6669. And that retail butchers should kill at home?—Yes.

6670. Might not the same arrangement be entered into with regard to a separate foreign market?—As far as regards the carcase butchers it might.

6671. Could not this be done: a foreign market being at the water side, could not carcase butchers have their own slaughter-house, and kill there?—Yes.

6672. Could not also some system be organised by which the retail butchers might be allowed to take the cattle from the foreign market straight to their shops?—Yes.

6673. Would not that diminish the risk of infection?—I do not think so. I do not think the disease is more prevalent among foreign animals than among English. I think it is altogether a mistake to imagine it. Our experience at the Copenhagen Cattle Market shows us it is not so.

6674. Are you aware that nearly the whole of England were poisoned by the Metropolitan Cattle Market?—I am.

6675. Are you aware that the whole of England have great objections to being poisoned again?—I do not think it arose from the foreign animals.

6676. Can you enter into the feeling of the whole of England, that having once been poisoned by the meat from the metropolitan market they object to be poisoned again?—Quite so. I have as great a desire to put a stop to it as any man can have.

6677. Do you think your method would be effectual, namely, allowing animals to be sent to butchers in the country from the Metropolitan Cattle Market?—I think it would be the most effectual system, taking into consideration the absolute necessity there is of feeding the people of England.

6678. I thought you said you confined yourself to feeding the people of London?—Well, feeding the people of London, if you will have it that way.

6679. Keeping it to that, what do you say then?—I may say this, if you will permit me for one moment: London now, as far as the supply of meat is concerned, comprises a radius of 100 miles round it, and it has been so for many years.

6680. You are anxious to include 100 miles round London under the term "London," are you?—Yes, so far as the supply of meat is concerned.

6681. Am I to understand that people within 100 miles cannot supply themselves unless they buy in the metropolitan market?—I do not say that, but they do supply themselves from that source now.

6682. Do you think it of vital importance to the feeding of the people 100 miles round London, that they should purchase in the metropolitan market?—No, I simply adopt the system that already exists. You may establish another market elsewhere.

6683. Would it not be perfectly possible to feed all the people 100 miles around London, without their coming into the metropolitan market at all?—Clearly so.

6684. I presume a considerable portion of the meat that comes into the metropolitan market comes from 100 miles round London?—Vastly more than 100 miles round London. Very little I should say comes from within 100 miles.

6685. There is a certain quantity?—A very small proportion, I should say.

6686. Are there no sheep?—There are sheep, but a very small number.

6687. You mentioned the quarantining of these Dutch cows. You said you would advise that they should be quarantined. Can you suggest where that should be made?—I should say at the port of landing.

6688. Do you mean at the wharves?—There is no necessity for landing them at the wharves at which they are now landed, at all.

6689. You think there might be some fresh places?—Yes, I think Thames Haven or Harwich; at Thames Haven especially there is plenty of room for the purpose of erecting any quarantine, and for the purpose of having a market for these store cattle.

 6690. Supposing

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

6690. Supposing the same vehicle carried a lot of fat stock and a lot of cows, would you suggest that they should first land their cows at Thames Haven and take their fat stock on?—I should suggest they should all be landed there, the fat stock brought up to Copenhagen Fields by railway, and special trucks provided for that purpose.

6691. You would suggest a new landing place?—It is not a new landing-place, that is the one that is now in existence. I would do away with the landing-place at Blackwall and City wharf.

6692. You do not approve of Brown's Wharf?—I do not think there is any necessity for it at all. It is needlessly crowding the streets for no purpose.

6693. They might be landed lower down?—Yes, and brought up by railway; that is the system that is being worked to a considerable extent.

6694. Would it not simplify everything if, having such a place for landing as Thames Haven, you had a foreign cattle market?—That would simplify the matter, so far as the foreign animals are concerned, but I think the difficulty would be this. You have to consider the fact that butchers have to go to the markets to buy the things. The retail butcher first of all has to come to Newgate Market to buy his meat; he then has to go to the Copenhagen Fields Cattle Market, and to drive something like three and a half miles or four miles to buy his live stock; if he also has to go down to Thames Haven the same morning, or any other morning in a week, for the purchase of foreign animals, you would occupy the time of the man to such an extent that he would not be able to carry on his business at home, but he would have to employ an agent for the purpose of buying his live animals.

6695. There would be a railway from the new Smithfield Market up to Copenhagen Fields?—Yes.

6696. There naturally would be a railway from Copenhagen Market down to Thames Haven?—There is now.

6697. How long would it take to go from one place to another by rail; 10 minutes?—Much more than 10 minutes. You could not get from Copenhagen Fields to Thames Haven under an hour or an hour and a half.

6698. Is there no place short of Thames Haven where you could have a cattle market near London?—Yes; I have no doubt there are plenty of places within an easy distance of London.

6699. Mr. *Norwood.*] North Woolwich?—Yes, North Woolwich would do; there is no doubt of that at all.

6700. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Would there be any difficulty in getting by rail in a quarter of an hour from Newgate Market to the nearest point where you might have a live meat market? Certainly not a quarter of an hour.

6701. In 20 minutes?—Certainly not. It would take you a quarter of an hour to get to the railway station now, considering the crowded state of the streets.

6702. When you are on the railway, I mean?—Probably it would.

6703. Then you would naturally get by rail all the way from this foreign market straight up to Copenhagen Fields, and that would not take you long?—Yes. Suppose the case of a man who goes to the Copenhagen Market. He finds that the English market is so dear he cannot buy anything; he must run down and buy some foreign things. He runs there, and he finds them rather dearer than they were at the other place, and he has to go back again. If you have them all on the same spot there would be no practical difficulty.

6704. I suppose there is a danger of infection arising from the foreign animals?—I think the danger arises more from English than foreign.

6705. You think it was started in England and communicated itself to the Continent?—I do not know how it came to England, but I believe the first animal we had in the Copenhagen Market with the disease was an English one.

6706. Were they not Dutch cows?—No, not the first.

6707. Have you not heard there was a doubt about their coming from Revel?—I have heard that, but never had any faith in it, I have seen it contradicted officially.

6708. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you see any objection to our keeping the foreign market, and the English market, distinct?—I can see no objection to it. I only say they ought to be in close contiguity, there should not be a distance of miles, or even of hundreds of yards between them. They should be close together.

6709. Do you think the foreign market is likely to increase in consequence of the supply to the English market decreasing?—I have no doubt during the next three or four years London will be practically supplied with foreign cattle. It is increasing every day, and the English is falling off.

6710. Has that been found before this year?—That has been found before this year. The general bearing of the case has been that we have had a vast increase of foreign animals, and falling off of English animals.

6711. Do not you know, as a fact, that a great deal of ground has been laid down in grass which was not in tillage before in England?—I do not know it, as a fact.

6712. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Up to the present time you say the foreign trade is on the increase?—It is.

6713. If you had a market for the foreign animals, distinct from the English market, what effect would that have on the prices?—It would materially increase the price.

6714. Why so?—Because you would increase the difficulty and expense of the butcher in obtaining the animals he wanted to slaughter, and any increase of cost in obtaining that kind of meat before it goes to the consumer, must, of necessity, be charged on the consumer.

6715. What regulates the prices, does the foreign market regulate the price of the English market, or does the number of the English beasts regulate the prices of foreign stock?—I do not think either governs the case; I think the price is governed by the supply coming from both districts. I do not think the price of either the foreign or the English governs the case; I think that the supply is governed by both, and that the price is regulated by supply and demand.

6716. Do you think, in fact, the butcher will go to that market which will give him the best advantage, either as regards quality or price?—I do.

6717. And therefore the foreign markets may become

become the governing market in that case?—I think it would have a different effect to that which is imagined by the advocates of that view. I think that instead of being beneficial to the English purchaser, it would militate very much against him.

6718. You said just now something about the Metropolitan Cattle Market being entirely limited to fat cattle; why should that be so?—I do not think there is any necessity, and I see many points which show that it is very undesirable, that lean stock should mix with fat cattle.

6719. Tell us what they are?—In the first place, there is no practical necessity for these store cattle being brought to London. I think that expense might be saved in the transit of them, by their being sold in the districts of the country where they are landed, and then I think we certainly should increase the accommodation; but at times we were (of course not at present) overdone with a lot of poor lean things, which occupied space. The fat animals were very much discommoded in consequence of these animals being there. Of course that brings money to the Corporation. The more animals they had there the better it would pay them; but I take the view that it is desirable to prevent these animals coming to London, because there is no particular necessity for their coming here at all.

6720. How would you describe a fat animal?—I call an animal a fat animal that is intended for slaughter, or one that is sent to market, and being sent to market now it must be for slaughter. A poor old lean cow may be sent to the Copenhagen Market at the present time and sold for slaughter; it is not a fat animal, certainly, but it is sent to the market for food.

6721. You think that the restrictions which are now in force ought to be made permanent?—I think they should be made permanent, with this exception, that those cattle passing away from the Copenhagen Cattle Market to the country should be branded with a pitch brand, on a prominent portion of the hide, with the date on which the animal passed out of the market; and that it should not be permitted to remain alive more than seven days after it has passed out of the market.

6722. I think I have heard you say positively that that animal should not be exposed for sale in any other market?—Yes; it should only be for slaughter.

6723. Your markets are on Monday?—Yes.

6724. Supposing there is a market within a reasonable distance on the Wednesday, and the markets are dull in London on the Monday, do you not think it is very hard on the sender if the animals should not be allowed to be exposed for sale again in some other market held within the seven days?—I think not; I think the supply would regulate itself.

6725. Why not; you must give your reasons?—It is hard upon the producer, the person who breeds the stock, to place any restrictions on the sale of the animal; but the question is how to place restrictions on the trade in animals, with a view of putting a stop to the spread of the disease.

6726. We have had a witness here who stated a fact, which I know perfectly well, that Tonbridge and Maidstone are supplied very often from London?—Yes.

6727. Do you not think it would be a very hard case in the summer season, to a grazier sending his stock from Lincolnshire, or any other part north of London, if he could not be able to sell them to a jobber, and to expose them in another market (if he did not sell them in the first market) within seven days?—The system of jobbers in the Copenhagen Market is a very objectionable one, and so is the system of jobbers in every market. It is objectionable on the part of the person who consigns the animal, it is objectionable to the consumer; in point of fact, they are men who should not exist, in my mind; I do not like them at all.

6728. That is a very hard measure with regard to trade, to say that no man should buy anything that is cheap, and hold it over for a better market; would not that be a great disadvantage to the trade?—I think it is a curse to the community to have persons who buy a large quantity of anything, and hold it over, with a view to prices going up.

6729. I was brought up in a school where it was believed that a speculative man, in all markets, was a convenience to those who wanted a proper price; you say that the man who has got the animal to sell must sell, whether the market be good or bad?—I say that it does not benefit the person who sends his animal to the market, because he has sold it to the jobber. It does not benefit the consumer, because the jobber holds the animal until a better market, and sells it at a better price.

6730. I suppose if the jobber did not buy them he would sell them to another person as cheap or cheaper?—Probably at about the same price.

6731. Let me ask you another question, not as a matter of speculation, but as a matter of fact; you spoke of the cattle landed at Thames Haven; do you know anything about the trade at Thames Haven?—I know no more than the fact that a landing-place is in existence, and that animals do come that way.

6732. You do not know anything about the number?—No.

6733. All you know about Thames Haven is what you have learnt in the same way as any other man, from quotations in the newspapers?—Quite so. I may say I am on friendly terms, and continually in communication, with persons who are shareholders in the Thames Haven undertaking, and also with the salesmen, who bring their things that way.

6734. You are not aware of the number that come there?—I am not.

6735. Would you be surprised to learn that very few animals are landed there?—I should not be surprised to learn it; in fact, I believe at present very few cattle come. I may say that the Order in Council permitting them to come has only been passed about a month; it did not exist before.

6736. Is it only a recent trade, then?—It is only a recent trade. I may say that the Order in Council was brought about, to a certain extent, by a resolution passed by the Corporation of London in the Market Committee; and we had an interview with Colonel Harness on the subject, recommending that course.

6737. Do you not think that a very hard case on the steamboat owners, who have got wharves up the river, that they should be compelled, without any remuneration, to go and land at Thames Haven, for the benefit of those shareholders?—I should think it would be very much better for the steamboat companies, if they could

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

get rid of their cargoes 30 miles further down the river; they would certainly save fuel.

6738. Supposing Brown's Wharf belonged to them?—I know that animals landed at Thames Haven would be at the cattle market two hours earlier than they would if they came to Brown's Wharf, and in much better condition.

6739. Does the Corporation of London ever give up anything they can help without compensation?—I believe they do not; and I think they are very much to blame, for I think that there are many things they hold at the present time which it would be much better for them to give up.

6740. I wish you could persuade the Common Council of that fact?—I wish I could; I would try.

6741. Mr. *Carnegie.*] With regard to the pitch brand which you have spoken of, would there be any means of effacing it?—None, except clipping the hair off; and even then there would be some traces of it left.

6742. You are satisfied it would be impossible to efface it?—It would be practically impossible.

6743. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] With regard to the traffic of cattle in the streets, do you think it desirable that should be limited in London?—I think it is very desirable, if possible, to put a stop to it altogether.

6744. You say private slaughter-houses should not be abolished?—I think not.

6745. That would necessitate the following out of the cattle trade in the streets?—It would; and I think it is necessary for the supply of food to the metropolis at present.

6746. Should you suggest any regulations with regard to limiting it to a particular time of the day?—There is a regulation now in existence; animals are not allowed to be driven through the streets of London between the hours of 12 and 7 in the day.

6747. Do you think you should limit that time to 9 or 10?—I do not; I think especially at this time of the year, and with regard to butchers in London buying an animal at the Copenhagen Cattle Market, it would be absolutely necessary for them to get that animal home at once, say before 12 in the morning, if they could, to be slaughtered that afternoon, cooled, and consumed the next day; whereas if you were not to permit them to bring them home after 10 o'clock in the morning, purchasing them at 10 o'clock in the morning, they would not be able to get them away till after 7, and then probably not be able to slaughter them that night. This matter was considered, I may say, some four or five years ago: Sir Richard Mayne and the Corporation considered the question of driving the cattle through the streets; there was a deputation of the trade waited on Sir Richard Mayne, and he at first suggested issuing an order, and did issue an order, making it between 10 and 7; but in consequence of representations from the trade and Corporation, it was altered until 12.

6748. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] The order is not very rigidly enforced, is it?—I do not think it is; it rests entirely with the police to enforce it.

6749. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] You spoke about the quarantining of store cattle; have you considered at all, whether the system of quarantining store cattle would raise or lower the price of such stock to the buyer; would it have any effect in that way, as far as your experience goes; would they give more for them, as being safer, after having been quarantined?—I should think so; I should think they would be worth more, after passing through quarantine, than they were before.

6750. You said a good deal about Thames Haven; I presume Thames Haven is so situated as that foreign cattle imported there could be landed at any hour; I mean that the vessel would not have to wait to discharge her cargo?—I believe it is so. My particular view with reference to Thames Haven is this; that it has direct communication with the Copenhagen Cattle Market.

6751. And vessels could discharge their cargoes readily at all hours?—I think so.

6752. *Chairman.*] From your previous answer, you seem to be of opinion that cattle take a good deal of harm on their river voyage?—I am.

6753. They have much less ventilation?—Yes.

6754. And if they were discharged at a lower point down the river, they would arrive in better condition?—Yes; I may mention a circumstance that occurred to myself, about three weeks back, on a Thursday. I was coming from Copenhagen Cattle Market, and met a drove of foreign cattle. Between the entrance to the Copenhagen Cattle Market, Caledonian-road, and the Agricultural Hall, a distance of about a mile, I saw six of those animals down in the road, from being over-driven. They had been brought up in a hurry to Blackwall, and from Blackwall they had been hurried to such an extent to save the market (it was about half-past one in the afternoon, and they had to be in the market before two) as to injure them beyond all measure. I saw six of them down in the road, simply within the distance of a mile; their tongues were hanging out, and they were in a very bad state indeed. If they had come *viâ* Thames Haven, and been landed at Thames Haven two hours sooner, they would have been in the cattle market that morning by 11 o'clock.

6755. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] If they had come by railway, in fact?—If they had come to Thames Haven, or any other place, or supposing they had been landed at Harwich.

6756. Has your attention been called to the condition of cattle that have been landed at Harwich, and come up by the rail?—Yes; they are very much better than those that have been landed at London.

6757. First of all, a great many hours on board ship are saved, and they are also saved being driven a distance of three or six miles?—Yes; again they get food and water at Harwich, and on board the ship they get nothing.

6758. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] In some vessels?—Mostly.

6759. *Chairman.*] Has your attention been called to the way in which cattle are treated on board the ships?—Not sufficiently to speak on the subject.

6760. Mr. *Dent.*] Have you actual returns of the quantity of dead meat that comes into the dead-meat market?—We have no means of ascertaining that.

6761. Could you not give us the return per month, say from the year 1865?—I cannot at present. We are not able at present to levy a permanent toll, but when we get to the new meat market, we shall be in a position to give you the exact return. I cannot tell you at all, except from observation, and I should say that the supply has not very materially increased; about in the same

same proportion as the falling-off in the supply in live cattle.

6762. Alderman *Salomons.*] The tolls of the new market are required to pay the bonds for the money you have raised, therefore there would be no return?—I think so.

6763. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Have you turned your attention to store stock from different countries abroad?—No; I have no knowledge on the subject. I may say I have another return here with reference to the number of animals that have been seized since the 18th November 1865, in consequence of the rinderpest, in the cattle market. I find that from the 18th November up to the 22nd February (since which I have not had a single case of any description) there were 37 seized. (*The Return was handed in, and is as follows:*)

"Metropolitan Cattle Market,
"Sir, Islington, 16 July 1866.

"In compliance with your request, I have the honour to report that the following seizures have been made in the market since the 16th November 1865, viz:

1865:		1865:	
November 18	1	December 26	3
„ 19	10	1866:	
„ 26	2	January 1	1
„ 27	2	„ 30	1
„ 28	2	February 21	8
December 3	1	„ 22	1
„ 4	2		
„ 6	1	Total	37
„ 11	1		
„ 14	1		

"There has been a marked improvement in the health of animals brought into the market since this latter date (February 22).

"I have, &c.
"*George Tegg,* Inspector."

6764. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Is 37 the total number of cattle that have been seized?—Yes. Since the 27th February we have not had a single case of rinderpest; the inspector also states that the market is now peculiarly free from any description of disease.

6765. *Chairman.*] It is singular that the 22nd February is very near the time when the Act of Parliament stopped the cattle coming over by rail?—I think the 22nd February is the time when they were permitted to come again.

6766. No; the Act of Parliament prohibiting their travelling by rail received the Royal assent on the 20th February, and from the 22nd February to the present time you have had no case of rinderpest?—That is so, no doubt, but since then we have had an Order in Council altering that, and permitting cattle to come by railway. Since that time we have had none.

6767. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Were the 37 animals you speak of that were seized English or foreign animals?—Three-fourths of them were English animals.

6768. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I think you said your opinion clearly was, that animals branded in London, and sent into the country, ought not to be shown again in the market?—I do.

6769. Is that from danger of infection?—Yes.

6770. If there is danger of infection in the market, would there not be danger of infection if these cattle were to meet cattle on their way from the station to butchers' shops?—Yes.

6771. You think there would be danger of infection in permitting branded stock to be sent from the metropolitan market?—Yes. I think there is also danger of infection by permitting butchers to come to Copenhagen Fields and then go back to the country. I think they might carry it in their clothes.

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*
18 June 1866.

6772. Could the districts round London be practically supplied if there were other markets put outside for the supply of meat?—Of course it could be, but I think it would very much enhance the price of meat in the country.

6773. In the country?—In the country. I think if you had one, two, three, or four markets, in lieu of the one great central one, you would thereby very much increase the price of meat to the consumer.

6774. What would be the effect upon the producer?—I think it would militate against him also.

6775. He would get a less price?—I think he would

6776. May I ask how you account for the fact that the consumer pays more, and the producer gets less?—It is very simple. It all comes within this rule; there are certain charges and expenses in getting the cattle from the market to the butcher's shop; you increase the price to the consumer.

6777. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] I do not see how that proposition is established, in consequence of your having four markets instead of one?—It is just possible a butcher may go to one market and not find what he wants; he would then have to go to a second, or possibly to a third.

6778. *Chairman.*] He has to add the cost of his own time to the price he gives, and that increases the price to the consumer?—Clearly.

6779. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] Supposing a butcher at Maidstone wished to purchase, would it not be equally easy for him to have a large market on the south side of London, for supplying the whole of the south suburban country, instead of going to the Metropolitan Cattle Market?—Yes; but there would not be a competition such as there is where you get a large number of animals together, and a large number of salesmen and buyers. Freedom of competition is very desirable under any circumstances.

6780. That there was less competition would not help the purchaser?—Not always. I think sometimes you would not get purchasers at all, and sometimes you would get the market stocked with so small a quantity that there would be no regulation of the trade. The great beauty of one central market and the great secret of it is this, that you find no large fluctuations in the price of meat in the metropolis when the metropolis is supplied by a cattle market for the supply of live animals. In point of fact it is the means by which the price is regulated. If you were entirely to depend upon a dead-meat market, on some days you would have the price very high, and on other days you would have it very low in consequence of the great influx, but by having the Copenhagen, with a good supply of live stock for London, the price is regulated according to the demand.

6781. Supposing it was found that the infected animals were continually spreading disease in a country, and it was necessary to prevent it, in what way could the country districts best be supplied, assuming there was a regulation that no

Mr. *T. Rudkin.*

18 June 1866.

animals should be allowed to go out of London alive?—Then it might be done by slaughtering the animals at the port of landing and sending them away, but I think that would be a very unjust course.

6782. Is there no way of having other markets outside London, say at the south of London, to supply Kent and Sussex and other counties?—Such a thing might be done, but I think it would not work properly. I think it would ultimately merge into one market again.

6783. Do you think if London was to increase to double its present size it would always be content with one market?—I do.

Mr. Thomas Lovell called in; and Examined.

Mr. *T. Lovell.*

6784. *Chairman.*] You are a Farmer and Grazier living at Winwyck Warren in Northamptonshire?—Yes.

6785. How long have you been engaged in that business?—All my life.

6786. What is the extent of your holding?—560 acres.

6787. How far are you from Northampton?—13 miles.

6788. How many cattle on an average do you feed in the course of the year?—On an average from 190 to 200.

6789. Mr. *Dent.*] On 500 acres?—Yes. I have some ploughed land. I feed from 190 to 200. Sometimes we have as many as 250 on the farm. I have not so many now in consequence of this disease. I think for the last 20 years I have fed 192 a year on an average.

6790. *Chairman.*] Do you send your cattle to Copenhagen Fields?—Yes.

6791. Do you consign to salesmen to sell on your account?—Yes, I do.

6792. Do you sell any at home?—Very few.

6793. You have heard the evidence of the last witness with regard to the quotations of prices?—Yes.

6794. I think you have something to say on that point?—It was not in reference to prices; but the last witness remarked, that in the dead-meat markets the salesmen do not return the names of the purchasers to the consignors of meat. The system of paying is very different in Copenhagen Fields to Newgate; in the former, when any beasts are sold, the purchaser gives his name to the salesman, and then goes to the banker's or money-taker's office to pay for them, and also leaves his name there; but in the latter the purchaser generally pays at once to the salesman, and takes the meat away with him, therefore his name is not required.

6795. Have you ever killed in the country and sent the carcases to London?—Never.

6796. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do the salesmen never take the money in the London market?—Not that I know of.

6797. *Chairman.*] You used to sell cattle yourself at one time?—Yes.

6798. For your own people?—Yes, for my own family and friends; perhaps 30 or 40 beasts a week.

6799. Do you agree with the last witness that the quotation of prices is kept down in the interest of the salesmen?—I do not.

6800. You think the quotation of prices is fair?—Generally, I do. At the time I sold in the market, I have seen clerks from newspaper offices ask both salesmen and butchers their opinion of the trade, and I have always thought the prices of the day are obtained in that way.

6801. What is your opinion as to the desirability of separating the foreign and English cattle markets?—I should like to see the English cattle on one side of the market and the foreign on the other.

6802. You would like to see a division in the Copenhagen Fields Market?—Yes, I can see no objection to it.

6803. You do not wish to see a wholly separate market for foreign cattle?—No, nor do I think the graziers do.

6804. Supposing that they were merely separated in the market, I suppose they would meet on the roads, and tread the same ground in coming in and going out?—Of course they would.

6805. You would not avoid infection in that way?—Not in the slightest degree.

6806. What is your opinion as to the desirability of their undergoing quarantine, when they come from abroad?—I think it would be quite right they should undergo quarantine unless they are killed at the ports.

6807. The proposal has been to kill the fat animals at the port, and to put the store animals under quarantine. Would you approve of putting store animals under quarantine?—I certainly should, if they are allowed to be landed at all.

6808. Would you, as a practical man, be inclined to give a higher price for an animal which has undergone quarantine, than for one that has not?—Yes, I think it would be safer.

6809. It has been stated to us that the expense of quarantine is so great that it would prevent animals being imported; but supposing you give a higher price for the animal which had undergone quarantine, would not that answer the purpose of the foreign sender?—It might; I cannot say. The animals sink a good deal in quarantine. I think it would prevent their sending them.

6810. Do you ever buy foreign animals to graze?—Never; I should be very sorry.

6811. What is your opinion as to animals that have been in Smithfield Market; ought they to be allowed to go down in the country and stand in country markets?—I do not think so.

6812. Do you agree with the last witness about that?—Entirely.

6813. Would you allow them to go out of the market and go into the country at all?—By no means.

6814. You would not let them go to the butchers?—I would not let them go to the butchers in the country.

6815. What do you think should be done; do you think they ought to be slaughtered in London?—Yes.

6816. And that if the supply is wanted in the country, they should come down in the shape of dead meat?—Yes; but there would not be so many sent here; the country butchers would buy them at home.

6817. You think if they could not come out of London again the home-fed beasts would not go to London at all?—Not so many. More of them would be sold at home.

6818. Is it the case, that since we have had the cattle plague, your own profession generally have considered the metropolitan market has been the great focus of infection?—We think so.

6819. And

6819. And therefore you are afraid of animals coming out of that market and going into the country again?—Yes, we know it came from London into Northamptonshire.

6820. Mr. *Norwood.*] By foreign cattle?—Yes.

6821. Is there much dead meat sent from Northamptonshire to London?—I think not.

6822. Where is it sent from principally?—There is a good deal from Scotland; but I know very little of the dead meat trade.

6823. Have you known any of your neighbours kill on their farms when this prohibition as to moving by railway was in force?—None.

6824. They sent to the local butchers?—Yes, but the prohibition was not in force until after Christmas, when very few fat cattle are left in the midland counties.

6825. Mr. *Banks-Stanhope.*] Was not the metropolitan market blamed for disease in the neighbouring counties, as well as in Northamptonshire, last autumn?—I really do not know; I did not hear of it.

6826. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] We have been told that English-bred cattle are decreasing in many parts of England; is that the case in Northampton?—I think it is; you see but very little stock on many farms.

6827. Was that the case before this year?—I do not know.

6828. Until this year there was a great increase in the amount of cattle bred on the farms in Northampton?—I cannot say; it is not much of a breeding county. I buy all that I graze.

6829. Where do you get your supply generally?—Some from Wales, some from Scotland, some from Herefordshire, some from Devonshire; from all parts.

6830. Mr. *Dent.*] Is it summer grazing?—Yes; we keep twice the quantity in summer to what we do in winter.

6831. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Do you tie them up?—We tie very few of them up.

6832. Mr. Alderman *Salomons.*] Why would you quarantine foreign cattle?—On account of the disease. We imagine it would spread the disease if there was no quarantine existing.

6833. They have imported foreign cattle for a great many years without quarantine; do you mean to say you would only quarantine them at the present time, or make it a permanent thing that there should be quarantine?—I should only wish it now while there is disease. If there is no disease abroad, I should not wish for quarantine.

6834. You only think the quarantine should exist now while there is disease?—I think that would be quite sufficient.

6835. The quarantine of animals generally is something analogous to the old idea of Frenchmen and Englishmen not coming together, because the Frenchmen were too dirty; all you mean is, that while the disease is on the Continent, you wish quarantine should be established; you do not mean that you want quarantine as a general measure?—I do not see why it should be permanent.

6836. Mr. *Dent.*] What is the proportion of arable to grass land?—I have from 50 to 60 acres of corn land.

6837. When do you buy your stock generally; in the spring?—Yes; we generally buy half in the spring, and the other half at the close of the year.

6838. When do they go off from Northamptonshire to the London markets?—I think principally from July to Christmas.

6839. Do you graze much Irish stock?—None; but a good many are grazed in the county.

6840. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Where do you buy your stock generally?—I have had more than 100 beast sent to me lately by license from Devonshire and Wales.

6841. Where do you buy them generally?—At Northampton, Leicester, Daventry, and other places.

6842. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you send your stock to the Manchester market, or to the Leeds market?—Never.

6843. The price is never higher than in London?—I believe it was higher for a few weeks in Manchester.

6844. Why did you send them there?—I thought the price would not continue higher in Manchester than London.

6845. Is yours an infected district still?—Not my district. There are places in the country which were infected, but not in my district at all.

6846. Mr. *Norwood.*] In your opinion, are graziers who send live cattle to the market for sale universally cheated by their factors?—I think not.

6847. You think they return the price they get?—I think so.

6848. Is that the case also in the dead-meat market?—I do not know anything of the dead-meat market.

6849. You do not agree with the former witness?—I do not. I think, as a rule, the salesmen are very fair.

6850. I presume agriculturists, like any other traders, understand their business remarkably well, and if you send your cattle up and find your returns are not what you consider fair and reasonable returns, you would make inquiry and employ another factor?—Of course.

6851. You would remedy the evil by your own act and deed?—Yes.

6852. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Can you tell the Committee what is the advance in price upon store stock which you have bought this spring?—I should think from 1 *l.* to 30 *s.* in 20 *l.* I think a 20 *l.*-bullock would be worth 1 *l.* or 30 *s.* more than it was last year.

6853. What do you say as to sheep?—Seven or eight shillings per head dearer than they were last year.

6854. *Chairman.*] Do you think graziers have been enabled to supply themselves pretty well with stock, or have they had any difficulty?—We have not had any difficulty in getting the stock, but the prices have been higher.

6855. You think you have been able to get stock?—Yes; perhaps we have not been able to get it quite so well, because we have not had the opportunity of buying at fairs and markets ourselves.

6856. Have you anything further to suggest?—No; only that I hope it is not contemplated to make us kill fat cattle; in the country, it would be ruinous to kill on our own farms, we should have no means of disposing of the offal.

Mr. JAMES CURRIE, called in; and Examined

Mr. *J. Currie.* 18 June 1866.

6857. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—A Steamship Owner at Leith.

6858. I believe there is some little conflict of interest between the port of Granton and the port of Leith?—They are two distinct ports, and there certainly is a competition for business.

6859. It was proposed the other day that certain cattle should be landed at Granton and certain cattle at Leith; have you heard of that evidence?—I have been told of it since I came up.

6860. What have you to say upon that point?—I have been carrying cattle both into Leith and Granton for some time, and in some respects, I think, it would not work advantageously if it were made an imperative rule for one sort of cattle to go into one port and another sort of cattle to go into another port.

6861. You think they ought to go into either port, according to the wishes of the senders?—I think so.

6862. Is it the case that there is no risk of infection between these two ports and the city of Edinburgh?—At neither; you can take cattle into both ports, and take them into the adjoining country without going into Edinburgh.

6863. That is not the point I am upon; can you not take them to the slaughter-house at Edinburgh from the ports, without risk to the animals grazing by the road-side?—I think you can without any risk. There is the same risk in going through a street in London.

6864. As to Leith, are there not quays and wharves all the way along?—All the way along.

6865. There is no grazing ground; there are no places where cattle are kept grazing from Leith to Edinburgh?—I think not.

6866. How is it with regard to Granton?—Granton is more in the country, but there are more farms in the immediate neighbourhood of Granton than Leith.

6867. So that in going from Granton to Edinburgh, animals would pass by cattle grazing on the road; would they?—It goes through a more open country, but I do not think it is used fo cattle grazing.

6868. Mr. *Carnegie.*] It is principally used for market gardens and nursery gardens?—Yes, chiefly; most of the ground between Granton and Edinburgh is nursery ground.

6869. *Chairman.*] So that, practically, there would be very little fear in allowing animals to go to Edinburgh from these points?—In going over these places, I do not know that I have ever seen cattle grazing; they are not numerous.

6870. Mr. *Carnegie.*] What accommodation have you now at Leith for foreign cattle; what is your practice at present?—At present they are put into covered pens or sheds, and kept there for the time prescribed by law, unless they are sold previously.

6871. Are they slaughtered at Leith?—They are slaughtered at Leith; at least there are slaughter-houses there. I do not know that they are slaughtered at Leith, but they can be.

6872. Can you have good accommodation for slaughtering at Leith?—Yes, I believe very good; I have never seen the slaughter-houses at Leith.

6873. Mr. *Banks-Stanhope.*] Do you import foreign cows?—We have bought foreign cows, but not very many.

6874. Mr. *Dent.*] Where do you bring the foreign cattle from?—From Hamburg, Copenhagen, and from Jutland. We have brought a pretty considerable number, and I think we have brought all from those places during the last year. There has been no cattle coming from any other port. There used to be a few come from Holland, but that has been discontinued some time.

6875. Mr. *Banks-Stanhope.*] Tell me what objection would there be to Granton being a port of landing for cattle of one country and Leith being a port of landing for cattle of another country?—The objection would be mainly this: that these cattle are coming forward in small numbers, they are not coming forward in large numbers, such as you have in the port of London; and the vessels in which they come are principally laden with cargo which is destined for Leith; if you compel those vessels to go into Granton you certainly increase the cost, because you compel the vessels to go into two ports.

6876. *Chairman.*] Which would involve a double set of port dues?—Yes. Practically, during the last year, Granton has been getting all the cattle from Aarhuus, in Jutland; that arose from the fact, that there was scarcely anything came from Aarhuus except cattle, and there was no difficulty in sending them to Granton, that port being often less crowded than the port of Leith; but it would be otherwise both with Copenhagen and with Hamburg. It is scarcely worth while talking about Hamburg now, for I expect that trade will be entirely destroyed.

6877. Mr. *Banks-Stanhope.*] If there was any danger of disease in Germany, and of disease in Denmark, would it not simplify the trade to have healthy animals sent to one port and the more suspicious ones to the others?—No doubt it would.

6878. Would it not make it easier for people to buy cattle from a healthy country?—Yes, no doubt it would. My objection to it is, that you increase the cost.

6879. Would it not increase the importation from the healthy country not having the same restrictions upon those particular cattle as upon the cattle from a suspicious country?—No doubt; the fewer restrictions you put upon it the more you will stimulate the trade.

6880. Would not that countervail the increased cost?—That I cannot say.

6881. Would it not be a sufficient boon to make it worth while to pay a little more?—It is a balance of evils. I know the immediate effect would be to increase the cost.

6882. Would they not send over cattle from Denmark in the vessels the same as from elsewhere?—The numbers coming hitherto have not been sufficient for that. Last year there were some from that port in Jutland. This year there has not been as yet, but perhaps the season is not far enough advanced to compare it with last year.

6883. Are there no regular cattle vessels coming to Leith or to Granton?—Not from the Continent, except the one I spoke of from Aarhuus. There are vessels coming to Granton from the north Scotch ports, Aberdeen for instance. From Aarhuus last year there were very nearly 4,000 cattle came to Granton.

6884. Is there not a complaint that the Danish cattle

cattle are subjected to the same restrictions as the German cattle?—There is a feeling that it is an unfair thing that a country which is neither infected nor suspected to have disease should be subjected to the same treatment as a country in which there is a possibility of infection.

6885. Would it not be a wise thing to send the safe cattle to some place where they could be admitted without risk of loss?—I think it would be advisable to admit those from a place free from infection upon more easy terms than the other. I see no more reason why they should be prevented from coming, than that there should be free circulation in any county where there is an absence of disease.

6886. You do not consider they could be safely admitted if they mixed with the German beasts at the port of landing?—Not if they mixed with them; but they could easily be admitted at the same port without mixing. The numbers coming in at a time are not large. They come in, for instance, from Hamburg on an average of not more than 13 or 20 head of cattle in one steamer, perhaps 27. From Copenhagen there is an average of 40 or 50 cattle in one steamer.

Mr. *J. Currie.* 18 June 1866.

6887. Would not those steamers which come in at the same time with other cattle, mix them together?—You do not require to mix them, if you have them put in separate docks.

6888. But I mean on their way to Edinburgh market?—They would be mixed certainly, then.

6889. Supposing there were no store stock among them?—Then in that case I think they ought to be trucked at once; they ought to be put into the trucks at the docks. The trucks run them alongside the steamers, and you can put them on at once. You do not require to mix them.

6890. But supposing these trucks had carried German cattle before?—That is a risk that you must run in all cases, and to meet that risk, as I understand, it has been made obligatory to disinfect the trucks. I do not believe that, in practice, railway companies will be found to allot certain trucks for specific purposes.

Professor Thomas Strangeways, called in; and Examined.

6891. *Chairman.*] Do you reside in Edinburgh?—I do.

6892. Do you hold any public appointment there?—I am Government Inspector for the port of Granton, and was formerly assistant inspector for the ports of Leith and Granton.

6893. Are you acquainted with the slaughter-house system in Edinburgh?—I am.

6894. How long has that been established?—I can scarcely tell you. It has been established ever since I have known Edinburgh, that is, since the year 1849.

6895. Is it the law in Edinburgh that no animal can be slaughtered except at the public slaughter-houses?—Yes, neither in Edinburgh nor in Leith. There are public slaughter-houses in both places.

6896. Mr. *Dent.*] What is the population?—About 170,000.

6897. *Chairman.*] Is that regulation under the Edinburgh Slaughter-House Act?—I could not speak to that. I should imagine it is under the Edinburgh Police Act.

6898. There are two Acts; the Edinburgh Police Act, 1848, and the Edinburgh Slaughter-House Act of 1850?—Probably; I can scarcely speak to the fact under which Act the slaughter-houses were established.

6899. What is the division of the trade in Edinburgh. Is the trade divided into carcase butchers, and retail butchers?—It is. There are few carcase butchers, or what are called wholesale butchers, men who supply smaller butchers with carcases, either of beef or mutton.

6900. Do the retail butchers kill much at the public slaughter-houses?—They do. They kill all at the public slaughter-houses.

6901. Have the retail butchers given up slaughtering in consequence of this Slaughter House Act?—No; they still continue to kill there and cart them from thence to their own place.

6902. You call butchers "fleshers" in Edinburgh, do you not?—Yes.

6903. Has the fleshers' trade suffered in consequence of the establishment of this public slaughter-house system?—I should think not at all.

6904. Do you hear any complaints amongst the fleshers in consequence of it?—I have never heard a single complaint; and I should think during the prevalence of the cattle plague last summer I visited the slaughter-houses twice and sometimes three times a day.

Professor *T. Strangeways.*

6905. We have had it stated in this room by several witnesses that the butchers would not have the same control over their profession if there were public slaughter-houses; that they might have the fat purloined, and so on?—I have never heard the slightest complaint in Edinburgh. It does get stolen, I dare say, but it would be stolen even in the private slaughter-houses occasionally.

6906. What sort of supervision is there over the carcases and offal there; I do not mean for the purpose of inspection, but for the purpose of taking care of the property?—Every butcher or flesher has his own booth, and he has the key of his booth; on going out at the gate he leaves the key with the gatekeeper.

6907. Is the booth the place where the animals are slaughtered?—The places where the animals are slaughtered are called booths, and behind those booths are places for putting the animals before they are slaughtered; starving, or hunger places.

6908. Do they call them "lairs"?—I do not know exactly what they call them there, but they are lairs.

6909. They shut them up there to fast them?—Yes.

6910. Each man has his own place?—Each man has his own place and his own key.

6911. And each man has his own slaughtering booth?—Yes, each butcher has his own slaughtering booth. There are three or four common booths where small butchers kill occasionally

6912. Is it the practice there for the butcher's man to kill his master's beef, or do the butchers employ slaughtermen who slaughter for anybody?—Some of them employ slaughtermen and some of them keep their own men.

6913. Which is the more common practice?—I should think to employ slaughtermen, they

Professor *T. Strange-ways.*

18 June 1866.

charge so much a piece for killing a beast, and so much per score for killing sheep.

6914. They go to the different booths and slaughter?—Yes.

6915. Is the owner of the beasts generally there to see it done, or are his men there?—Generally there is somebody there belonging to the owner of the stock, but some of these slaughtermen slaughter regularly for masters. Butchers killing sheep for the London market employ stated men regularly, and these men kill at so much per score.

6916. Do you find in hot weather the town gets well supplied?—I never saw any difference either in hot or cold weather.

6917. Do you know what they charge for slaughtering?—I could not speak to that. I have heard it often enough, but I should not like positively to say.

6918. Is it the case that that system enables the inspection of meat to be carried on much more advantageously?—Yes.

6919. You have it all in one place, everything under the inspector's eye?—Yes.

6920. What is done with the offal at the slaughter-houses?—The tripe is boiled on the premises by people who are employed for that purpose.

6921. What is done as to the gut twisting?—The gut is sold to a manufacturer in Edinburgh who carts it away.

6922. What becomes of the blood?—Some of the blood is carted away for manure, some of it is sold. I believe there is an annual sale of the blood.

6923. What becomes of the hides?—There is a hide market.

6924. How far is the hide market from the slaughter-house?—It is in the slaughter-house yard. It is within the same walls.

6925. Is there any tallow melting?—No.

6926. What becomes of the fat?—I suppose the fat is sold to tallow-chandlers and others.

6927. There is nothing done with it on the spot?—I do not think so.

6928. Is there any bone boiling or anything of that sort?—No, nothing of the sort. There are no bones to boil, because the carcases are all taken away entire.

6929. There is no trade of that sort in the immediate neighbourhood of the slaughter-house?—Not that I know of. There is a place in the slaughter-house for boiling down diseased carcases, but it is simply for diseased carcases.

6930. What is the situation of this slaughter-house?—It is situated close to the city.

6931. Is it in the outskirts?—It is situated in the south-west of the city, at the south-west corner. If you know the city I can tell you exactly: when you are at the extreme west of Princes-street you turn down to the left, and it is about half-a-mile down the Lothian-road, just beyond the Caledonian Railway Station.

6932. You think that the system answers well, both as regards the trade, and as regards the public?—I should think it answers well for all parties.

6933. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you say each butcher has a separate booth?—Each butcher who has any business of any consequence has a separate booth.

6934. How many butchers are there in Edinburgh?—I could scarcely tell you.

6935. How many booths are there in the slaughter-houses?—There are four rows of them.

6936. How many of them are there in a row?—Perhaps about 90 altogether; I can scarcely tell you, but I should think there would be about 90.

6937. You say you are the inspector of the port of Granton?—Yes.

6938. The principal cattle that are imported there are Danish, are they not?—We have had only one cargo of cattle since I was appointed inspector.

6939. How long have you been inspector?—Since Professor Dick's death in April.

6940. You have had only one cargo since then at Granton?—Yes, under my own charge; but I have assisted Professor Dick as inspector for the last three or four years both at Granton and Leith.

6941. Have you had any diseased cattle coming from Denmark to Granton at all?—I never saw a diseased animal come from Denmark of any sort.

6942. Have you had any diseased cattle coming from Hamburg and Germany?—A great many diseased animals from Hamburgh.

6943. With rinderpest?—No; I never saw a case of rinderpest, nor a case of pleuro-pneumonia; only foot and mouth disease, that is, eczema.

6944. You said the Danish cattle have not foot and mouth disease very often?—I have never known one.

6945. And you have seen a good many?—Yes.

6946. You do not think there will be any danger from allowing those Danish cattle to be taken to the places of consumption at Glasgow, Coatledge, and that district?—I do not think there would be any danger at all.

6947. They are principally cattle for the butcher, I suppose?—The last cargo that came over from Aarhuus, and the only cargo that came, in fact, from there since my appointment, included a number of milch cows.

6948. A good many sheep come over, do they not?—I will tell you exactly the number that came over in that cargo. There were 112 cattle, 70 sheep, and five calves.

6949. There have been a good many sheep?—Yes.

6950. At present the trade in sheep is very much checked, is it not?—Yes.

6951. Have you found (putting aside the Dutch cattle which are not now allowed to be imported) that there has been a considerable check, from the restrictions to the foreign trade; do you know at all, from your own experience, whether there is a diminution of the foreign trade?—I think there is a diminution at the port of Leith in the number of foreign cattle. There are not so many this year as there have been in previous years.

6952. Do you think that arises from the restriction of the compulsory slaughter at the port?—I think it does.

6953. Have you any reason, from your own experience, to believe that if they were to be taken to Glasgow and the consuming districts, a larger supply might be brought from Denmark and other places abroad?—I think there is every probability of more stock being imported if they are allowed to take them to the place of slaughter, instead of slaughtering them all at the port of debarkation.

6954. If we are told that foreign cattle are not brought in because there is a scarcity abroad, you would be inclined to think they are not brought

brought in on account of the impediments placed in their way?—Precisely so. They bring no store stock at all. A great number of store stock used to come from abroad. They must now be killed, however lean they are; and, as to some of them, it is disgraceful that they should be killed while they are so thin; in fact, I believe some that were killed sold for 4*s.* 6*d.* a stone of 14lbs.

6955. At the ports of Leith and Granton you have had no case of rinderpest?—Never.

6956. And from Denmark you have never had any disease of any kind?—I never saw any diseased animal from Aarhuus or Jutland. The rinderpest was decidedly brought into our district from the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

6957. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] By calves, was it not?—No; by 18 milch cows.

6958. *Chairman.*] Do you have many milch cows down from London?—Not now, I think.

6959. Used you to?—Yes, a good number.

6960. Where do they go to principally?—They principally go to the dairymen in the city, or in the immediate neighbourhood.

6961. To supply the cowkeepers of Edinburgh and Glasgow and towns near?—Yes. These 18 all went to buyers in Edinburgh.

6962. Viscount *Cranborne.*] What is the largest number of animals you inspect in one day at the port of which you are inspector?—I should say the largest quantity I have inspected was about 400, or nearly 400.

6963. Never more than that in one day?—Never more.

6964. Have you any assistance?—There are two of us conjointly, who are inspectors.

6965. Both acting at the same place?—Yes.

6966. Do you examine each animal individually?—I do when I inspect them. I examine all animals individually.

6967. You are more careful, I suppose, when you know they come from an infected district?—Whether or not, I always make a point of examining the mouth of every animal I inspect, in order to see whether there is not murrain, which, I think, is one of the worst diseases that has come into this country from abroad. That is eczema, or foot and mouth disease. It has a great many names.

6968. Mr. *Dent.*] It is called the murrain in Scotland?—Yes.

6969. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you directed your attention to the possibility of quarantining foreign store stock?—I have often thought about it, I thought that if there was the slightest danger of any disease, they should be put under quarantine. If the stock are healthy and come from a healthy country, I do not see any necessity for putting them under quarantine. In some cases we know the country from whence they come to be free from all disease, and see no necessity for putting them under quarantine; but I am decidedly in favour of separate markets for foreign stock.

6970. Are there any places in the immediate neighbourhood of Leith and Granton that would be suitable for quarantine grounds?—In Granton they have plenty of room. In Leith I do not know where there would be room, but in Granton there is room to put up any amount of stock.

6971. You are of opinion that from any country where it is supposed that any disease, foot and mouth disease, pleuro-pneumonia, or rinderpest, exists, it would be advisable to quarantine all store stock?—All store stock, or to prevent the importation of store stock from those countries during the prevalency of disease in those countries, which would amount to the same thing.

6972. Are you aware that there was a considerable traffic in cattle from the Austrian dominions to Hamburgh and Bremen, and those ports?—Yes.

6973. So that I suppose if there was disease in the Austrian dominions, you would consider it necessary to quarantine all animals coming from those ports?—From Hamburgh or Rotterdam, or any of those ports. The only ports from which we get them into Leith are Aarhuus, Copenhagen, Rotterdam, and Hamburgh. I think those are the only four ports from which we get them into Leith or Granton.

6974. Would you consider it at all advisable to make any regulation with respect to the importation of foreign sheep?—What sort of regulation do you mean.

6975. Of quarantining, or a more rigid inspection than there is now?—We seldom get any store sheep from abroad; they are fat sheep that come into Leith from abroad, as a rule; and they ought either to be killed at the port of importation, or taken directly to the place of slaughter.

6976. You have not had any foreign store sheep landed at Leith or Granton?—I have not had anything to do with any foreign store sheep, although I believe several cargoes have been imported.

6977. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think that the cattle which go out of the markets should be branded, if they are not slaughtered in Edinburgh market?—The cattle should be branded at the port of debarcation, I think.

6978. If they are not slaughtered there?—If they are not slaughtered there, and if found within a certain time after the date of the brand, to be seized, and the party liable to imprisonment or fine.

6979. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Are these slaughter-houses of which you have spoken, under inspection?—Yes.

6980. Are they well cleansed?—They are; I was going to say almost as clean as this room, they are as clean as it is possible to make places; they are washed out three or four times a day.

6981. Are they disinfected?—They are washed out, and disinfected with quicklime.

6982. Do you know what price is paid for them by the year?—No; I was simply there on duty, examining to see that there is no diseased or rinderpest animals passed off to the public as food.

6983. I think you informed the Committee that you have not heard complaints of parties losing the offal?—I never heard any complaints; I have mixed a good deal with the butchers, but I have never heard any.

6984. The regulations are liked, rather than otherwise?—So far as I know.

6985. *Chairman.*] Do the slaughter-houses of Edinburgh supply any district round Edinburgh?—Not that I am aware of.

6986. Do you know whether meat goes away by rail from them?—A great deal comes to London from them, more particularly mutton; a great number of carcases of sheep leave the Edinburgh slaughter-houses every week for London.

6987. Do any go to Glasgow?—Not that I am aware; I know they do go to London, because I have seen 100 hanging up together. I have asked

Professor *T. Strangeways.*

18 June 1866.

"where are those sheep for," and they have said "for the London market, for Newgate."

6988. Where is the Edinburgh cattle market; is it anywhere near the slaughter-houses?—It is a little to the south of the castle, on an elevated place, about half a mile from the slaughter-houses.

6989. Do you propose that the foreign animals which are branded, should go to the cattle-market or go to the slaughter-houses?—I would not allow any foreign cattle to go into a market among home-grown stock. I would have separate markets for foreign stock and home stock.

6990. Where would the purchasers have an opportunity of seeing the animals?—If imported into Granton they would have an opportunity of seeing them at Granton; or if at Leith, they would have an opportunity of seeing them there.

6991. Are they all imported at Leith by one company?—The boats belong to two separate companies, and the importers or the agents to whom they are imported are at different towns.

6992. Messrs. Swan are, perhaps, the largest importers?—I do not know exactly.

6993. You would have a cattle market at the port, would you?—I would have a cattle market at the port.

6994. You would have them branded, and go to the slaughter-houses?—Yes.

6995. Would you allow them to go to slaughter-houses in other towns?—Yes.

6996. By rail?—By rail.

6997. But not to mix with any home-fed animals in the markets?—Not to mix with any home-fed animals in the markets. In fact, I would have separate markets for store stock and fat stock; I would not allow store stock to go into a fat stock market.

6998. Mr. *Dent.*] Would you let foreign stock and English fat stock go into the same market?—If it is for immediate slaughter, I can see no objection to it.

6999. *Chairman.*] Have you given attention to the way in which animals are treated on board ship?—I have.

7000. Do you think any improvement can be made in that?—I think all vessels ought to be registered.

7001. Registered to carry a certain number of stock?—Yes, and no more.

7002. How would you deal with the case of the larger and smaller breeds of cattle. We are told that, on the average, animals of some countries are very much larger indeed than the average animals of another country?—They are.

7003. How would you deal with that state of things?—You might register them to carry a certain number of a certain breed, and a certain number of another breed; for instance, we have from Hamburgh and from Rotterdam very large animals, which have been worked, perhaps, four or five years; they are of an immense size; and then we have little Dutch beasts coming in the same ship. As a rule, the animals which come from Denmark are small.

7004. The Spanish animals, as a rule, are large?—We have never had any Spanish animals into Leith or Granton.

7005. You think there might be that distinction made between them?—There might be some distinction.

7006. As regards the ventilation, do you think there ought to be Government regulations about that?—There ought to be some Government regulation.

7007. You think there ought to be a Government inspector of ships for the conveyance of stock?—I think there ought.

7008. And that they ought only to be registered for conveyance in case they complied with the conditions laid down?—Yes; and there ought to be some regulation as regards watering the stock on board ship; I have seen sometimes, when I have been out in the Roads, animals with their tongues against the cool iron sides of the vessel.

7009. Trying to cool their tongues?—Trying to cool their tongues against the iron. As long as the vessel is sailing there is plenty of ventilation, but as soon as it lies at anchor all ventilation ceases down between decks. When sailing they have windsails, and those windsails are generally turned to the windward, and the wind goes down the sails and spreads about below. As soon as the vessel comes to anchor there is no air at all, and the animals become excessively fatigued for want of it.

7010. You think the animals ought to be fed and watered on board?—The animals ought to be watered on board, if there is not a possibility of getting them ashore at once. In Granton I see an advantage over Leith, inasmuch as at Granton vessels can get in at any time; at Leith they can only get in two hours before, or two hours after, high water, so that the ship may have to lie-to seven or eight hours off the port of Leith before they can get in.

7011. In that case they ought to be watered on board?—They ought to be watered on board.

7012. But supposing they are landed directly on their arrival, is there any occasion for that?—I see no occasion for watering them on board when they are in the port, if they are watered on the passage; but if you come to have a cargo of cattle, from 36 to 48 hours, from port to port, the poor animals should have some water in the interim.

7013. At present do they get no water at all?—I do not think they do; some kind-hearted sailors may give them a little, but not always. Food is not always of such consequence as water.

7014. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Have you had an opportunity of judging of that in other ports, where you have seen stock landed from ships?—It is alike at all; that is, if the animals are between decks; if they are on deck, it does not matter so much. All the cattle that come from Rotterdam by one boat come on deck; she is a small boat, and she brings all her cattle cargo on deck.

7015. Have you ever been present at the landing of any cargoes of cattle in the Tyne?—No; I have been at London and seen them landed at the port of London. When Professor Dick was appointed inspector, I came to see how the inspection was managed here, so that I should know something about it.

7016. Have you known cases of accident from fractured limbs, and so forth?—That is a very common thing. Supposing there is a gale of wind, they get down, and as the sailors call it, get "spaldered." The hind legs stretch themselves out, and they are unable to move; we then have them killed on board, and the carcases inspected afterwards.

7017. Are these boats that you have seen arranged, as regards pens and standage, in the best way?—There are no pens, generally speaking; there are simply timber rails, to which the beasts are tied.

7018. *Chairman.*]

7018. *Chairman.*] Is there nothing to divide one from the other, or the one half dozen from the next half dozen?—There is nothing to divide them but these rails; some will be in the lower hold, and some between decks.

7019. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Do they clean these vessels after each voyage?—They are cleaned out thoroughly after each voyage; washed, and disinfected.

7020. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you ever thought on the subject of the transit of cattle by railway, and feeding and watering them; have you had your attention directed to that?—I have; and I think that cattle coming from Aberdeen for other places to London, must either have those watering troughs of Mr. Reid's, of Granton, in the trucks, or have places where they could stop and water on the passage from one town to another.

7021. Do you think it would be possible to water them from Mr. Reid's troughs?—I think it would be quite possible to water them from Mr. Reid's troughs. I do not see why they should not be.

Professor *T. Strange-ways.* 18 June 1866.

7022. What is the principle of that trough?—It is a trough outside which doubles up; and all they have to do is, to take them to a place where the engine takes in water, and let the water run along, and the cattle will drink. I do not think so much about food as I do about water; an animal can do without food for hours, but I do not think it should be allowed to do without water.

7023. Do you think disease is produced by their being so long without water?—I think so; febrile diseases particularly.

Mr. James Higgins, called in; and Examined.

7024. *Chairman.*] Are you Inspector of Meat and Slaughter-houses for the Borough of Leeds?—I am.

7025. You are also cattle plague inspector?—I am.

7026. Were you brought up to the butchering trade?—Yes.

7027. How long have you held the appointment of inspector of meat and slaughter-houses?—For eight years last February.

7028. Do you inspect the live cattle in the markets?—Yes.

7029. Do you examine all the carcases slaughtered in the slaughter-houses?—I do.

7030. Are they public or private slaughter-houses in Leeds?—They are private slaughter-houses. We have about 130 private slaughter-houses, but in the very centre of the town we have six large slaughter-houses; four of which are capable of slaughtering about 100 head of cattle, besides small things.

7031. Do you mean 100 each or 100 between the four?—One hundred each.

7032. Are the private slaughter-houses licensed?—They are registered slaughter-houses.

7033. Under the Act?—Yes.

7034. Is there a temporary dead-meat market in Leeds?—We had one during the stoppage of the supply of fat cattle.

7035. Where was that?—In the live cattle market. The Corporation had built a large building; a very suitable building; but it was not intended for that purpose: it was built with a view of making accommodation for the Christmas fat show, and it happened to be just finished in the spring of this year.

7036. *Chairman.*] When the Act of Parliament was passed, prohibiting the movement of cattle by rail, it was turned into a dead-meat market, was it?—Yes.

7037. At that time did you get a plentiful supply of meat?—We got a very good supply of meat.

7038. Where did it principally come from?—It came principally from the farmers in the neighbourhood.

7039. Did it come in the shape of dead meat from the farmers?—All dead meat.

7040. Did they kill it on their own farms?—Yes. Irish beasts have been slaughtered at Liverpool, and bought by our carcase butchers, and the carcases of foreign beasts slaughtered at Hull.

Mr. *J. Higgins.*

7041. The town was very well supplied?—The town was very well supplied during that time.

7042. What do you say about the prices?—I may say that our butchers were under the impression that we should be very much put about for our supplies of stock; and the carcase butchers, in making provisions, rather overdid the thing; they brought too plentiful a supply, and positively the prices were lower for a few weeks, until they rectified themselves.

7043. Then the carcase butchers turned their attention to getting supplies from other places?—They did.

7044. And they rather overdid it?—Yes, for a few weeks.

7045. Since that prohibition has been taken off, has there been a good supply of meat for Leeds?—No, we have not had a good supply of meat lately.

7046. To what do you attribute that?—We attribute it to our carcase butchers not being able to get their supplies of foreign stock; that is, the carcases.

7047. Why could they not get the same supply as they did, when that prohibition was in force. You say that they got rather an over supply when they could not get meat sent by railway. Why have they not been able to supply town lately when the supply has been assured, in the same way as they did when the prohibition was in force?—Because the owners of foreign stock, instead of sending their cattle alive to Hull for the purpose of being slaughtered there, preferred a live market, and sent them away to London.

7048. You do not understand my question. You say that when the Act of Parliament came into force, prohibiting stock being moved by rail, the carcase butchers went to the ports and other places, and supplied themselves with meat?—They did.

7049. I want to know why they cannot do that now?—They can do that now, provided they can get a supply.

7050. Why cannot they get a supply now, if they could do it a few weeks ago?—They cannot get the same supply as at Hull.

7051. You mean that cattle are not imported into Hull?—Certainly not.

7052. Mr. *Dent.*] The home cattle supply around

Mr. *J. Higgins.*

18 June 1866.

around Leeds is quite exhausted now, is it not?—Nearly so.

7053. And at the time of which you have been talking there was a great number of beasts round Leeds slaughtered and sent into Leeds, and into the North Riding?—A great deal.

7054. *Chairman.*] Why do they not go on importing?—Because if an importer bring his cattle into Hull, they are compelled to slaughter them there. He can take his cattle alive to London, and if he brings them up to London, he has the advantage of a live market, and he always prefers a live-meat market to a dead-meat market.

7055. They cannot bring them alive into the London market from Hull?—No, but from foreign ports.

7056. You mean to say, that in preference to going to Hull they come to the port of London?—Yes. I was not surprised to hear a gentleman state they had a very good supply. There is no wonder. He said they could supply a hundred miles round.

7057. In fact, what used to go to Hull comes to London?—Certainly.

7058. By reason of the London market having the advantage?—Yes.

7059. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you know that practically the importation into Hull has decreased?—I am told it has not.

7060. Have you any figures for that statement?—I have no means of ascertaining the number; I may say that last week there was a very fair supply in Hull, but I believe that was occasioned by the very extraordinary prices that were paid for carcases the week previous.

7061. *Chairman.*] Is meat at a very high price in Leeds at the present time?—Very high indeed.

7062. What is the beef now?—The best beef and mutton sold at 11 *d.* per lb. retail price. The best butchers are charging their customers round, that price for family joints. Even the poorer and inferior joints are sold at 9 *d.* per lb.

7063. Do you know what number of beasts are required for the consumption of Leeds?—We require from five to six hundred weekly for the borough of Leeds.

7064. Is the Leeds market open now?—It is open now.

7065. What is the average number of cattle that come into the Leeds market?—We have had seven markets since the restriction was taken off. The average number for the five markets in May was 1,263 head, that is about 250 a week. The market following that was 186; last Wednesday we had 188. Our average supply ought to be from 500 to 600 per week.

7066. *Chairman.*] You say you want five or six hundred, and you do not get above 200 and odd in the markets. Where do your butchers get the rest of their supply now?—Some of our carcase butchers have had to come to London and buy carcases here. Some have gone to Liverpool, and others go to Hull. Some of them have sent their partners over to Hamburg for the purpose of buying beasts, and have chartered vessels for the purpose of supplying their customers in Leeds.

7067. Sending over dead meat from that port?—No; sending over live cattle to be slaughtered in Hull. I may say, that more than half the carcases of foreign beasts that have been slaughtered last month have been those that have been purchased by our own butchers in Hamburg.

7068. Mr. *Dent.*] Brought over and slaughtered in Hull?—Yes.

7069. Is there not a trade just sprung up in carcases, from Rotterdam to Hull; is not that just beginning?—I think they are permitted from Rotterdam. I have heard of it, but it would be too risky, I think, for much trade.

7070. *Chairman.*] You say the price of mutton is very high, but there are no restrictions on the movement of sheep?—No; mutton is generally ruled by the price of beef. Mutton and beef of the best quality generally go together, and sheep are very dear at the present time all over the country.

7071. You have formed some opinion as to the desirability of having public slaughter-houses in all large towns, have you not?—Yes; I have opinions of my own on that subject.

7072. What is your opinion?—I may say I have held these opinions long since; I held them many years ago. I think private slaughter-houses, especially in large towns like Leeds, and in towns larger than Leeds, are not conducive to the health of the inhabitants; and I do not think the trade would suffer anything, not in the least, in my opinion.

7073. We have been told by butchers in London that they could not look after their property so well in the public slaughter-houses?—I think that is all nonsense.

7074. They think they would lose some of the inside fat, and so on. Do you think that would be the case, that they would be robbed of the fat?—If they employed dishonest servants they would rob them in their own private slaughter-houses. I cannot understand how they would be robbed of the fat in a public slaughter-house.

7075. As regards the convenience of the trade, we are told they could not slaughter just when they wanted to in the public slaughter-houses; what is your opinion about that?—I should think the public slaughter-houses would be open for the slaughter of animals at any hour of the day, and at any day of the week; I should suppose so. I have never been at Edinburgh, but I understand from parties I have had conversation with that they suffer no inconvenience whatever; that the carcase butchers there can have a separate booth to slaughter; and, in point of fact, the Edinburgh slaughter-house is made up entirely of separate slaughter-houses and booths.

7076. So that each butcher can have his own private slaughter-house?—Yes, either for 200 bullocks or for 20 or 30.

7077. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think any distinction should be drawn between the carcase butcher and the retail butcher, with regard to slaughtering in public slaughter-houses?—If I drew any distinction at all, it would be in favour of the retail butcher.

7078. You mean to say he might be entitled to slaughter in his private slaughter-house, and not the carcase butcher; do you mean to say that you would allow the retail butcher to slaughter in his private slaughter-house, but not the carcase butcher?—If I conceded the point of private slaughter-houses it would be to the retail butcher, not to the carcase butcher.

7079. Mr. *Dent.*] You would want to slaughter at the outside, perhaps, 500 beasts a-week?—Yes.

7080. You know, in London, they want to slaughter 4,000?—Of course, it is a different thing in London; I am aware of that.

7081. You

7081. You cannot compare London with Leeds or any of those towns. Although it might be perfectly possible for Leeds, Birmingham, and Liverpool, it would be a different thing in London?—Yes, certainly.

7082. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] What would be the distance of your butchers from their slaughter-houses in Leeds. You have slaughter-houses in Leeds now, I suppose, in a tolerably central place. What is the distance from that to any of the butchers' private houses?—It is the outside butchers who have private slaughter-houses mostly.

7083. But from the central slaughter-houses round the town of Leeds, what would be the distance?—About three miles; three miles is about the furthest.

7084. *Chairman.*] Is dead meat still coming from Hull?—Yes.

7085. And practically Leeds has been supplied?—We had a large supply came last week; that supply was prejudicial to our butchers.

7086. Mr. *Dent.*] Did that lower the price of meat much?—It lowered the price of meat; it came in on the Saturday.

7087. *Chairman.*] How did it come in?—It came in in carcases, on the Saturday.

7088. Who was it consigned to?—To one or two of our carcase butchers; and coming in on the Saturday it had to be sold. It came in up to Saturday evening, at seven o'clock. It completely lowered the price of meat. I should say that would make such a difference to those butchers who had made their previous purchases in the live market, that it would take away their week's profit; I have no doubt about it.

7089. That has occurred since those gentlemen from Leeds gave evidence here?—It has.

7090. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Whence did it come?—It came from Hull.

7091. Mr. *Dent.*] Because, on the Wednesday previous, they had been buying first-class bullocks at high prices?—They had been buying them as high as 9 *d.* and 9¼ *d.* per pound.

7092. You have had lately a large number of north of England bullocks for the live market?—We have.

7093. At this time of the year the best supply is from the Northumberland bullocks?—Yes; they are considered the best beasts in England.

7094. That large supply of beasts coming in interferes with the sale?—I saw a lot of beasts sold the very Saturday following at 6½ *d.* and 6¾ *d.*, which, had they been at Leeds on the Wednesday in the week before, would have made 8 *d.* a pound in the carcase.

7095. *Chairman.*] What caused this supply of meat to come last Monday, do you know?—I cannot understand, unless they are making such a noise about it that they thought they would be able to get a very good market.

7096. Was it not because people learnt in this room that there was a great supply wanted in Leeds?—Some one on the other side must have got to know about it, and intended to make it a profitable speculation.

7097. Probably some one connected with the foreign trade in this room heard what the price of meat was at Leeds?—It might be so.

7098. And as soon as the want was known there was the supply?—More than a supply.

7099. Mr. *Dent.*] Probably he made a bad speculation, in consequence of which you will not get another cargo?—I am afraid not; I am afraid the prices will not enable them to send any more.

7100. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] We are told the market was held on Wednesday, but the principal purchase of meat was on Saturday, and between Wednesday and Saturday the meat got bad; is that the case, that the only market for meat is Wednesday?—That is the live market; but the butchers can keep their cattle.

7101. We have been told that the beasts were sold at Hull on Monday, and came into Leeds on Tuesday for the Wednesday market; we were told it would not keep well till the Saturday, which is the day when most of the poorer classes purchase their meat; is that the usual state of things?—No; they send them over quite fresh from Hull; they have sent them every day, quite fresh killed beasts, beasts that have been killed only the day before. The carcases that came in last week, I should say, had not been killed 12 hours; they were quite fresh; they were scarcely set, in fact; I have no doubt they had been killed that morning or during the Friday evening.

7102. Mr. *Carnegie.*] They were in a good state?—They were in a first-rate state; quite fresh. I have no doubt that that cargo had arrived in Hull on the Friday, and they had started killing them on Friday night and Saturday morning; and that was the way we got them. They came quite fresh, and were good in quality, and came in good condition.

7103. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Then the poorer classes at Leeds last Saturday had nothing to complain of?—No, they certainly had not at that time.

Thursday, 21st June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Graham.
Mr. Dent.	Lord Naas.
Mr. Wilbraham Egerton.	Sir Matthew Ridley.

MR. HUNT, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. WILLIAM TORR, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Torr.*

21 June 1866.

7104. Mr. *Dent.*] YOU are a large tenant farmer in Lincolnshire?—Yes.

7105. Tell us what you occupy there?—Rather over 2,000 acres; I think it is 2,200.

7106. Of course you keep a large flock of sheep, and a considerable amount of cattle?—Yes.

7107. You are not very much in the habit of buying cattle to graze; yours is more of a breeding place?—I have both; I buy largely young breeding stock, and the best short horns.

7108. Where do you generally buy your grazing stock?—Generally from the breeders themselves.

7109. You do not go to fairs?—Not much.

7110. From what part of England do you generally buy?—In my own county; I buy my young steers when they are for sale.

7111. You graze them during the summer and winter, and then sell them fat in the autumn to the butchers?—Yes; generally.

7112. Where is your principal market for sale of stock?—As to the bulk of our fat stock in my neighbourhood, the cattle go to the markets of Leeds and Wakefield principally, and some to Manchester.

7113. Do you ever send to the Metropolitan Market?—In the spring of the year we send a good few sheep.

7114. And you send a good many carcases, do you not?—A great many.

7115. Do you slaughter them yourself;—Yes; close to my own farm.

7116. You do not sell them to a butcher who slaughters them for you?—No; we sell them generally at home. We know the markets, and if we can get as much for them, we generally sell them at home.

7117. You do not take the risk of the consignments to London?—I do not.

7118. Have you found loss arise from making consignments to London as compared with selling alive?—Occasionally, not much.

7119. I think I remember your telling me once last winter there was a difference of something like 10 *s.* a head between carcases sent to London and live sheep sent to Leeds?—Yes; that happened to meet a Saturday's market in London, when it was over-glutted, which it is occasionally.

7120. Have you at all considered the question of the trade in stock since we have had the rinderpest in the country?—Yes, I have; the home trade.

7121. I presume you would not be prepared to put any restrictions on the home trade in cattle, provided the stock in the country were healthy and had no disease?—I think there is much more danger in our small markets in the country, where they are under no surveillance whatever, than there would be even in well-regulated larger markets.

7122. I mean to say as to the home-bred cattle and sheep, in ordinary times, when the rinderpest is not in the country, you would not put any restriction on the live stock market?—I think in large fairs there should be something for some time to come——.

7123. Some veterinary surgeon's inspection?—Yes; that is in large markets. We have a great objection to the small markets in small towns; they tend in no way to advance us as farmers; they are chiefly got up by small innkeepers and by little country jobbers who have no character to lose, and there has been more infection from them during the last six months than from the large markets.

7124. How would the buyers in the small country towns be supplied if you do away with the markets in those towns?—Are you speaking of dead meat or live stock?

7125. Take such a place as Brigg; if there were a market in Brigg how would the buyers and the villages round be supplied?—They are not supplied to any extent from it; they are more jobbing markets.

7126. With respect to the foreign trade, have you formed any idea as to the restrictions to be placed on the foreign trade?—Only since the rinderpest has been in the country; the general feeling is, that there should be large slaughter-houses in all import towns.

7127. And that the foreign cattle should only be conveyed in a dead state from the port of landing?—Yes, unless there was quarantine and separate store markets.

7128. We will first take the question of foreign cattle intended for slaughter; what do you say as to that?—I think they should all be slaughtered when they come on land.

7129. You think it would be possible to supply Leeds and Manchester and other large towns throughout the summer with meat slaughtered at Hull and Liverpool?—Quite so; Hull has a very large import; that would only be upon an excess over the ordinary supply of home stock; foreign stock is chiefly used as an overplus over and above the home supply.

7130. You

7130. You do not think it would be safe, in ordinary times, to take foreign cattle, say from Hull to Leeds, there to be exhibited in the market, and to be slaughtered at Leeds?—I think it would be very unsafe.

7131. You, yourself, have never been in the habit of buying any foreign stock to graze?—None.

7132. Are there any bought in the part of the country where you reside?—Not many; in the north of England, generally speaking, there are large breeders, and if any man cannot feed his own he has a neighbour, very likely, who is more a feeder than a breeder; in that manner they change hands, the stock generally working from the north to the south; we have had supplies of stock from the north which passes us and goes still further south.

7133. Still there are a certain number of supply store stock, and especially of milch cows, imported from abroad to this country; do you think those should be subjected to quarantine?—Yes; I think that would be a great safeguard.

7134. I think, generally, your view with respect to the home trade is, that you would not put a restriction on that unless it were possible to stop the small markets?—I think that the more the supplying markets are concentrated into larger markets, the better it will be for all parties, the better for the seller, the better for the buyer, and the better for the jobber.

7135. With regard to foreign stock, you would slaughter fat beasts, or beasts that were to be slaughtered in the port; and, as to store stock, you would subject them to quarantine?—I would.

7136. I am not merely speaking now as to the rinderpest existing in this country, but generally?—I think there is much more difficulty in the conveyance of dead meat to market than there would be, supposing it once got to a matter of business. I would explain that in this manner, if I may be allowed, At present, dead stock is sent to large markets to be sold; consequently the carcases get to market, and there is a glut in the market, and the stock suffers, but it is quite possible for a large portion of that, and eventually, I think, for the whole of it, to be slaughtered in the country, and it might be ordered beforehand.

7137. It might be ordered by the retail butcher?—Yes; the butcher would send an order down, perhaps, for 20 head of cattle to anyone 150 miles from him. There is no reason I should not send in to a butcher in London 20 sheep in a day if he wanted them, and they would be slaughtered within a very few hours of the time they would be in London. The great advantage of that would be that a very large portion of the offal would be left in the country, which offal bears a very large proportion to the beast itself. It is not wanted in London, and it would be left where it is wanted. The meat would come as well killed, and much better, by that plan, even in hot weather.

7138. By the word "offal" you are speaking of blood, hide, heads, and horns, not meaning tongues?—Hides, livers, lights, and heads.

7139. There would not be sufficient consumption for the whole of that offal in the country, would there?—There would very nearly, in small market towns and villages.

7140. Take your own case; supposing you slaughtered 20 sheep, how would you dispose of the heads and horns?—I should dispose of them all most readily at about 1*s.* or 1*s.* 2*d.* each; there are plenty of country people to take hundreds more of them than they can get, and they would not bear transit to London at that rate; our rate of wages is now 15 *s.* per week.

7141. Do you think it would not be a great deprivation to the working classes in large towns if they could not get them?—I am only saying, if those cattle that are slaughtered in the country; if the large towns afforded 10 per cent. more for them, they would find their way there as well as any other perishable article.

7142. I imagine you are always supposing there are to be still live-stock markets?—Yes.

7143. One to supplement the other?—Yes; I am wishing to show that there is much less difficulty in dead meat, or carcase meat, getting to market than has generally been supposed. The difficulty, as I said, is, that the system at present is, to send them at the vendor's own risk, and, consequently, a great risk; I say that risk can be most materially and almost effectually done away with by the cattle being slaughtered in the country to order; that is as far as that goes.

7144. Take your own case; you are the vendor certainly, but you sell to a butcher in the country, who takes the risk of sending them up?—That would then become a trade of itself; the butcher would be the same as a dead meat man, to a certain extent, in London. He would take care and have a ready supply at hand, as all our butchers have. He could go and get any quantity of cattle dead this afternoon. He could slaughter it according to his order. A message could be sent down to him this afternoon from London, and to-morrow afternoon the carcases would be fresh in London for that butcher himself.

7145. You have not sent any beef in that way, have you?—No; but I have sent a good deal of mutton. I sent a good deal of mutton last winter; so many a week were ordered; they went to Hull, not to London; I supplied a butcher in Hull with 30 a week.

7146. You have no experience in consigning carcases of beef to London?—No.

7147. There is a larger offal from a beast than a sheep; the offal for consumption is larger?—There is. I was told by Mr. Donald, who is now at St. James's Hall, that he took some contracts for regiments very readily, and got the whole of his meat from Aberdeen; it was all slaughtered in Aberdeen, and supplied by contract, better than he could do it in any other manner.

7148. Where did he have to deliver it?—I think he had to deliver it for shipment for the regiments in the Crimea. I am pretty certain it was at Southampton. He bought it at Aberdeen, and it was killed in Aberdeen. He knew what he wanted before he bought the carcases, and I think they all came from Aberdeen. Mr. Donald has had the Crystal Palace contract, and perhaps knows as much about the sort of thing as any man in England.

7149. *Chairman.*] You say you would like the store animals to be quarantined at the port of landing?—I think so.

7150. We have been told by the foreign trade that there would be a depreciation of the value of foreign animals if that was insisted upon?—I think that would soon arrange itself as to the foreign trade. A good deal of the foreign cattle

Mr. *W. Torr.*

21 June 1866.

is bought of the Jews, who are collectors, and chiefly by English agents.

7151. Do you think graziers would give more for store cattle that had been subject to quarantine?—There is not the slightest doubt of it.

7152. It would be like buying a horse with a warranty?—Certainly, for some time; what you lost on one hand you would gain on the other.

7153. You think the expense of keeping the beasts in quarantine would be amply repaid by the enhanced price?—It would be more than repaid, decidedly.

7154. Do many store animals come to your part of the country?—From Hamburgh and Rotterdam.

7155. Store animals; beasts and sheep?—Yes.

7156. And cows?—And cows. There have not lately been so many store cattle, because there has not been market for them, and no one would buy them. We have some German sheep.

7157. With regard to fat beasts, do you think there would be any difficulty in supplying the large towns of the West Riding with animals killed at the ports?—I think, as far as the foreign cattle goes, there would be no difficulty at all.

7158. Take it thus: supposing that depended mostly upon the foreign cattle, would there be a difficulty?—I think not; it would soon right itself.

7159. You think that there would have to be fresh arrangements made by the trade?—One arrangement is the railway fare; the railway companies now carry live stock at a lower rate than they do dead stock, and the chief reason of that is, that the railways are at no expense in putting them into the trucks, nor are they at any expense on their transit. The buyer merely hires his truck and drives them in, and the railway has no more expense about it. I think the railways would soon find, that to carry dead stock would pay them better than live stock, because they could carry much more dead stock by the same train than live stock, and would soon make the necessary arrangements.

7160. There is also this economy, is there not, that where you carry live animals to be killed a great deal of the offal has to come back again?—It goes into the worst market, instead of the best.

7161. So that when you send dead meat, you send the whole of it which is available for consumption?—Yes; and only that. The best fellmongering yards are in the country. The skins are not wanted in the towns generally.

7162. Supposing you kill beasts, to send to London dead, should you get them killed on your own farm, or get them driven to a slaughter-house?—I should kill them in districts, as I have mentioned, and that would soon become a sort of trade. Some farmers, who have advantages for that kind of thing, would kill their own animals, and we should soon get into it. It would not be necessary for every farmer to have his own butcher's shop, but it would with me.

7163. You think there would be a slaughter-house provided in most parishes?—I do.

7164. Did you approve of that provision, in my Cattle Plague Bill, requiring that there should be a slaughter-house provided?—I did. I mentioned this in evidence so far back as 1847, when I was examined here several times upon our railways.

7165. Do you think it would be the case that slaughter-houses would be erected near to the principal stations?—I do; they are now.

7166. Can you mention cases where there are such?—We had evidence here in one of the committees as to the large supply of lambs from Southampton; the slaughter-houses, as I understand, are close to the railway stations, to which the lambs are brought down, and there they remain, until an order comes down from some one who wants lambs; then they are slaughtered and sent, hung in trucks by their legs, and come to London, cooling as they come along.

7167. Does the meat set very well as it travels?—The meat has generally been sent in a wrong form; I think the railway truck wants to be a slaughter-house of itself, and that the meat should not be put in packing bags.

7168. I suppose you mean a "larder," rather than a slaughter-house?—That is the first slaughter-house; sheep could be carried in that manner to an immense distance; they would each hang by themselves, and the current of air would be much better than they get by the present system. The rule of the present system is, that they are put into bags, and piled one above another to a great height, and if they are not perfectly cold and set before they are so packed, they receive injury on the journey.

7169. If they were all hung and slung free in the meat vans, you think they would set perfectly well, and arrive in good condition?—As good as anything need be if properly done.

7170. What do you say about the railway dust?—That must be taken care of.

7171. How would you take care as to that?—You might have an awning round, and then have plenty of air.

7172. Do you mean that each carcase should have canvas round it?—Oh, dear no; that is not necessary; if your truck was perfectly well-ventilated, as to the dust, you might have some sort of very thin awning to prevent its getting inside the truck.

7173. Curtains inside the truck?—Yes, anything of that sort could soon be found out; I would venture the assertion that sheep might, in Mr. Dent's own county, the Yorkshire wolds, be killed there, and sent to London, after they had been perfectly set, and if sheep should be sent alive at the same time, and afterwards slaughtered in London, you would be able to tell the difference of the mutton in the eating.

7174. Do you mean to say that the advantage would be on the side of the country-killed sheep?—There is not the slightest doubt about that.

7175. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] It would set during the journey?—That would assist in setting it.

7176. You would have the 12 hours' setting first of all, before you put it into the truck?—Yes, I should, if I were not in a great hurry.

7177. In hot weather?—In hot weather; I maintain it will go better in that way, than when the sheep are crammed into trucks and get themselves heated, and immediately on landing in London are slaughtered when there is no time to keep and cool them.

7178. *Chairman.*] The railway journey hustling them out, and driving them through the streets, heats the blood of the animals and they do not kill so well?—No; because you have no means of getting the blood cool again.

7179. Does it come to the difference between the hunted hare and the shot hare?—It is exactly

exactly the same thing. If the animal dies cool with its blood in it, it is very good mutton; take the case of a sheep which has been drowned in cold water, that mutton is as good as any mutton need be, although it is not very nice to look at, it is good and wholesome.

7180. It has been suggested to us, that all animals coming from foreign parts should be branded on coming into the Port of London in the Metropolitan Market, and before they are allowed to go to butchers in the country?—I have not that great knowledge of the town market which would enable me to give a direct answer to that question, but common sense says, it would be one of our great sources of infection; and it has been so.

7181. You mean that experience says it?—Yes.

7182. And you would say that common sense shows we ought not to continue it?—Yes.

7183. Should you object to fat animals that have once been in the London market coming out again?—Indeed I should; I would not buy them at any price, to mix with stores.

7184. Should you object to their coming down by train to slaughter-houses in large towns?—I should, if they came near me.

7185. Where would you think the risk would lie?—The risk is in bringing those animals principally to stations to which we have to take our own cattle; there is the same pen, there are the same footmarks, and there are the same trucks.

7186. They are treading the same ground?—They are treading the same ground, and they travel in the same trucks, and we could get no safety, even if we asked for clean trucks.

7187. They might be shunted inside with other animals?—That is the great risk. I have seen the abattoirs in Paris; I think the whole of the town of Paris is supplied by five abattoirs, and they seem to have no difficulty in any shape or way. They are managed entirely by government, a duty is paid for them, and they are under military discipline.

7188. Should you wish to prevent store animals going to the Metropolitan Market?—They have no business there.

7189. You would confine that market to fat animals?—Yes; if a store market was necessary, I would have a store market in the environs of London, and make it separate to itself, separating the store market from the fat market. The reason for that is, you would have a better command over them; if a man does not think a beast quite fat enough now, he sells it for a store, and if the store market is rather bad, and the meat market good, he sells it for a fat one. It is very difficult as to these men, who get their living as jobbers, to get at them in any way, because they naturally say, we will sell our beasts as we like.

7190. Supposing all animals that went to Copenhagen-fields were branded, to show that they had been there, that would prevent that taking place?—It might prevent it; but there are so many shifty ways, that I do not know that it would. I think if there could be an arrangement for quarantine, within a convenient distance from London, and a store market adjacent or convenient to it, it would be a very great improvement.

7191. Mr. *Dent.*] You do not want stores for London, but only milch cows?—I think it would be an improvement, both to the vendor and to the purchaser, inasmuch as if I wanted to buy a lot of cattle for grazing, I could go there.

7192. *Chairman.*] As matter of practice, do people go to the Metropolitan Market to buy store cattle?—I do not know that, but I know that stores come down to the country, both sheep and cattle, that have failed to be sold in the market as fat stock.

7193. If the fat stock market is low, they are sent down to the provincial markets, to be sold for feeding again?—They are fed on a little more. Lately we have had store stock at a higher proportion in value, the whole of the spring, than fat stock, yet a deal of the stock have been sold for fat instead of stores.

7194 Mr. *Dent.*] Are store cattle proportionately much dearer this spring than they were last spring?—Yes. If you go down to one-and-a-half-year old and two-years' old.

7195. Will you tell us how much dearer they are, on an average, taking two-year olds, such as you would generally buy?—Taking a yearling steer (I am now speaking of good ones), that I should have bought in 1865 for 12 *l.* or 14 *l.* it will now cost me 14 *l.* or 15 *l.*

7196. Does this apply to Irish cattle during this spring, do you think?—The Irish cattle have not been allowed to be imported; they have been higher, but not in the same proportion. The grass land in Ireland, I must tell you, is going down a good deal in rent this year.

7197. Mr. *Graham.*] Your impression is that the whole of the foreign store cattle should be quarantined?—It is.

7198. Would not that be a deterring consideration with the foreign shippers; if their cattle were to be quarantined, would it not prevent their sending cattle altogether, or to a large extent?—I think not, inasmuch as they are generally bought by Englishmen going over for them. The bulk of the foreign cattle are bought by men going over, and making their purchases, and bringing them back. There is not much consignment.

7199. The reason for quarantining them is that there is danger of their infecting other cattle, if they get mixed with them?—So frequently has rinderpest been in most countries of Europe—in fact, extending over so much of it—that I think greater care should be taken as to having the quarantine.

7200. Then the man who goes abroad, and brings back with him a quantity of stock cattle, would be obliged to quarantine them; would there not be an extra risk, in consequence of that, of getting them diseased during the quarantine?—The usual practice is this: if a man goes over to Frankfort, or any town abroad, he finds the cattle are generally collected for him, principally by the Jews. He then makes a bargain for 100 or 150, at so much a-head. He then takes charge of them, and brings them down to a shipping port, say Rotterdam or Hamburg. He then makes his arrangements with a Hull steamer, to bring over whatever he has got. Those come to the port, and they have been collected abroad from all countries, although he buys them from one. There is the great risk of rinderpest. He brings them into England, and he would make a still greater profit of them, if he could put them in quarantine, and give them a warranty.

7201. Supposing him to have taken care to select sound animals, I ask you whether he would not

Mr *W. Torr.*

21 June 1866.

not be exposed to an extra risk by being forced to quarantine them in the quarantine ground?—Of course he would, or else the quarantine would be of no use, and he would consider that in making his bargain abroad, whether he would run the risk or not if he bought it with a risk, he would buy it for less money than if he bought them in a tolerably healthy district.

7202. It is not the risk abroad I am speaking about, but as to the risk he would incur in putting the cattle, which I presume to be sound, into a quarantine ground where there might be diseased cattle?—Do you mean his fresh cargo?

7203. Yes; would not that be a risk?—To a certain extent; but we have not arrived yet at such immense quantities from the various places, and I suppose the quarantine ground would not be all in one situation; there would be separate yards; the very yard the cattle are going into might, as you say, be infected, but there disinfectants must be used, and it would be a great deal safer that they should be kept there than to let them go into the country and thereby spread the disease.

7204. It would be safer to the country, no doubt, but I am speaking of his interest in his own cattle?—The fellows that go over are very shrewd men; they are, no doubt, the shrewdest men I have ever met with in my life; they would have to take more care on the other side.

7205. I am not quite sure whether you understand my question yet; I am presuming that the man has got a lot of perfectly sound cattle, and that he brings them down to the port, and the law which you propose says he must put them into a general quarantine ground, is his risk not greatly enhanced by that?—I should say it might be so, if rinderpest was abroad.

7206. And the cost raised by the increased risk?—It would be if there were any cases broke out, no doubt, in the quarantine.

7207. But whether that was so or not, there would be an increased risk?—Yes; but if he could give a warranty it would be worth a deal more money to him.

7208. It would raise the price of foreign cattle?—Yes, by the warranty.

7209. And, of course, would be a great advantage to the English breeder of cattle?—The grazier would never think of 1*l.* a head more, or even more than that if he could be satisfied that they were quite healthy.

7210. Anything which tends to raise the general price of cattle would be of advantage to the English breeder?—They do not come exactly in juxtaposition there, or not so much so. The English breeder is very generally a grazier as well as a breeder; you cannot separate the two distinctly, and what is gained on the one hand is lost on the other.

7211. The English breeder and grazier would give a higher price for the article, and, therefore, the foreign stock would be enhanced in value?—Not a very great deal; it would, to some extent, if healthy.

7212. Mr. *Dent.*] If the grazier gives so much less for the fat stock it must be so?—It cuts both ways; it would be so, to a certain extent.

7213. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Do I understand you think the principal advantage the English grazier would get would be more in security from disease than an increased price?—It would, to begin with, no doubt.

7214. Mr. *Graham.*] You spoke of dealers going over to the Continent to buy. Do you mean that with reference to store cattle or to fat cattle?—Both.

7215. Is it not the case that foreign cattle from Holland are imported into Hull from different ports there on foreign account?—No, it is not so, generally.

7216. You spoke of the fat cattle being slaughtered at the ports of import. Of course, a butcher has now the advantage of cattle imported to a number of different ports, and brought altogether; how could a butcher superintend his business at four or five different ports of import at one and the same time without great additional inconvenience and expense; take the case of a London butcher, for instance?—A large supply and demand regulates itself. A London butcher would be chiefly supplied from the Thames; he would not have to come to the Humber for his beast; but the Manchester man and the Leeds man would.

7217. Then the Manchester man's choice of markets would be limited; he could not be in two or three markets at once?—Taking the case of the Manchester market, and the Leeds and Wakefield markets, which are the large Midland markets, and chiefly supplied from Hull, if there is more demand, there would be still more steamers put on.

7218. You would not allow the cattle to come up from Manchester again?—No; I would have a slaughterhouse at Hull, or elsewhere.

7219. Then he would only have the choice of Hull; he could not get to any other place?—Most butchers have foremen, and some have men that are better qualified than themselves. The butcher would have his foreman at Hull, the same as he has at any other market. On Wednesday we have the Wakefield market; and very likely there is a market on Wednesday at some of the other towns as well.

7220. Does not a butcher deal more advantageously by having his supplies brought, and all concentrated at one market from these different sources, than if he had to send out agents to those different sources?—He gets a very great advantage by being able to go to two or three markets in the week.

7221. How so?—If, for instance, Leeds be full, his man would buy more at Manchester; and if Manchester be over stocked, he buys at Wakefield. These markets are regulated with the greatest nicety, like corn markets. It is better for him to have the opportunity of two or three markets.

7222. And that he should be compelled to do so?—His own wants would compel him to do so; he would not rely on one market. Many of these butchers at Wakefield, or other towns, have men who buy for them on commission in the country; that is already, as I consider, a step in the right direction.

7223. You propose that the butcher should send his orders to the country, and have the cattle killed there. Can a butcher do as well if he has to positively order a certain quantity to be killed at a distance from where he is as if he had himself gone to the market and purchased in competition with various dealers?—I think he would; I think the trade would create that tendency; there are some very great advantages in it.

7224. You think a butcher would not make a better bargain for his beast, being a healthy beast, if he were in the market than he would if

he sent an order by telegram to you on your farm?—What I think is, that the man who sells should know the value. If the market is against him one week, it would be for him the next; it depends a great deal on the markets. If Leeds wants 700 bullocks, and there are only 400 in the market, then it is the grazier's turn; and if it wants 400, and there are 700 in the market, then it is the butcher's turn. I think generally the farmers gain as much by going to market, if there is a competition of buyers, as the buyer does if there is a competition of sellers. We as farmers rather like large fairs, where we get a competition of buyers. We think, generally speaking, we get paid by going to a fair or market, and get more than we do by selling at home.

7225. I gather from your answer, that the tendency of this measure would be to do away with the competition of buyer and seller in the markets?—The same would take place in the country where they were brought for sale. If I got a profit this week on buying on commission, I should lose, perhaps, next week. The competition would be more in the country where it is now less, and less in the towns where it is now more. I think that meets the case. The competition would be sent into the districts.

7226. I think you said, that at present, the cattle are sent at the sender's risk?—Yes; to the dead meat market.

7227. And that this would throw the risk of sending the cattle on the buyer?—Yes, but a small one.

7228. You yourself are a vendor?—Yes. I am speaking now of the dead carcases. I am a vendor of dead meat; as to live stock, I am a buyer and a vendor.

7229. Can you suggest any other great article of consumption that is dealt with in that way, simply by order, from hand to mouth?—I know that poultry and fish are very much ordered in the country. We have a large trade from Grimsby, about five miles from me. You have fish here in plenty by four o'clock in the morning, alive, that was at Grimsby at nine o'clock the night previous.

7230. The fish is not sent until it is ordered?—I understand a great deal of that fish trade is carried on in this way: the fish is fetched from the railway station in waggons, with a pair of horses, and taken to the party who has contracted for it, or bought it in Grimsby; but it is carried further now; it is brought from Norway and sent up alive; it is brought up alive to Billingsgate.

7231. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you mean by being brought up alive, that it is kept in ice?—No; in water-tight waggons; and there is a pair of horses meets the train at King's Cross every morning. I have seen this.

7232. Does salmon come up in that way?—Salmon and other fish. In the season a great deal of cod comes. As to the fish market, as far as the live fish is concerned, if I understand it rightly (I may be misinformed), these waggons are sent for by the party whose fish is in them in the morning. They provide a pair of horses and fetch it into their own shops.

7233. Mr. *Graham.*] That is a different thing from sending an order to buy fish for their daily wants?—Yes; it is, perhaps, different, not much so.

7234. That does not satisfy the conditions of my question, whether there is any great article of consumption in the country that is dealt with in this way, simply by orders from London?—I am not aware of it, to any great extent. I mentioned those lambs from Southampton; and there are pigs also, and calves, I believe; but I do not like to mention anything I am not personally acquainted with.

7235. Mr. *Dent.*] All you propose is this: that this dead meat trade should be supplementary to the live markets?—To a live market in the country.

7236. For English stock?—Yes. I should like a live market in London too.

7237. Mr. *Graham.*] But only for English stock, not for foreign?—Only for English stock; not for foreign. I think it should be kept separate to itself.

7238. Mr. *Dent.*] You do not propose that the foreign stock coming into the Port of London should not go into the Metropolitan market?—I am not sufficiently a judge of that. I think the great thing is to keep the markets separately, and not to allow the stock to go into the country until it has been subjected to quarantine. I think that is the safest course for the purchaser and consumer, and everyone; it is the common safety I look at.

7239. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Have you had the disease in your district?—Yes; we have in Lincolnshire.

7240. And are fully alive to the necessity of taking all precautions as to the prevention of the introduction of the disease?—Yes; if Mr. Hunt's Bill had passed we should not have had so much loss, there is no doubt about that.

7241. Mr. *Dent.*] You have been fortunate enough to escape the rinderpest?—We have been fortunate enough to escape it, and therefore I have been satisfied; I know I ran great risk.

7242. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Is the traffic of cattle out of Lincolnshire stopped now, or is it treated as an infected district still?—No, only as far as particular villages go; we have some villages under petty sessional regulations, which are written off, and from which cattle cannot come out.

7243. Were there great complaints when the traffic in cattle was stopped altogether?—During the winter months I do not think there were any of consequence.

7244. The markets could be supplied with dead meat equally well?—Quite as well.

7245. Did the producer gain by that; did the farmer get as good a price for his meat, as he would otherwise have done?—I think I may put it in this manner. During the winter months up till lately, the price of mutton and meat was not enhanced to any serious extent, but now we want the land stocking, and there is an increased demand for store stock, and thus both beef and mutton are enhanced.

7246. Do you think that the price of meat will rise?—I think the price of beef will not rise so much as has generally been anticipated.

7247. It will be kept down by importation of foreign stock?—By the foreign meat coming in in a half cured or cured state. There is a drawback now as to the sheep, the wool is of course materially affected; it is a great deal lower.

7248. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Have you bought foreign stock from Hull lately?—Never; I never should do it.

Mr. *W. Torr.*

21 June 1866.

7249. Have you had an opportunity of seeing the condition in which animals are disembarked on importation into Hull?—Yes; I have seen a great deal of it.

7250. What is your opinion of the system by which they are landed on board those boats?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with that; I know that lately they have imported them in good condition. They are not brought so ragged as they were some years ago; I think they pay the collectors better, and they bring them in a better state than they used to, especially sheep.

7251. Do you think, as a practical man, as I know you to be, that it could be arranged that cattle could be watered on their railway journey in the trucks?—That has been attempted, and it could be done at certain particular stations. I do not know why it should not; I believe that there is a very great difficulty in getting them to drink in the trucks themselves.

7252. You think they could not be watered within the trucks?—I think it would be very difficult to do so, very.

7253. That is a point upon which the Committee want practical information?—The difficulty of it is, that when these jobbers take the trucks they pay for the trucks, at so much per head, and consequently it is their interest to cram as many in as they can. They put in 18 beasts where there should be 14, and 14 where there should be 10.

7254. In what way is it that these small markets to which you allude appear to you to be prejudicial, rather than otherwise, to the interests both of the public and the grazier?—First of all, if I am to take the grazier, he goes to one of these markets where there is only very inferior stock in the hands of little jobbers, and he cannot get hold of any good beasts, generally speaking. Then again, the respectable jobbers, who are men of capital and really respectable, do not go to these small fairs, because there is no scope for them, and the farmers do not go where the chief jobbers do not go. These small fairs are carried on by small jobbers, pig jobbers, and so on, and these little men go and buy a cow, and are not particular whether she has rinderpest or anything else, so that they can make 5 *s.* out of her. A respectable jobber does not do that. It may be that this little jobber gets this cow sold to another jobber, and so the cow may go to half a dozen of these small fairs. As to these men (I do not want to say more of them than they deserve) they generally have no character to lose, and they care for nothing.

7255. Would you propose that the holdings of these markets should be prohibited, except in towns of a certain population or size?—Entirely; I think they are the worst things for everything; I am not speaking interestedly; I would allow a pig market, but I would not have a pig market turned into a small cattle market. Some of these things have proved to be most dangerous.

7256. Have not these cattle markets been created in consequence of the requirements in the part of the country in which they have existed?—I do not think so; no district in England has suffered more than your own districts in the north, by having so many of the fortnightly markets.

7257. What places in the north of England do you mean?—Take any of your best towns, take Northallerton or Darlington. They are better where they have fewer markets in the year than they are when they have fortnightly markets; on principle. On principle, the frequency of the markets do no good, and occasion great risk.

7258. Surely you would not class Darlington among those towns?—No, indeed, I do not; I think that is one of the very best and largest; I was only giving you an example; I know that the farmers in the north of England think that the frequency of the markets do no good; we know that the Scotchmen have a great objection to them. There they have large trysts, and the great fairs of Scotland are much better attended, and there is much greater competition in every shape and way than in the small markets of little country towns.

7259. Can you tell the Committee of the advance of price within this last month on beef and mutton in your district of England?—Mutton has got up to about 9 *d.* I made 9 *d.* last week, and I made 9 *d.* before the fleece was on, and four months ago that would be equal to 1½ *d.* a pound difference. We are selling them now without the wool, and before we were selling them with the wool. I think if I were to say 1 *d.* a pound difference, it would not be far out.

7260. Is the quantity of fat stock in your district at the present time very much lower than usual?—Yes, and of course dearer.

7261. So it is equally in the north of Yorkshire, with which you are well acquainted?—Yes; that has arisen from the large quantity of cattle that have been slaughtered not in a fat state. I generally have about this time 120 grazing steers, and I have now only 84; I have sold a good many at about 28 *l.* each, that I should have made 40 *l.* of next October.

7262. What is the largest market town near Grimsby?—Grimsby is not a large town of itself; it is a large importing town. Lincoln is our best town; but it is more a market for providing other counties. We have no consuming town in the county; more stock goes out of the county of Lincoln, over and above our own consumption, than any county in England.

7263. Have you seen the last prices quoted for beef in the Newcastle market?—I heard there was a rise in beef.

7264. I have a quotation this morning that the best beef and the best steers are 11 *s.* per stone of 14 pounds?—Very likely; I was going to say perhaps 10 *d.*; I have seen some sold at 10 *s.* Our graziers will not sell, because the country is, so to speak, denuded. I made 45 *l.* of my last year's beasts; I have none this year.

7265. *Chairman.*] That was the case all over the country; people were in such a panic about the rinderpest, they sent off beasts half fatted to the market?—Yes, every one did almost.

7266. Some of them were only what you would call an ordinary year's lean?—In some parts of Lincoln they make the steers half fat before turning them out. They have a large allowance of oil cake in the fold yard.

7267. Have you had any difficulty in stocking your land this spring?—I have not sold largely this spring, or I should have had.

7268. Have any of your neighbours?—Many of my neighbours have gone largely into sheep, and of course the pastures are much larger than they would have been in an ordinary year.

7269. Where do you supply yourselves with steers from principally?—I supply myself generally from my own neighbourhood. Very large droves come down from the north of England in March and April, from the large fairs in the north

north—from Darlington, and as far north as Scotland.

7270. Have these droves come down this year, —No.

7271. I suppose the restrictions prevented it? —The restrictions prevented it, and they would be wanted more at home; they were considered risky, and not looked after.

7272. In answer to the Honourable Member for Glasgow, you stated you thought it would be an improvement that orders should come down to the butchers and graziers to sell so many cattle, and that that would be an improvement of the system of sending them to the market?—Yes.

7273. Do you think it will be the case, that agents will spring up, who will go round to the farmers and cattle owners, and have a general knowledge of what stock there is?—That would be the very best occupation that could be offered to any one now.

7274. You think that will be the course of trade for the future?—Yes, certainly. Some encouragement should be given to it. It would be a very fine opening.

7275. In that way you think farmers would get as good prices on their own farms for animals as they do now by sending them to market?—I think they would. A good deal of that is done at present; but it is not done in right manner.

7276. It is the case now, that many butchers contract with the farmers to take so many head of stock per week and per month?—There is a good deal of that done; I do it myself.

7277. A great deal of fat stock is killed without ever going to the fat stock market; is it not?—Yes, an immense proportion, and it is growing and increasing every year. In fact, a very large proportion is now, particularly, in spring-fed sheep, which is a great illustration of that. As to spring-fed sheep—"hoggets," one-year old sheep, that have not been clipped—the trade is now entirely carried on by butchers buying them and making a sale of the fleece, and sending them to market without the fleece, instead of sending the sheep with its wool on. The price of wool is better at home. If the sheep is clipped at home, it is then called good wool, and there has been a great profit upon it. Going to market rather detracts from it. In fact, it has got quite a trade. The bulk of our hoggets go in that manner.

7278. The Honourable Member for Glasgow asked you if there was any general article of consumption treated in the way in which it is proposed to deal with the meat. Is it not the case, that there is no article of consumption that stands upon the same footing as meat?—I think there are many other articles equally as perishable, if you mean that.

Mr. *W. Torr.*

21 June 1866.

7279. I mean to say there is no other article of consumption which is in the same condition as sheep and beasts, which you cannot keep in large towns?—No, there is not. Neither alive nor dead. Alive, it is worse than dead; and if you have to turn them out generally, it is worse than anything.

7280. The only thing you can compare it to, is to poultry and fish?—Yes.

7281. You think that people ought to wait for orders from London before they send them up? —And as to lambs from the south, and fish; that is quite practicable.

7282. Supposing you send up a lot of beasts to the London market, and it is a bad market, you would suffer a great loss?—Yes, but it must be a very bad market if they are not sold. Store animals very seldom get to London.

7283. Is it not the case that sometimes you have a lot of beasts, and you send some out of the lot to one market and some out of the lot to another market, and that sometimes the best animals do not fetch the best prices?—It is not generally the case.

7284. But it does happen so sometimes?—Yes, it does. We know very well what suits the different markets. For instance, I should not send my largest sheep to London; I should send my largest sheep to Manchester and Wakefield, because they like the large sheep there, much better than the Londoners do.

7285. You have different breeds of sheep, have you not?—You see in breeding different kinds of sheep, they form themselves into size. I have 3,000 sheep; my small sheep I bring to London. I have some pure Leicesters, and some cross between Lincolns and Leicesters. My small sheep make me a penny a pound more than my larger ones.

7286. You have no black face?—No.

7287. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do your large graziers during the winter months have sales by auction, which the butchers attend?—That is not much practised in our county; very little. We have some, but it is generally done by gentlemen; we generally send ours away, as they get ready. Supposing you have got 10 beasts ready, you would send those 10 beasts this month and send another 10 next month. I send all my sheep off in that manner. Upon an average, I send sheep 30 weeks out of the 52.

7288. To retail customers?—Yes, some of them are. I have very good grazing land, and very good breeding land, and I feed all I breed.

Mr. Thomas Hudson, called in; and Examined.

7289. *Chairman.*] Are you a Farmer and Grazier?—Yes.

7290. Where do you reside?—At Castleacre, in Norfolk.

7291. Are you in partnership with your father?—I am not in partnership, but we are farming in the same parish.

7292. What number of acres do you and your father occupy altogether?—Rather over 2,000.

7293. Is yours a sheep farm?—It is principally arable, but we graze bullocks and sheep in the winter months, with the turnips.

Mr. *T. Hudson.*

7294. Have you a large flock of sheep?—Not a very large breeding flock.

7295. You buy in, do you?—We buy in, as lambs, at this period of the year.

7296. Where do you buy principally?—Principally of the large flock masters in the county. Some come from the West of England, and some from Hampshire.

7297. Where do you buy your beasts?—Generally it has been at Norwich or Peterborough, at the large fairs. We have but a small quantity of grazing land, and we keep scarcely

Mr. *T. Hudson.*

21 June 1866.

scarcely any beasts during the summer months; they are nearly all bought in the autumn of the year.

7298. Mr. *Carnegie.*] You do not breed?—Not at all. Large droves of beasts were brought, previously to the restrictions, from Scotland, Devonshire, and the north of England. A great quantity were brought from Ireland to Norwich Hill.

7299. *Chairman.*] You buy of any breed that will answer your purpose?—Of any breed, I think I may say, excepting foreign stock. We do not buy foreign stock.

7300. Have you suffered much from cattle plague in that part?—A great deal. We have not ourselves suffered much. My father has a small grazing farm of about 200 acres, near Lynn, where he had a slight outbreak of the disease. Further than that we have had nothing. It has been in our immediate locality, and some of our neighbours have suffered great loss by it.

7301. You heard the examination of the last witness?—I did.

7302. Do you agree with him in the matter?—I do not.

7303. What are the points on which you differ from him?—For my own part I prefer the competition of the London Market, I must say.

7304. You like sending up live animals?—I do; In fact I can prove that it is a dead loss to us to send the slaughtered stock up to London.

7305. In what way do you lose if you do that?—We have no market for the offal of the beast, and there is another thing; the railway company charges us nearly double freight upon a dead bullock, and the commission charged by the salesman in Newgate Market is higher.

7306. With regard to their being one market for the offal, is yours a thinly populated neighbourhood?—Very.

7307. Mr. *Dent.*] What are the labourers' wages?—The standard is about 11 *s.* now, but at this period the men principally are upon piece work, and earn from 15 *s.* to 18 *s.*

7308. *Chairman.*] Does the labouring population consume much meat?—Not a great deal.

7309. You think you would have great difficulty in disposing of the offal?—I am sure we should very great; I can instance it; We have killed several sheep this winter, and the offal has been obliged to come to London or at least a portion of the offal. Certain portions would not pay the carriage to get them to London, whereas if they were sent up alive the London butchers would have the opportunity of making something considerable of that offal; I allude to the tripe and the blood.

7310. Have you ever sent sides of beef up to London?—Yes; but not as a matter of trade. It has occurred thus: perhaps a beast has not been apparently doing quite well, and it has been killed and sent to London.

7311. During the stoppage of the railway movement of cattle, did you then kill and send to London?—We killed a few.

7312. You did not find it answer?—I found a dead loss of from 5 *l.* to 10 *l.* an animal; some of the beasts that were sent up in March really made nothing at all; and I can instance that on this small farm of my father's, where this outbreak of cattle plague took place, 23 of the animals, out of the 24, were killed; one animal was condemned by the inspector, and he advised my father to kill the rest of them, and 23 were killed and sent to London. Certainly, they were not fat beasts, but beasts kept in a store state that would be put on this grass land in May; they did not make above 2½ *d.* a lb. in the early part of March.

7313. But that was a forced sale?—Yes.

7314. When many people were doing the same thing?—Yes; there was a glut in the market at the time.

7315. What happened upon that particular occasion, would not be a rule as to what you would expect?—No; had those animals been kept, perhaps, six weeks longer, or had the outbreak occurred six weeks later, in all probability the animals would have made double what they did.

7316. The probability is, that there was a glut in Newgate-market at that time in consequence of other people sending up from fear of the cattle plague?—It is so; but then I allude to the other one losing from 5 *l.* to 10 *l.* I killed five beasts myself, and there was a great loss upon them; beasts which would have made 28 *l.* each, did not bring me home more than 21 *l.*

7317. When was that?—I think that was about the latter part of February.

7318. That was after the prohibition came into force?—It was; either the latter part of February, or the commencement of March.

7319. The prohibition as to moving cattle came into force on the 20th February and continued till the 16th April?—I know it was very soon after the prohibition.

7320. It was during that period?—It was during that period; and I am sure I can hardly say how we could manage with the killing of the sheep during the spring months. We send 300 or 400 sheep a week to London, I should think our returns have been about 7,000 sheep this spring; and it would have been an utter impossibility to have killed all those sheep.

7321. You could not have killed them on your own farm?—We could have killed them, but there would have been such a loss, we could not have got rid of the offals.

7322. What station do you send them from?—On the Great Eastern Railway from Swaffham station.

7323. Is there any demand for offal?—None.

7324. It is a small town?—Yes; of between 2,000 and 3,000 inhabitants.

7325. Did you hear Mr. Torr's evidence respecting the quarantining of foreign animals?—I agree with him there entirely that they should be quarantined.

7326. Do you agree with him that graziers would give a higher price for animals that had undergone quarantine?—Yes; I think they would; because they would not have the risk which they otherwise would have.

7327. What have you to say to this, that there would be a risk of animals catching disease under quarantine?—I should think they would be liable to it if a lot of diseased animals went into the quarantine ground.

7328. Would not the effect of quarantine be to make people very careful of what they sent over?—It would.

7329. They would not be likely to send a suspicious beast?—They would not; it would be a hard matter. As Mr. Torr says, these animals are collected by dealers abroad, and sold by dealers in large lots.

7330. They would take more care of them on the

the other side of the water?—I should hope they would.

7331. Is it not the case that in these ports, where the suspicion is great, they keep the animals on the other side of the water more; have you any experience of that?—Not for the last few years. Beasts used to be imported at Lowestoft, but we do not get them there now so much; they go to Harwich.

7332. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Would not the fat animals with foot and mouth disease taint the quarantine ground?—I think no more than the steamboat itself would be tainted.

7333. *Chairman.*] There is always a risk of their catching diseases on board the boats in which they come across?—Always.

7334. And at the landing-place; in fact wherever they come?—Yes.

7335. Have you much foot and mouth disease in Norfolk?—At the present time we are freer from it than we have been for years.

7336. To what should you attribute that?—I can hardly say; perhaps the prohibition of fairs may have a little to do with it. I know that at Norwich Hill, which is a very large fair, every week the ground was completely tainted with the disease.

7337. Nothing could go into the market without getting it?—Scarcely anything could.

7338. Do you think foot and mouth disease is such a disease that animals having it ought to be stopped at the port of landing?—No, I think not; they would have to remain too long.

7339. Do you think that they ought to allow animals with foot and mouth disease to pass the inspection?—I hardly know how I can answer the question. Sometimes this disease will only affect three beasts in a lot, and then the other ones might, perhaps, keep falling down with it for six weeks or two months.

7340. There is a difference in practice to what there used to be at the ports; formerly they used to stop the whole cargo, and now they only stop the animals which actually have got it; which do you think is the right course to adopt?—It would lead to serious inconvenience, and serious loss to the importer were they all to be stopped.

7341. You think the present course is a right one, to stop those which have actually got it, and let the others pass?—I think so; I do not see what else they could do.

7342. Supposing that you have a quarantine for foreign animals, would you let the animals pass out of quarantine until they were cured of the foot and mouth complaint?—I think the quarantine is more especially for the stoppage of the rinderpest than the foot and mouth disease.

7343. Do you think anything of it with regard to pleuro-pneumonia?—No; I think not.

7344. You wish to have a quarantine simply as a safeguard against a re-introduction from abroad of the rinderpest in case we should get rid of it here?—Yes.

7345. Would you confine the quarantine to animals coming from countries where they have the rinderpest, or would you apply it to all animals coming from all foreign countries?—I think, strictly to all.

7346. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Are you aware there are some countries where there has been no rinderpest, such as Sweeden, Denmark, and Spain?—Yes; I am perfectly well aware of it.

7347. *Chairman.*] You would like to see all foreign animals subjected to quarantine?—Yes, and the fat cattle slaughtered at the outport; I should say that only a certain number of ports ought to be allowed; I should limit the number of ports; I know that small cargoes are sent into small ports; for instance, into Yarmouth in our own county; where there are no means of supervision at all; the beasts are landed and driven through the country, spreading the disease in all quarters.

7348. You think, supposing you limited the import to certain ports you would have a more rigorous inspection?—I think so.

7349. You would limit it to those ports where they could have proper quarantine grounds?—Yes.

7350. With regard to the fat stock, you would wish to see all those slaughtered at the ports?—I should, decidedly.

7351. Would you not allow fat stock to me up to the London market?—I think not, for this reason, that the trucks, directly the beasts are unloaded at Tottenham or in Copenhagen Fields, are immediately sent down again, and the probabilities are, would be used for store cattle.

7352. Of what port are you now speaking?—Harwich.

7353. Leave alone Harwich for a moment, and answer this question; would you object to cattle landed at Blackwall going into the London market?—I think there had better be abattoirs at Blackwall, where they are landed, because when once they get away from the landing stage, they may be driven through certain districts where cattle may be.

7354. It has been proposed that they should be branded in such a way as would be unmistakeable, and should be allowed to go to Copenhagen Fields, but not allowed go out of the market again, except to the slaughter-house?—I think that has been very little safeguard during the last few months, because I know there have been beasts surreptitiously smuggled away from the Copenhagen market.

7355. Have they been taken to farms, or have they been taken to slaughter-houses?—They have been taken to slaughter-houses.

7356. In the country?—In the country.

7357. Do you mean that they have been driven or taken by rail?—Taken by rail.

7358. And you think that whatever regulation you had, it would be evaded?—I think it would; I think that the other would be the safer way; then they could not get away from the authorities.

7359. Do you know much of the Copenhagen Fields market; do you ever attend it?—Yes.

7360. Frequently?—Three or four times in the course of the year, when our animals are up in London.

7361. Do you think it would be a disadvantage to the trade that there should be a separation of the foreign and English cattle market?—No, I think not, and for this reason; the foreign stock, generally speaking, go to a different class of butchers to the English stock.

7362. You think that practically, there is very little competition between the two in the market?—I think there is not; I think a great many of the west-end butchers prefer killing the home-fed beasts.

7363. Does not the presence of a number of foreign animals in the market help to keep down the price of the English animals?—Of course it

Mr. *T. Hudson.* 21 June 1866.

it has an influence, but Blackwall and Copenhagen-fields are so close, that there would not be that difference that there would be if the London butchers had to go to Hull, to Harwich, or Liverpool, or wherever the beasts might be landed.

7364. You think the presence of foreign animals at some port down the river in the neighbourhood of Blackwall or Woolwich would have the same effect on the price of the English market as if they were in the market itself?—I think it would, the same as Newgate and Leadenhall have on the live markets. If Newgate and Leadenhall are filled, the live markets are lowered in proportion.

7365. Mr. *Graham.*] I think your objections to bringing animals up from Harwich or similar stations is that the trucks would be infected?—Yes.

7366. And spread the disease to other animals?—Yes.

7367. Could not that be obviated by appropriating trucks solely to that purpose, and employing them in running between the market and the port, and doing nothing else?—It might, of course.

7368. If that were so, there would be no objection to bringing up live stock from Harwich and other places in trucks appropriated to the special trade?—The great Eastern has two lines of railway, one to Harwich, and the other the Cambridge line, as it is called. I do not think they would be very particular which way they sent their trucks.

7369. Supposing you had trucks painted in a particular way, and intended solely for that trade. Supposing the disinfection is not sufficient, would it not be possible to appropriate trucks to a trade of this sort?—It might be if the railway company would do it.

7370. They have trucks which they use for salt, and for nothing else, in the districts of Cheshire?—Yes; but many of those trucks belong to private individuals; I do not think they are company's trucks.

7371. Still that would obviate the objection to it?—That would obviate the objection, no doubt. Of course, a cargo of animals, if they have undergone inspection, would be allowed to pass out; and whether a train of animals, going through a large grazing district would communicate the disease, during the transit, to other animals in that district, I am not able to say.

7372. You mentioned, with reference to foot and mouth disease, that Norwich-hill had become so thoroughly impregnated with it as to affect the animals going into the market?—Yes.

7373. Was it not possible to disinfect the soil of that place?—I think not. It was not alone Norwich-hill, but the lairs in which the animals rested before they were taken into the market.

7374. It was not possible to disinfect that so as to prevent it?—I think not.

7375. Would it be possible to disinfect the quarantine ground in which you propose to store the foreign animals, or would they be liable to catch the foot and mouth disease?—They would not be so extensive as the lairs that are used in different places. One dealer has one lair, and another another, at different places, and these animals are all concentrated in one spot for sale.

7376. Do you think it would be the fact, that the quarantine ground could be so thoroughly disinfected as to obviate risk to the stock cattle that are shut up in them?—I should think not, with the foot and mouth disease. What it might be as to the rinderpest, I do not know.

7377. Your impression is, that we ought to quarantine animals, even coming from a country where no disease has prevailed?—My only desire in that respect would be to act in such a manner as that we might be safe. It is so difficult to determine where the disease does exist, or does not exist.

7378. Supposing satisfactory proof is given by certificates of any kind, that a country is free of disease, do you think it would be right to quarantine the animals coming from that country?—I think the question is so open to evasion, that the safer plan would be to quarantine all foreign store stock, and kill at the outports the fat ones.

7378* Is there not the same probability of infection, with regard to the existence of disease in this country, so as to compel us to come to a similar resolution that there should be no traffic of uncertificated cattle in this country?—I think the thing is within such narrow bounds here, that the regulations could not be evaded, what with the inspectors and different people, as the law now exists, I think they could scarcely get a diseased animal away without its being known.

7379. As far as I know, there has been no disease in Portugal. I have never heard of rinderpest prevailing in Portugal. Do you think that animals coming from Portugal, where there is no suspicion of disease, should be quarantined?—That is very difficult to determine; but in my opinion, all foreign store stock should be quarantined. Until lately we knew of no disease in Ireland.

7380. But at the same time you would allow traffic in English stock, from counties which are not proclaimed as diseased?—Yes.

7381. Mr. *Dent.*] Yours is entirely winter feeding?—Yes.

7382. Both sheep and cattle?—Yes.

7383. I recollect you stated to me upon one occasion, that they all came up to London from Christmas to May?—Yes.

7384. And I think that is pretty much the same with the sheep?—It is so.

7385. Therefore your Norfolk supplies generally are very heavy at that particular time of the year, and not spread through the year generally?—Not in the west of Norfolk; in the east of Norfolk it is different.

7386. I mean, taking your own district?—That is so.

7387. With respect to the disposal of offal, I think you told us your labourers wages were 11 *s.* a week?—Yes.

7388. You would not be surprised to hear that in Lincolnshire the wages are about 15 *s.* per week?—No. I say that is the standard wage.

7389. The standard wage for an ordinary good labourer now, in Lincolnshire, is about 15 *s.*; I suppose you think they can afford to eat a little more meat than yours?—Perhaps so.

7390. Are many foreign cattle brought into Norfolk for feeding?—Yes, several.

7391. Those are cattle which are imported from Harwich generally, are they not?—Generally from Harwich.

7392. And generally sold at Norwich-hill?—Some at Norwich-hill and Fakenham, others at Dereham.

7393. Are there many Irish beasts brought into Norfolk for feeding?—Yes, a great many in the autumn.

7394. Do you not find, generally speaking, the Irish beasts are more or less affected with foot and mouth disease?—We used to consider them more affected with the lung disease than with foot and mouth disease.

7395. You do not think much of the foot and mouth disease, do you?—We do not.

7396. You scarcely ever buy a lot of animals which have been to fairs, but out of it some of them fall down with the foot and mouth disease?—Very frequently. The beasts bought at Peterborough, in the autumn or October, are almost sure to be so.

7397. Although it throws them back for a week or a fortnight, as a rule they come round?—They do if they all fall down at once, but if it keeps lingering on for five or six weeks it is tedious work.

7398. You would not like to see any restrictions whatever put upon the home trade?—Not any.

7399. You do not believe in the possibility of supplying the large towns satisfactorily, either to the farmers or graziers, with dead meat?—I must say, taking our own county as an instance, we could not do it; it would be a dead loss to ourselves.

7400. *Chairman.*] You could not do it without loss?—No.

7401. You do not mean that you could not supply them?—I do not say that it could not be done, but it could not be done without loss.

7402. Mr. *Dent.*] No trade can be satisfactorily carried on which is a losing one?—Certainly not.

7403. Therefore, if it was a loss to you to supply them, you would probably give up the supply of meat and turn your attention to something else?—Certainly.

7404. If it is a losing concern for the person who supplies the meat; it is not very likely that the supply will continue to the consumer?—I can assure you, the charges upon our live animals are 19 *s.*, including the sale and the market expenses in Copenhagen-fields, and on animals of the same weight, dead, it costs from 35 *s.* to 38 *s.*

7405. Putting aside the mere railroad charges, as I understand you, there would be a loss of 5 *l.* or 6 *l.* on your fat beasts?—We have no competition in the sale of our skins. They make a great deal more money, in London, of the fat and other things.

7406. You believe that there would not only be the difficulty in the supply of meat to the consumers, in the large towns, but that there would be a great loss to the grazier if there were restrictions put upon the trade of animals fed in England?—I do.

7407. Do not you think that if there were these restrictions put upon the trade in foreign cattle, there would be a great check to the importation of foreign stock?—To diseased animals I believe there would.

7408. Do you not think there would be a check generally. There must always be a risk of disease in the removing of cattle. Do you not think there would be a check in this way?—I think not. If they find that England is their best market, it does not matter what restrictions are put upon them; they will send them to England.

7409. As I understand you, if there were restrictions put upon your own stock, you consider it would eventuate in a very great difference of price?—Yes.

7410. If these restrictions were also to be put on foreign stock, would it not make such a difference in price as to considerably deter an importer from sending foreign stock?—It might in the first instance.

7411. You think they can produce their stock so much cheaper than we can in England?—I do. It only shows that the store cattle of about the same weight as our own will b stout 3 *l.* to 4 *l.* less per head, as to the foreig[n] ock, than the English store stock are.

7412. When they come to England?—When they come to England.

7413. As a rule, the consumer does not find it an advantage to buy those, as against the English stock?—Some farmers do. Some farmers say they prefer them. I know some men who graze a great many of them. Take the instance of the person who imported the rinderpest first into Norfolk, Mr. Stephen Leeds, of Whitwell. He bought them in London, at the Copenhagen market, and took them down into the country.

7414. Were they for winter feeding, or for grazing?—For winter feeding.

7415. As a rule, these beasts are not popular with English farmers. They prefer buying English or Irish, at a great deal higher price, to buying the foreign cattle, as a rule?—I think the English farmer goes upon the principle, that where he can buy the cheapest he likes it best. If he can get a well-bred animal for 3 *l.* or 4 *l.* less, that is sufficient.

7416. I understand you that lean foreign cattle, of equal size and weight, could be bought at 2 *l.* or 3 *l.* per head cheaper than English store beasts of the same size?—Yes.

7417. As a rule, the English farmers do not buy them?—No, they do not. Our own county is an exception. There are a great quantity of farmers in the county of Norfolk who, previously to the outbreak of the rinderpest, bought foreign cattle. I do not like them myself.

7418. Mr. *Graham.*] In answer to a question of the Honourable Chairman, I think you said the effect of the quarantine regulations, would be to make people very careful when they send; in other words, they would send fewer, and some that they send now, they would not send?—I think that would be so; there would not be that risk of sending the diseased animals.

7419. That would limit the quantity?—I do not think it would limit the quantity of sound animals at all.

7420. But it would limit the total quantity sent; if they were more careful what they sent, they would send fewer?—Perhaps they would, if the animals were in a diseased state, but if the animals were perfectly sound it would not limit it at all.

7421. Would they not be deterred from sending animals they were quite sure about, but which otherwise would have come?—Yes, I think it might influence them in that way.

7422. You said the experiment of dealing with dead meat in the London market was such as to deter their recommending that system; as the growers of meat, if I may use that expression?—Yes.

7423. The foreign importer who sends his meat to the London market from Harwich and Hull, would be subject to the same expenses as you are?—But I hardly think so, for I think the large

Mr. *T. Hudson.*
21 June 1866.

large carcass butchers would know exactly when a cargo of beasts arrived, and they would go down, and purchase the beasts at the landing stage, and have them killed there themselves.

7424. The butcher would make arrangements to relieve the foreign importer from these extra expenses?—I think a great quantity of these carcass butchers would go down to Harwich instead of going to Copenhagen-fields, they would go to Harwich or Hull, and buy their 30, 40, or 50 head of cattle, and have them killed there at once.

7425. *Chairman.*] They probably would employ an agent to make purchases for them?—Probably they would.

7426. Mr. *Graham.*] That would not relieve you from sending this dead meat, and having these expenses; it would only be the foreigner who would escape that?—Yes.

7427. I do not see why the traffic in your dead meat should entail expenses on you which a traffic in dead meat should not entail on the foreign importer?—I can only say the charges are about double.

7428. They are about double to you that they would be to the other men?—It is just this, that the meat is killed and must go, and the railway company charge just as much as they like.

7429. Would they not charge the foreign importers from Hull or Harwich just as much as they would charge you?—No; I think probably they would be able to get a special rate.

7430. The importer of foreign meat at Hull or Harwich would be subject to those expenses that you complain of, as preventing you from submitting to a system of that kind, unless some special arrangements are made which do not now exist?—I think it would become such a matter of trade that as I said before they would give a special rate, probably for the carriage of those animals.

7431. At present the loss by sending a dead animal from your county to London is 2 *l.* or 3 *l.*, and I suppose the same loss by sending a dead animal from Hull to London?—I should say so; I can only speak for my own district.

7432. Your impression is, that the disease is owing to the importation of the foreign cattle?—I have every reason to believe so.

7433. Do you attribute the disease in Ireland to the importation of foreign cattle there?—No, I think there are various ways in which it might have been communicated as well as by foreign cattle.

7434. And yet you would not stop the traffic in English cattle, which may be supposed to have communicated the disease to Ireland, although you would stop the traffic in foreign cattle?—I do not think it would be communicated by animals there; I think it would be more probably communicated by drovers or some one of that description. I think it would be more likely to be conveyed to Ireland in that way.

7435. Then you would allow English cattle to be imported into Ireland still?—Yes, I think so; I think there are very few——

7436. You would not allow the foreign cattle to go into Ireland, although you have no reason to suppose that the disease was taken there by foreign cattle?—Pardon me; I think there are other means of communicating the disease.

7437. It has got there without foreign cattle, and yet you would propose that foreign cattle should be prohibited from going into Ireland, although you would allow the English cattle to do so?—I do not think they would require the foreign cattle there.

7438. Suppose a man wanted them for his farm there?—Then let them perform the quarantine in Ireland, the same as they have in England.

7439. Mr. *Dent.*] You would not advocate the exportation of English cattle to Ireland, while the disease is existing in England?—I think not.

7440. *Chairman.*] As a matter of fact, there is no exportation from England to Ireland, except it may be in the case of a bull of valuable breed?—No, I think not.

7441. Mr. *Dent.*] Since the disease broke out in England, there has not been a beast exported from England to Ireland, either a bull or anything else?—I think not.

7442. Mr. *Graham.*] Then if the disease exists in Ireland, it exists there without any importation either of foreign or English cattle?—I cannot speak exactly as to that; I think it was communicated by contact with people who had taken it there in their clothes.

7443. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Is the prejudice against grazing foreign cattle at all attributable to the idea that they fat slower than English cattle?—In a measure perhaps, and also that they are more subject to disease. I have known whole yards that have been taken off by pleuro pneumonia, and every bullock has died; in all probability, that has been communicated by their being put down the hold of the vessel and packed in for several hours; then put on a railway and whisked through the cold air, and taken a violent cold, which terminated in lung disease.

7444. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Did you ever hear that the foreign animals, after their arrival in England, take some time to recover from the effects of the change of the climate and diet, and, therefore, as the Honourable Member just stated, do not fat so quickly?—I have not noticed that fact, but I have seen animals that have been recently imported, apparently doing well where the animals have been healthy; they have done as well as other store animals.

7445. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Are you aware of the fact, that a large extent of dead meat trade is from the north of Scotland?—Yes; perfectly.

7446. Do you not think it would be quite as easy for railway companies to make arrangements for the transit of dead meat from Hull and Harwich to London, as it is from Aberdeen?—From Hull, perhaps, they might, where there would be a market for the offal; but if you take our quarter of the kingdom, being almost isolated from the large towns, we have no means of getting rid of it.

7447. At Harwich, would there be no means of getting rid of the offal?—At Harwich, there might be, perhaps. It could be taken to London, or some portion of it. There is some portion which the butcher makes a considerable profit on in London, which would not bear the carriage.

7448. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Have you found that the price of store stock has been higher in your county this spring?—We have had very little trade in store stock this spring; in fact, none at all. Our markets have been nearly closed.

7449. Have you (to use rather a common expression)

expression) gone in more upon sheep?—Yes; entirely, I may say.

7450. Have you any of those small markets in your neighbourhood that were alluded to by Mr. Torr?—Yes; we have.

7451. Do you agree with him in thinking them objectionable?—Quite the contrary.

7452. You think them of advantage to local graziers?—I do, decidedly.

7453. And that they meet a fair market, and make, as a rule, good prices where there is an opening, both for the vendor and the buyer?—I can only instance the small town of Dereham, in our county, which is in the centre of a considerable winter grazing district. I know the butchers and dealers from Manchester and Yorkshire come down there weekly to purchase the fat cattle from that market.

7454. What is the number of head of beasts that may be seen in Dereham Market in any one week; 500 head?—No; I should say from 150 to 300.

7455. I am alluding to the fat cattle at this moment; are there 200 head?—Perhaps 200 on the average.

7456. Are the prices there as good as they would be at Norwich Market?—They are not sent in in very large quantities in that district; a small farmer may send in five animals there and find a market for them, which market is close by his home, without entailing expenses.

7457. You think, in point of fact, if these small local markets were stopped it would be disadvantageous; that they are an advantage to the districts in which they are situated, and likewise to the jobbers and buyers in distant towns such as Manchester?—I do; at any rate they come to these markets.

7458. You do send yourself to Dereham Market?—No, not much; mine principally go to London; in fact, almost everything both of my father's and my own go to London, except that during this year we have sent some to Retford. Mr. *T. Hudson.* 21 June 1866.

7459. Do you agree with Mr. Torr, that trade would spring up in the country, and, generally, through the country, if these cattle markets were dropped and superseded by means of agents going through the country and buying on the farm, and of the farmers themselves, by which an extensive business might be done; do you think that that would spring up?—It is done so in a great measure in our own county, at the present time, by dealers.

7460. Do you think that the abolition of these markets would tend to create that sort of business and give it a stimulus and establish it as a matter of fact?—The only thing, I think, is, that it produces a competition which, I think, is required in business, whereas a man previously would have been solely dependent upon the dealing man in his own neighbourhood; by taking them to the market, he gets the advantage of acting with the distant buyer instead of acting with the man I have mentioned, who, up to this time, has stepped in as a middle man.

7461. I am aware you frequently consign animals to the West-end butchers; do you still consign them alive?—No; ours are all consigned to salesmen in Copenhagen-fields.

7462. It is not your habit to consign the dead meat carcasses to butchers?—No; if it is done it is done to a salesman in Newgate Market, and not to a butcher.

Mr. Joseph Druce, called in: and Examined.

7463. *Chairman.*] You are a large occupier of land at Eyrsham, in Oxfordshire?—Yes, about 800 acres. Mr. *J. Druce.*

7464. Do you breed or graze?—I breed and graze also.

7465. Do you work oxen on your farm?—I do not now.

7466. You used to do so?—Yes, before steam cultivation came in.

7467. You breed the cross between the Downs and Cotswolds?—Yes, they are now called the "Oxford Downs."

7468. You consider that you have established that breed?—Yes, my father started it about 30 years ago.

7469. You have heard the evidence of the last two witnesses?—Yes.

7470. Perhaps you will tell us the points upon which you agree, and the points on which you differ, with those gentlemen. With regard to the quarantining of foreign animals, do you agree with them that all foreign animals should be subjected to quarantine or killed at the port?—I think so; the whole of them.

7471. Do you think that fat animals imported from abroad should be allowed to go into the Metropolitan Market?—Yes; I should allow them to go into the Metropolitan Market.

7472. You would allow the fat animals landed at the port of London to go there?—Yes.

7473. Would you allow those which were landed at other ports, say Harwich for instance, to go into the London market?—I should have given localities for them to land; stated ports.

7474. As to those that were landed at other ports than London, would you allow them to go by rail to the Metropolitan Market?—No; only those that come to the port of London.

7475. With regard to the home-fed animals in the London market, would you allow them to leave the London market and to go into the provincial markets?—I do not see any objection to it.

7476. Do you agree with the last witness that you would not stop animals that come in the same vessel with some that had foot and mouth disease?—I should only stop those that showed signs of the disease.

7477. With regard to the dead meat supply to London and other great towns, do you think it would be advantageous to the feeders of cattle or otherwise to send up dead meat, instead of live animals, to London?—It would not be at all advantageous to send it up dead.

7478. Upon what ground do you say that?—We should not make so much of our produce.

7479. That depends very much upon the locality in which the animals are fed, does it not?—To some extent it does.

7480. Supposing you were in a neighbourhood where you could get a ready sale for all parts of the offal, I suppose then it might be worth your while to send the carcases and sides of a beast to London?—Yes.

Mr. *J. Druce.*

21 June 1866.

7481. But in the neighbourhood where there is no sale for offal, you would lose?—Exactly so.

7482. You have not sufficient population in your immediate neighbourhood to find a sale for any quantity of offal?—No; but lately we have had a local demand in Oxfordshire. It has increased very much; 30 years ago we started a market once a month, and now it is once a fortnight.

7483. That is a market for live stock?—Yes.

7484. Do you think it would be worth your while to kill at Oxford, or to sell to other persons to kill at Oxford for the purpose of the carcases being sent to London?—I think not; I do not think there is a sufficient demand for the offal to make the best of it.

7485. Do you agree with Mr. Torr, that you could sell as advantageously to agents as you could by sending into the market?—Not quite, I think.

7486. You want the competition of the buyers?—I think so; I prefer the competition.

7487. Are you acquainted with any of the ports where the vessels land?—I am not.

7488. Have you any suggestions to make as to the treatment of animals in railway trucks?—No. I have none; it is so difficult. They crowd them so thickly in the trucks that it is very difficult to give them water, or else it would be very desirable to let them have water in their transit.

7489. Do you think they could be watered without untrucking them?—I think not.

7490. Suppose a pail could be lowered into the truck, would they drink out of it?—I do not think they would.

7491. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you seen any of these trucks with folding troughs, a plan which has been suggested for giving water to the cattle?—I have not.

7492. Are you constantly sending animals up?—Not very often to London; we have a local trade.

7493. You think that the animals would not drink in the trucks?—I believe that they would not.

7494. You think they would hustle one another to get at the water, so that no animal would be able to get his head down to the trough?—Just so; I should think it would be difficult.

7495. You have not considered any special arrangement for giving them water?—I have not.

7496. You think it would be a bad thing for the animals to be packed 30 or 40 hours in a truck without being watered?—Yes.

7497. The meat of the animals which have undergone such treatment as that, would not be so good?—Exactly, they would be very much damaged by it.

7498. Mr. *Graham.*] You expressed your disapproval of allowing any other port except London to supply the London market with live cattle, what is the objection—what is the objection to bring live cattle from Harwich to London for instance?—Perhaps you would import the cattle disease.

7499. In what way?—By the cattle themselves.

7500. How would the disease be communicated, by the trucks, or by the air, or what manner?—By the trucks.

7501. Supposing a service of trucks be appropriated solely to the purpose of the traffic; what objection would there then be to the importation of live cattle from Harwich to London?—If you could depend upon it there would be no objection.

7502. Do you feel a very decided disadvantage in sending dead meat to London, as compared with live meat?—Yes.

7503. Is that in connection with the loss of the offal, or in connection with the enhanced expenses in London?—It is in connection with the expenses, as well as the offal; it is the transit altogether.

7504. So if you obliged the foreigner to kill his meat and send it dead to London, while you are allowed to send yours alive to London, you give the English importer into London an advantage over the foreigner, to that extent?—To that extent you do.

7505. You disapprove of selling without the competition of a public market; it answers your purpose best to have the competition of a public market?—I approve of the competition of a public market.

7506. Of course the wider the supply to the market, the larger the competition will be; the greater number of buyers the more would be the competition?—Yes.

7507. If you confine the foreigner to a single port of import, you put him in a less advantageous position than if he were allowed to send them to a public market where there was a great competition?—He would not send it unless it answered his purpose.

7508. It would answer his purpose better if it was sent to the market on the same terms as you would send it?—Yes.

7509. Mr. *Dent.*] Do you get any foreign cattle at all in Oxfordshire?—No.

7510. You would not like any restriction to be placed on the home trade, supposing the county to be free from disease?—I do not see any object in it.

7511. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] What is the rate of wages in your part of the country?—From 11 *s.* to 15 *s.* per week.

7512. Are many men at piece-work?—Yes.

7513. Is there a general consumption of animal food, or to some extent?—Yes; I think the men live much better than they did. There is more animal food consumed than there used to be.

7514. Has there been an advance in the rate of agricultural wages in your district within the last 12 months or two years?—A slight advance I should say.

7515. Do you ever consign dead meat to London?—I have done so in the spring.

7516. What do you think of that mode of conducting business?—I have a great objection to it.

7517. What is your objection?—We never realise so much as if we were selling at home, and selling alive.

7518. Do you mean that the railway charges, or the salesman's commission, diminish the profits?—The salesman's commission and the railway charges together do so.

7519. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you sell by auction?—I do not, but there are a few farmers who do sell by auction.

7520. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Do you agree with Mr. Torr, that meat home-killed and stiffened at your place, will keep longer than the sheep taken to London in a truck, and then taken from the truck to the butchers to be killed?—I should think it would.

7521. At any season of the year?—No; perhaps more in the winter than in the summer.

7522. *Chairman.*] You know that they find it answer to send meat from Aberdeen to London, I suppose?—Yes; and that they have special trains for the purpose, at night, and special rates.

7523. Is it not the case that where the trade is sufficiently extensive to insure getting special rates there, it answers?—Yes, and I believe the railway companies find it to their advantage to put on special trains. For instance, in bringing milk up to London on the Great Western from our place, they have special trains for the purpose.

7524. It depends on the amount of traffic?—Exactly.

7525. If you were able to supply one carcase butcher in London yourself, and to get special rates, it might be worth their while to do so?—Yes.

7526. But it would not be worth while to do so unless you can supply a certain quantity of beasts, and can secure an advantage from the railway company in the way of special rates?—Exactly so.

7527. Mr. *Carnegie.*] I want to refer for a moment to a question that was put to you by the honourable Member for Glasgow with regard to the service of special trucks. Do you not think that even, although there were special trucks for foreign cattle, there would still be some risk, owing to the stoppage at the different stations?—I think so.

7528. But the result would not be entirely obviated by having the service of special trucks?—No; hardly, I should think.

7529. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think that fairs and markets tend to spread the disease, if there is any, in the country?—Yes, we have had experience of that in Oxfordshire. They brought some foreign cattle down, and the disease spread into the whole of the neighbourhood. We have not got rid of it yet.

Mr. *J. Druce.*
21 June 1866.

7530. Do you think that wherever there is disease in the country it is desirable, in order to prevent the spreading of the minor diseases, such as foot-and-mouth and pleuro-pneumonia, that there should be no more fairs and markets?—Not at all.

7531. Would it not be desirable to limit their number, do you think?—I think not.

7532. *Chairman.*] Is it the case with you, as in Norfolk, that there is less foot-and-mouth disease now than there is usually in the country?—Yes, much less.

7533. Do you attribute that to the stoppage of fairs and markets and the restrictions upon traffic?—No, I should think not. I think the cattle are more healthy; people are more particular to keep them well, and guard them against any disorders.

7534. I suppose there has been less movement of cattle than usual?—Yes.

7535. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Do you think that while the rinderpest exists no other disease takes a prominent form?—With us in Oxfordshire it is the case.

7536. You think the rinderpest monopolises all other diseases?—Yes, I think so.

Mr. William Fair, called in; and Examined.

7537. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] You are a dealer in cattle and a grazier also?—Yes.

7538. Do you deal principally in fat or store cattle?—In store animals.

7539. Mr. *Dent.*] From what part do you come?—From Cheshire; near Manchester.

7540. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Where do you get your store animals?—I have been in the habit for many years of buying my store beasts in Scotland.

7541. Do you supply the dairy districts of Cheshire with animals?—I did 12 months ago supply them with a great number of cattle.

7542. You have heard the previous witnesses?—Yes.

7543. Do you agree with Mr. Torr, that the fat cattle should be slaughtered at the ports?—I do not; certainly not; I think it is utterly impracticable; I think they should not be slaughtered at the ports.

7544. Do you think, for instance, that at Liverpool, any foreign animals should be allowed to go from thence to the Manchester market?—As to the foreign countries, such as, for instance, Spain and Portugal, where there is no disease, I would allow those cattle to have the same transit as Irish cattle, where they have not been previously exhibited in a market. The Irish cattle can now be sent direct from Liverpool or Holyhead to Manchester and exhibited, and to foreign cattle I would allow the same privilege, where there is no disease existing, providing they had not been shown in a market previously.

7545. Supposing they came to the Manchester market, would you allow them to be branded there, and sent into the surrounding districts, and slaughtered within a certain number of days?—Yes; I would.

Mr. *W. Fair.*

7546. Is the Manchester market a fat-stock market?—There were two markets. The store market does not now exist, but there was a store market and a fat market.

7547. Together?—No.

7548. In what district?—One was in Salford, and the other in Manchester.

7549. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] I am now speaking of the fat-stock market. You think that the surrounding districts would be supplied in this way?—The surrounding towns could be supplied in that way, but I think the surrounding towns in the neighbourhood of Manchester ought to have the privilege of taking the cattle home.

7550. In the same way as Stockport, Bolton, or Macclesfield would have the same privilege?—Yes; Northwich or Warrington, within a limited distance. Within my own immediate neighbourhood the butchers, and I may say the poor people, suffer a great deal from it for this reason.

7551. From the present state of the trade?—From the present state of the trade. The butcher goes on Tuesday to the Manchester market to buy his beef and mutton; he is bound to carry it home there. He comes home again, and sends his man the next day to kill it, and the following day he has to send his cart over for it. Take Knutsford, for instance. Knutsford is 17 miles from Manchester by rail; go which way you will it is 17 miles, and Northwich is a little further. The butcher has 34 miles to go to buy the beef and mutton, the next day he sends his man 34

Mr. *W. Fair.*

21 June 1866.

miles to kill it, and the next day he sends his cart 34 miles to cart it home.

7552. He might send it by rail?—But then the man would have to go over the same ground. The company have not carried any stock, but at the most exorbitant rate. He has not only to go over 100 miles for his beef and mutton, but he has to pay 5 *s.* for a registered slaughter-house for slaughtering the beasts. Further, there is no doubt he sustains a loss of 5 *s.* on what we term our small offal; which the poor people in the neighbourhood of Manchester are deprived of the liver and the heart; the poor people are altogether deprived of that part of the offal, which is of great advantage to them, looking at the present price of meat.

7553. You would want the poor people in the several manufacturing towns about Manchester to have the same privilege?—Yes, I only take Knutsford as an instance.

7554. Mr. *Dent.*] I suppose in these small towns they have no live market?—No.

7555. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Are you in favour of quarantining the foreign store animals?—I do not see the advantage of quarantining foreign animals coming from a country where there is no disease existing. Certainly, as to quarantining where they come from an infected district, I should do so; but from such places as Spain and Portugal, where no disease exists, I do not see the advantages to be derived from quarantining those cattle at all.

7556. Do you think the Manchester market could be supplied with dead meat from Hull?—It could not. It is utterly impracticable altogether. I can give you several instances about it. I go to Manchester perhaps twice a week. I was frequently in the habit of going round to slaughter-houses, and I felt convinced in my own mind that there are a number of beasts which come to the market at Manchester from Aberdeen, on which they lost 10 *l.* There were as many as 5,000 quarters of beef in one week lying on the slaughter-house floors, which could not be sold; that was a perishable article, and they could not sell it.

7557. *Chairman.*] I suppose that was under the temporary regulations, which temporary regulations created a disturbance in the trade?—There was too much of the meat come to be sold.

7558. But I ask you whether that was not the cause of it?—It was.

7559. They were new and temporary regulations, and they greatly disturbed the trade?—Certainly; they were new regulations. More beasts come to the market than could be sold.

7560. Exactly so; that is to say, people did not know what the demand would be, and they rather overdid it?—They knew what the market demand was. They sent too much of it, and when the beasts were killed the meat was obliged to be sold at a great reduction, but if the beasts had gone alive they might have kept them, and killed them as they wanted them, within four or five days.

7561. But supposing this had been a regular thing, and the senders knew exactly what the demand would have been, you would have had an over supply?—It existed during the whole of the time during the stoppage of the trade.

7562. Till when?—Till the market was open again.

7563. From the 20th February to the 16th April?—I have not the date of it, but I know it existed till the markets were opened; there was a great quantity of beef. I heard a salesman one day, in Manchester, say, he sold some bodies of beef at 7 *d.* a pound, some part at 3¾ *d.* a pound, all part of the same beast which had been perhaps lying about the slaughter-house for four or five days.

7564. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Has not the average price of meat in Manchester been just the same?—To the consumer it has; but it was bought a great deal cheaper; by the butcher, during the time of the dead-meat market.

7565. Then the dead-meat market was an advantage?—It was to the butcher, but it was a very great disadvantage to the farmer. I have no hesitation in saying that some of the big beasts, which were worth from 28 *l.* to 30 *l.* a piece, would lose 10 *l.* each.

7566. Mr. *Dent.*] Was not great slaughtering going on on account of the cattle plague, and from fear of it?—The greatest slaughter was from fear of what the cattle plague would be in October and November.

7567. *Chairman.*] If you say the butcher got an advantage by the dead-meat market and the farmers did not, how do you account for all the butchers coming here and complaining of this state of things?—I suppose there have been several deputations here from Manchester. The butchers could not get the meat to send it in a fat state to the customer.

7568. You say the butchers bought cheap, that they did not lower the price to the customers, and that the farmers lost?—Yes. Even as to the beasts they bought themselves, before they had it in their own shops 12, 14, or 15 hours, it became not fit to serve out to their customers in consequence of being shaken so. I know several instances of that, both in beef and mutton.

7569. You mean that they bought cheap, and the meat was spoilt?—Yes, and they had a greater risk, and the consumer got no benefit by it, and the expenses were trebled.

7570. Mr. *Wilbraham Egerton.*] Has the western market been well supplied lately. We have heard that Leeds has been very badly supplied, indeed, during the last few months?—The Manchester Market has been very much better supplied since the cattle trade opened again.

7571. Has that been from the Irish beasts coming in principally, or from what part?—There are a great number of beasts come out of the north of England, from Scotland, from Fifeshire and other counties, and another large proportion come out of Shropshire and Herefordshire; there have been some few beasts out of the south, the principal supply has been from Shropshire; Herefordshire, and from the north of Aberdeenshire, Fifeshire, and so on.

7572. Do you think the rinderpest has been propagated at all by the cattle travelling by rail through Cheshire?—I do not.

7573. What is the price of young stock now; is it very high in Cheshire?—Of course the price is nominal, we have no price in Cheshire.

7574. Nobody is buying any young stock?—No; I think we can buy a great deal cheaper in Wales. I have a firm in Wales, and we can buy our beasts cheaper in Wales now than we could last year; the consequence is that people buy in fear in Cheshire, and there has not been the trade

trade for them in the south of England that there was in former years.

7575. Have you bought any of the young stock out of Ireland?—I have not.

7576. You do not know whether many have been sent into Cheshire?—No. I hear that Ireland is very full of beasts, and that beasts have been bought cheap there. I know from a friend of mine who very often goes there that the country is very full of beasts.

7577. I suppose in the Liverpool or Manchester market there are never any German store animals brought in?—There are no store cattle come either to Liverpool or Manchester; there are separate store markets; Salford is the fat market; the store market is held in the city of Manchester, and the fat market in the borough of Salford. The Liverpool fat market is altogether outside Liverpool. There is no store market in the town of Liverpool at all, except for a few calving cows; people buy at home, there is no proper market except on Saturday, and then there are not more than 20 or 30 shown.

7578. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] They are not buying store stock in Cheshire now?—They are not; our county is declared an infected district, as you are aware, and we dare not go to the market.

7579. Mr. *Graham.*] There was a great disturbance of the trade in meat in Manchester during the period of which you speak?—There was; there was an influx of it, in fact.

7580. And the losses that you spoke of arose from a good deal of the meat being spoilt?—It was not exactly spoilt, but it was obliged to be sold at a reduced price, or it might have spoilt.

7581. You say that the butchers lost by it?—I mean to contend that the consumer did not reap any benefit, and that the farmers were a great deal worse off. There was so much of the meat spoilt that the butcher bought it so much the cheaper, having so much more risk in his meat spoiling.

7582. You think it was a waste of meat?—Yes.

7583. Is it your experience that that would be the general effect of consigning it to the dead-meat market?—I feel confident it would in the summer months. The meat markets would answer very well in the winter months. Take the case of a butcher going to market to buy lambs in the hot months of July and August; they have enough to do to keep it sweet when they kill it every day, and can scarcely then do so.

7584. You think it would be a decidedly bad economy in meat?—I contend it would be impracticable altogether; and I think it has been so viewed by the trade in general round Manchester, which is, of course, a great consuming district.

7585. You do not believe that the rinderpest was propagated by beasts travelling by rail in your district?—Not through Cheshire.

7586. So that you see no danger in transporting beasts from such ports as Harwich to be killed in the London market?—Not a bit of it; the nearest place to me where the rinderpest first broke out in Cheshire was five or six miles away, and the nearest place to which we could trace the disease at the time was very nearly 20 miles.

7587. Are you acquainted with the foreign trade?—Not particularly acquainted; I know a little of the foreign trade, being intimately acquainted with the Manchester market; we have a great quantity both of sheep and cattle coming from Hull to Manchester.

7588. Do you deal in foreign beasts?—No, I do not.

7589. But you know something of them?—Yes; I am a good deal connected with them.

7590. Is it your opinion that the establishment of a quarantine for all foreign cattle would check the foreign trade to any extent?—It would certainly check the foreign trade very much indeed.

7591. Would the regulation of obliging the foreign trade to kill at the ports of import have any tendency to limit the foreign trade; would it be an advantage to the foreigner to kill them at the port?—I think they would reap the same advantage as we should in our own country, a decided loss.

7592. The tendency of that would be to raise the price to the consumer?—No doubt of it; the risk and expense is so much more.

7593. Anything that raises the price of foreign meat to the consumer is an advantage to the producer of meat; it raises the value of his produce?—I do not think it does; there are two classes of meat; our best beef which goes to the best butchers at home, and the other beef that goes to the lower class, the mill workers and so on, and which sold at a much less price in the first place; when it is bought at market it is bought at 1*d.* per pound less.

7594. But if this supply of foreign meat is restricted, would not that enhance the price of home meat, and give the cattle producer a higher price for his produce?—Certainly it would; but I do not see the advantage that would arise from stopping the foreigner having his beast examined at the Port of London, and sent by rail to Manchester with the slaughter mark.

7595. Mr. *Dent.*] You would not propose to leave the foreign trade entirely open without any restrictions?—I would submit to an inspection.

7596. And when submitted to an inspection, you would not allow those beasts to be taken from the market and sent to the country?—No; they must be branded with a slaughter mark.

7597. And should be branded within a certain time of their exhibition in the market?—Within 38 hours, or two days.

7598. That you would not apply so stringently to Spain and Portugal, where there is no disease?—No. There must be a line drawn there; that is what I say; allow those countries to come.

7599. You would apply it to Germany, where the disease is known to exist?—Yes.

7600. How would you treat store cattle coming from Germany and from Holland; milk cows, for instance?—I should certainly subject them to a very close inspection; and if there was any disease existing, I would not allow them to be removed.

7601. But supposing them to come and pass an inspection at the port, would you allow them to go from that port without any quarantine?—Where the disease exists, I would not allow any cattle to leave the place after an inspection in the foreign ports where the disease is; I would not allow any cattle to leave the place where they were landed, unless they went under inspection, and were pronounced clear of cattle plague, and then only subject to their being branded with the slaughter mark.

7601* Then you would stop the importation of

Mr. *W. Fair.*

21 June 1866.

foreign store cattle altogether?—Where the disease exists.

7602. You never know where it exists, or where it does not exist, on the Continent of Europe, in Germany, and so on. They bring the cattle, as we have heard, from several parts; they are collected together from different districts, in Vienna, and so on, and they bring them on to Rotterdam; part of those cattle might come from a district where there was no disease, and part might come from a district where there was disease; would you allow those cattle, being store cattle, to leave the port on inspection of a veterinary surgeon?—Not the store cattle.

7603. You would be inclined to keep them in quarantine for six weeks?—Yes; and if they left at all, they should be branded with the slaughter mark.

7604. Being branded with a slaughter mark, you would allow them to go to Leeds, Manchester, and Bradford?—Oh yes.

7605. But not to go to those markets where they would be exhibited?—Wherever they are exhibited at a market, let them be exhibited only once, and then slaughtered within so many days.

7606. Have you ever turned your attention to separating the fat market from the store market, both as to English and foreign cattle?—That is a good deal done now already in our country. Take Manchester and Liverpool; it is separated there. Take Shrewsbury; it is separated there.

7607. In the Shrewsbury market, are the fat cattle brought in on one day, and the store cattle on another?—The store cattle market begins about four o'clock in the morning; then it is all over, and the fat cattle come in and are sold by auction about 11 or 12.

7608. In that part there are auction sales of fat cattle?—They are pretty nearly all sold by auction.

7609. You think it would be almost impossible to supply the manufacturing districts with foreign cattle slaughtered at the port of landing?—I do think it would be impossible.

Mr. William Lindsey, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Lindsey.*

7610. Lord *Naas.*] I believe you are Provost of Leith?—I am.

7611. How long have you been provost of Leith?—This is the sixth year.

7612. I suppose, from your official position, you are very well acquainted with the regulations affecting the importation of foreign cattle to the port of Leith?—I think I am.

7613. Will you describe generally to the Committee what those regulations are?—I may state that there is a person called a Government inspector, who inspects the foreign cattle as they come in and are unshipped at the port, and he passes them. Then there is another inspector, the inspector of the local authority, whom we appoint as town council; and I may state that at Leith this second person is also the town inspector of the slaughter-houses and also of the butchers' shops; he tries to detect anything that is to be found in the shops of the butchers which would be considered unwholesome for consumption.

7614. Will you state where the first inspection is conducted by the first officer?—The first officer goes on board the ship, and makes his inspection. Then, if he passes the cattle, the cattle are landed, and after they are fairly out of the Government inspector's hands, it is the duty of the town inspector to take charge of them. As showing their respective duties, I may state that a lot of sheep arrived on board one of the ships at Leith, and they were passed by the Government inspector; the town inspector found fault, and said that although they had no contagious disease, yet they were so emaciated that he could not allow them to go into the market or to go out of his sight, and he asked the people in charge where they were to take them; the people declined to answer, and he said, "Then I will not allow them to go out of my sight, and I will get a policeman to watch." The men were obliged to take the sheep to the public slaughterhouse, and when they were taken there they were killed and the carcases condemned. The town inspector then said, "If you are not satisfied with this condemnation, we are quite willing to have a formal inspection brought to bear upon them;" but the parties accepted the condemnation, and they were destroyed and prevented from going into the market for consumption.

7615. When did that happen?—Very recently; not above a month ago.

7616. Did the whole loss of these sheep fall upon the owner?—I do not know about that; I believe that the party who brought them and who receives cattle on consignment, sometimes purchases them for parties in England, on their account and on their orders. I want to point out that these importers have no scruples about turning the cattle into money. They do not care where they go or what injury is done to the public. The inspectors require to be very faithful to the public interest. I think it was a wrong thing. We called the parties before us, and said, "It was very wrong for you to deal with men who would buy such animals, and to try to smuggle them away to sell them to the public." These importers have no hesitation, according to my experience, in doing such things.

7617. When you speak of the importers, do you speak of the persons who consign the cattle from foreign ports?—I mean the persons on this side who receive the cattle. I think the best of them require to be looked after—the very best. They may have an interest, either for the parties on this side or for the parties abroad, to make good sales and to turn the cattle, in whatever state they are, into money.

7618. Are there great numbers of foreign cattle imported in Leith?—Large numbers.

7619. Is it an increasing trade?—A rapidly increasing trade.

7620. Where do they generally come from?——From Hamburgh, Rotterdam, and Copenhagen; from ports of the Continent generally. I think it is very desirable that some better arrangement should be made for the reception of the cattle when they do arrive at the port.

7621. Would you propose that, after the inspection has been carried on on board, something in the shape of a quarantine should be established, where these animals could be kept for a limited time after being landed?—If you are to have any regulation for fear of the cattle plague, I think the existing system is the best that can be devised. They arrive, and they must be cleared

cleared out of the spot within a limited time. I think it is very desirable, when cattle come from sea, that they should be well treated; they should be watered, and allowed to rest; but if there is any dread of spreading the cattle disease, the safest thing for the public is to slaughter them on the spot.

7622. Can any animal be transmitted into the interior now from Leith under the existing regulations?—They cannot.

7623. They must be all slaughtered?—Yes, within a given time.

7624. Under the Orders in Council?—Yes.

7625. Do you think it is desirable to make that a permanent arrangement?—So long as there is any fear of spreading the cattle disease, I think it is necessary to keep that a permanent regulation. I do not think that any precaution you can take in sending the cattle from the port of disembarkation will be attended to. You might nominate and appoint drovers and licensed men, who will take care that the orders are attended to; but it does not answer to have a divided responsibility. If there is any fear of spreading the cattle plague at all, it is better to have them under one authority, and see the cattle destroyed.

7626. You think that, even if these cattle were branded at Leith, and marked for immediate slaughter at Glasgow and other places, you could hardly depend upon the slaughtering order being carried out at the place of arrival?—I have the greatest fears in that respect; the people to whom you intrust these cattle you really cannot depend upon; as to the very best of the importers, you see what they do for the sake of money.

7627. Is there a large trade from Leith to the interior in dead meat?—Yes, there is; a very large one at Leith.

7628. I mean in dead meat?—In carcases, there is a great trade carried on at the slaughter-houses.

7629. Where does this meat generally go to?—I am not able to speak to that, but a considerable portion of it goes to Edinburgh.

7630. Are you aware whether any large portion of it is sent further?—I am not; I would not desire to speak to that. I think it would be desirable, if the trade is to be kept in its present state, that there should be a market for foreign cattle, instead of importers coming down and selling one or two dozen, or 50, or 100 this day, and more another day. I think there should be a cattle market for foreign cattle, say, once or twice a week; then the public know that that is the day and the hour, and the business will be done more satisfactorily in half an hour which is now spread over the whole week. Then the inspection also will be more complete; the inspectors can attend, and the market authorities can be there just at the proper time.

7631. Where are the animals sold now?—They are first sold privately at the port.

7632. Are they sold on board the vessel, or are they sold on the quays where they land?—That is matter of bargain; I cannot speak as to that point. I have no doubt the importers sell them at their place of business in Leith, or at the ship's side, as circumstances warrant.

7633. Are they subject to those general market regulations which I suppose exist in the town of Leith?—There is no market regulation; there is no market there; but the local authorities feel that this a comparatively new trade, and if they were to be assured there was to be a permanent trade, they would more readily make arrangements and accommodation for its being carried on.

7634. There is nothing in the existing state of the law which would offer any impediment to the local authorities or private parties, as to establishing a market at Leith, if they liked?—I do not think we are at liberty to establish a market at Leith.

7635. Is there no local Act?—Yes; we have powers to establish markets generally under the local Act; I do not know that we could open a market at Leith under the present regulations of the Board of Trade.

7636. I suppose there would be no difficulty in obtaining a private Act of Parliament for the purpose, if necessary?—No; but that is expensive; we have power given now to establish markets for general purposes, and I daresay we could establish a market if the Orders in Council did not prevent us.

7637. There is no recommendation that you wish to offer to the Committee on that point?—I think it would be as well to authorise markets, and give the power to the local authorities to establish markets in the way I have stated.

7638. But will you tell the Committee whether the power does not exist already under the Act of Parliament?—We are advised by our town clerk that because of the existing Orders in Council we have no power to establish a market of our own. I may state, in reference to the markets, that the butchers in Leith generally supply themselves from the Edinburgh market. The Edinburgh authorities would not allow any cattle to go from the market except to the public slaughter-houses; that was an inconvenience to the people of Leith, and we made a representation to the local authorities in Edinburgh, and they, *ex gratiâ*, allowed the cattle to go from the Edinburgh market to the Leith slaughter-house, the same as they did in their own city from their markets to the Edinburgh slaughter-house, but that was a matter of favour.

7639. Is there a large cattle market at Edinburgh?—Very large; it is a very old-established market for the cattle trade.

7640. Under the existing regulations, therefore, cattle which stand in the Edinburgh market cannot be transmitted alive from Edinburgh?—No.

7641. Have you any remarks to make upon the slaughter-house accommodation at Leith?—We have a very excellent slaughter-house, established under the local Act, which cost 5,000 *l.* It was made for the ordinary purposes of the trade of the town, but not for the increased trade, because of the foreign cattle reguiring to be slaughtered at the port. We are in the course of bargaining for ground to increase the slaughter-house accommodation; but we feel a difficulty in getting ground at any reasonable price. I think if the slaughtering of cattle is to be confined to the port, compulsory powers should be given to the authorities to get ground by the verdict of a jury under the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act.

7642. Still it would hardly be possible to obtain compulsory powers for such a purpose, without applying to Parliament for a local Act?—No; unless Parliament gives powers to the Privy Council, or in some other way. I think they had authorised ground to be taken by way of agree-

Mr. *W. Lindsey.*

21 June 1866.

ment, when the cattle plague was at its height, for slaughtering the cattle. I think Mr. Hunt's Bill proposed that. We know if we want ground for any public purpose a very exacting price is asked. I think a fair price should be given, but still nothing more than a jury would give under the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act.

7643. In the event of a public market being established for foreign cattle, care would be taken, I suppose, to establish slaughter-houses close by, in a convenient place?—Yes; the market would require to be some little distance, perhaps, in open ground.

7644. Do you see the cattle landed when they arrive?—I have seen them, but I have not inspected them.

7645. Do they arrive, generally, in good condition?—As far as I can judge, they do not; they arrive like a person who has been subject to sea sickness, or a person travelling overnight.

7646. Have you heard many complaints of the state in which they arrive from butchers and other people?—I have heard that the closest inspection is necessary to prevent animals coming in in an emaciated state.

7647. Have you heard of any cattle being stopped in the same way in which these sheep were?—I have not.

7648. You have heard no instances of cattle being stopped by the inspectors?—No; I cannot, at this moment, give you the instances.

7649. Are there any remarks that you wish to make to the Committee with regard to the manure?—At Leith we have suffered very much; there is a heap of not less than 5,000 tons of manure just now which we cannot get rid of, and it is accumulating at a great rate; it arises in this way: Leith being the port for bringing in foreign cattle, the local authorities of the different counties say, we will not take the manure from that place, because the droppings of the foreign cattle between the harbour and the store of manure is gathered and mixed with the manure; it is a serious matter for us.

7650. It arises from the fear which the farmers entertain, that the manure will bring them the cattle plague?—Yes; I think it is an element in dealing with the matter, and I think it right that that should be stated to the Committee.

7651. Have you any other remarks to make?—No; I do not think I have anything more. Of course we should be very ready, in the case of a permanent trade being established, to erect sheds; we have erected cattle sheds just now and fitted them up with troughs for the water, and we should be quite ready to do anything of that sort if the trade is to be made permanent.

7652. Lord *Naas.*] Was there any slaughtering trade of this kind before the cattle plague broke out?—We have always had slaughter-houses at Leith.

7653. But before the cattle plague broke out, were the foreign cattle generally sent away from Leith alive, or were the greater proportion of them slaughtered at Leith?—They were sent away alive.

7654. Then this practice of slaughtering all of them at Leith has arisen entirely since the existence of the cattle plague in the country?—Quite.

7655. Mr. *Graham.*] Are you referring principally to store cattle or fat cattle that come into Leith generally?—Cattle for the market; the fat cattle. There are some cattle and milch cows come, and there was a difficulty with regard to them.

7656. Then, I may take it, your remarks apply generally to fat cattle?—Yes.

7657. Your impression is that the fat cattle trade ought to be entirely carried on by killing at Leith itself?—So long as there is any fear of spreading the disease, I think that is the only effectual way of keeping the disease down.

7658. Is it a desirable thing in Leith that the trade in dead meat should be established there, or would it be a nuisance to the people?—I think it could be accommodated quite well.

7659. Would it be a thing of importance to the prosperity of Leith that a trade of that sort should grow up there?—It would not be against the trade of the port.

7660. It is not a thing of great interest?—It is not of great moment that it should grow up there; the public interest, of course, should be looked at more than the interest of any particular place.

7661. You spoke of a lot of beasts that had been killed after being condemned in the market; were those beasts diseased or emaciated, and suffering from the voyage?—They were emaciated; they were unfit for human food.

7662. But they had not rinderpest?—They had not rinderpest; I do not know whether they had the foot-rot, which is not a contagious disease.

7663. These animals, if they could have been moved on to fresh pastures, would probably have been saved and become good food?—I do not think they would have been saved; I do not think they would have lived, from what I have heard of the case, they were so bad.

7664. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] You were talking of acquiring land for the purpose of a slaughter-house near Leith; may I ask what is the price you have been asked for land by the square yard or by the acre?—We paid for the ground on which the present slaughter-houses are erected 550 *l.*, for about a quarter of an acre. They are asking quite a fancy price for a small bit that we want to add to that piece of ground to extend the slaughter-houses.

7665. Is there not a good deal of dead meat forwarded now from Leith to Glasgow by train?—I believe there is.

7666. Lord *Naas.*] Most of it goes to Edinburgh?—Just so; I know that the slaughter-houses are kept very busy.

Mr. William James Bonser, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. J. Bonser.*

7667. Lord *Naas.*] You are a Salesmaster in Newgate Market?—Yes.

7668. Are there any general observations you wish to offer to this Committee, with regard to the trade in dead meat as it at present exists in the City of London?—I am not prepared with any particular suggestions; but I am prepared to answer any questions that may be addressed to me by the Committee.

7669. I believe the trade is principally from Scotland,

Scotland, is it not?—Not in our market; it has been from all parts of England, and a good deal from abroad of late years.

7670. What is the proportion of dead meat that comes into Newgate Market from abroad as compared with the home supply?—I could not give you that; but there are statistics of supply at the Custom House.

7671. Has the trade been a very increasing trade of late?—Very much so.

7672. Has the increase been as much in foreign meat as it has been in home-killed meat?—Very much more so within the last few years.

7673. Since the outbreak of the cattle plague has there been, do you think, a sensible increase in the dead-meat market?—Yes, especially from Holland, since they are now prohibited from sending it alive.

7674. Where is the Holland meat killed?—It is killed in Holland, and sent from there dead.

7675. Does it arrive in pretty good order?—It arrives in pretty good order in cold weather, but in warm weather sometimes it comes in very bad condition.

7676. Has the trade been very limited since the hot weather set in?—The trade has not decreased much, because we have not yet had any very hot weather; it has rather been increasing up to the present time.

7677. There has been no substantial decrease in the importation of dead meat from Holland up to this moment?—Not any; rather an increase.

7678. Do you know how long after the beast has been killed in Holland, the carcase makes its appearance in Newgate Market?—It would depend on the part of Holland from which it came. The passage from Rotterdam takes about 18 hours.

7679. And what from the other ports?—From Harlingen it is rather more; I cannot tell you the exact time, but something like 24 hours.

7680. Then those beasts have probably been killed 12 hours at least before they are put on board?—It must be killed the same length of time before sending it from there, as it would from any part of England.

7681. Speaking generally, from 48 to 56 hours would be the very shortest time that would elapse between the time the beast is actually killed, and the time it is exposed for sale in the market?—Yes; I do not think, practically, it would come in less than 48 hours, at any time, from Rotterdam, or indeed from any port of Scotland; it would take longer from Scotland.

7682. Has there been much loss upon dead meat imported in this way this year?—Not at present.

7683. There has been no loss?—Very trifling. There has been a loss, from a worse market, in consequence of hot weather; there has been that to-day, but I think very little meat has been positively spoiled.

7684. Do you think it would be possible, from your knowledge of the trade, to supply the dead-meat market from cattle slaughtered when they arrive here; that is to say, if there was a regulation in force that all cattle should be slaughtered, as near as possible at the port of debarkation, do you think that would interfere much with the trade?—I think that would probably depend upon what was meant by the word "port." There has been some discussion on that point, with reference to the port of London.

7685. Suppose such a regulation existed, that all fat cattle should be slaughtered close to the place of debarkation, somewhere down the river, how do you think that would affect the trade?—There would be very great inconvenience in any regulation of that kind; but even that would be preferable to prohibiting the importation of live cattle as at present.

7686. Live cattle, I believe, go to Islington to be sold; they go from the steamer at the place of landing to Islington?—Yes.

7687. Do you think it would be a great advantage if the cattle could be killed near the place of debarkation, and sent on to the dead-meat market?—I think it would be a great inconvenience to the trade and a general loss, without any advantage whatever.

7688. What loss would it occasion?—They would have to be killed at public slaughter-houses, a great number together; there is very great loss always in using these public slaughter-houses; there is a great deal of robbery carried on by the men employed, and it is impossible to exercise the same supervision as in a private slaughter-house. Your cattle would probably have to be killed when they were not wanted, whereas in a private slaughter-house, to which they are now taken, the tradesmen can kill them as they require them. I cannot see that there would be much greater security for the prevention of the spread of the disease than there is by the present regulations.

7689. Where are the beasts generally killed that are exposed for sale in Newgate Market; I am speaking now as to the beasts killed in the metropolitan district, and then sent to Newgate Market for sale?—Very many at public slaughter-houses near the Metropolitan Market, and others at slaughter-houses in various parts of London. We have one at Whitechapel, which is very convenient for beasts landed from different steam-boats.

7690. Does not this happen, that beasts are driven from the river to Islington, and then driven back again to Whitechapel to be slaughtered?—It might be so. When we have any beasts at Islington, such as we had from Sweden last week, we have them slaughtered at Islington to avoid driving them back again.

7691. Does it not then happen that what I have stated takes place?—It may be so; but I do not think anyone would unnecessarily drive them backwards and forwards.

7692. Mr. *Dent.*] With your slaughter-house at Whitechapel, does it not very often happen that you bring them from the steamers to Islington, and then have to take them back again to Whitechapel to slaughter?—Ours is entirely a commission business; but if we bought at Islington we should have them slaughtered there to prevent them being brought to Whitechapel; none of ours go into the public market, at least not after they are in our hands; ours is entirely a dead-meat commission business.

7693. Lord *Naas.* In fact, you never see the beasts alive at all?—Yes, we do in many cases. We had a consignment from Sweden last week; they were landed at Thames Haven, taken to Maiden-lane, and slaughtered there, close by the Metropolitan Market; that is, within a few yards.

7694. If those beasts were consigned to you direct from Sweden, what was the object of sending them to the Metropolitan Market at all?—Because they were landed at Thames Haven,

Mr. *W. J. Bonser.*

21 June 1866.

and they were taken by the train direct to the Metropolitan Market; there was no way of getting them to Whitechapel, except driving them a long distance.

7695. It is not a common course in your business to have live cattle consigned to you?—It is not the larger part of it, but it is a matter of almost every-day occurrence.

7696. Mr. *Dent.*] Will you explain that, if you please; they are consigned to you to slaughter?—To slaughter, and sell on commission in the dead-meat market. That is principally done in the hot weather, when they are afraid of sending dead meat long distances.

7697. Lord *Naas.*] Do you kill them as they are wanted, in that case, or do you kill them immediately?—If they are detained at the wharf by the inspector, on account of being diseased or damaged, they are slaughtered immediately; otherwise we keep them one or two days, if we think the trade will be favourable.

7698. There are no live cattle consigned to you from parts of Great Britain, are there?—Yes; from Scotland, frequently.

7699. Live cattle?—Yes, frequently in the hot weather.

7700. What is done with them; do you keep them and kill them just as you want them?—If we think we can make a better price of them for the consignor, we keep them a few days.

7701. Where do you get them?—Either at Whitechapel, or any place that is convenient according to circumstances.

7702. Do they go to the Metropolitan Market?—No, never.

7703. They come straight from the railway to your place?—They come straight from the railway to our place.

7704. Mr. *Dent.*] Are there any beasts sent to London in this way, that are never sent to the Metropolitan Market?—Yes, a considerable number during the hot weather; beasts, sheep, and pigs.

7705. They take the place of meat that would be consigned dead in cold weather, I suppose?—Precisely so.

7706. Lord *Naas.*] Do you think it would interfere very much with the trade if public slaughter-houses were established in different parts of the town, in sufficient numbers to supply the wants of the public?—Do you mean in substitution of the private slaughter-houses?

7707. In substitution for the private slaughter-houses?—It would cause a considerable loss to the persons who were compelled to use them. That is so well known to be the case, that our consignors from the country objected to sending cattle to us in the way I have described, until we had a private slaughter-house, because they would not expose themselves to the peculations of the men employed in these public places.

7707*. Supposing slaughter-houses were established of this kind, they would be in compartments apportioned out and let to different persons, who would find it for their convenience to take them; and do you not think that in that manner those objections would be got rid of?—Do you mean outside London?

7708. Wherever they might be; they would be in places most convenient for trade; but, apart from their position, do you not think public slaughter-houses of that kind could be furnished in such a manner that those objections could be got rid of?—I think in my own case, it would to a great extent; but not in the case of the retail butcher, who now buys one or two bullocks at a time, and a few sheep. He has the slaughter-house adjoining his other premises, and his men go there in the afternoon and slaughter just as they require the cattle or sheep for the business: he would not like to send his men a considerable distance to a public slaughter-house, and he would be liable to the same amount of robbery, because he could not exercise the same supervision over the men.

7709. Do not these large slaughter-houses, that are established, partake very much of the nature of a public slaughter-house; the butchers who slaughter their cattle in these places are close by each other?—It is rather this; that persons having the cattle to slaughter send them there and pay a certain sum, 4 *s.* for each bullock, to the proprietor of the slaughter-house, who finds the men and does all the work, making this fixed charge.

7710. That slaughter-house is, to a certain extent, a public slaughter-house?—That is what we call a public slaughter-house, in distinction to private slaughter-houses, of which we have the key, and employ our own men to do the work.

7711. Mr. *Graham.*] You say, that as to the dead meat you receive from Holland, there is a waste of it from its arriving, in a bad condition, occasionally in hot weather?—With any meat it would be so, in hot weather, coming from a considerable distance.

7712. Supposing it were necessary to kill all the cattle at the ports of landing, would not there be a loss in sending it to market dead, instead of sending it up alive?—There must be much less danger, in sending from Harwich instead of Holland, on account of the distance. There is another great difficulty, and that is the delay on account of the Custom House. The meat coming from Scotland can be landed at any time of the day or night, but from abroad they will only allow it to be landed at certain hours.

7713. You said that there would be great inconvenience from slaughtering at the port of discharge; what kind of inconvenience do you anticipate from that?—At present there are no conveniences at the ports for slaughtering, to any great extent. Very frequently cattle are detained by the inspector at the port, and compelled to be slaughtered there; instead of an expense of 4 *s.*, on each bullock, we have now to pay 10 *s.*, and the work is not so well done, consequently the carcass is less saleable, when brought to our market, than if it had been brought to our slaughter-house.

7714. Then the foreigner would get a less price for his meat?—He would lose that difference.

7715. What would be the effect of the difference if it extended over the whole foreign trade; would it be to increase or limit the foreign trade?—It must be to limit it; and at present they complain that our prices will scarcely allow them to send; in fact, the importation of pigs has almost entirely ceased, on account of the higher prices abroad.

7716. I think you said there was no corresponding advantage gained by killing them at the port of discharge rather than sending them in?—I think not in the least.

7717. Mr. *Dent.*] You are alluding, of course, to the present system at the wharves and the ports of

of discharge; you are alluding to things as they are?—In reference to the inconvenience and loss, although they might be modified, they would still exist to a certain extent.

7718. If it became the custom, there would, no doubt, be slaughter-houses erected, and the consequence would be that they would be slaughtered as economically there as at the slaughter-house at Copenhagen-fields?—But there would be the expense of carting the carcases to London.

7719. On the other hand, there would be the diminution of carting away the offal, and doing away with the expense of dragging them through the streets of London?—Practically, that would be nothing. London is the market for the fat beasts; they are worth more in London than anywhere else.

7720. Have you many private slaughter-houses now about Newgate Market?—A few in the market.

7721. I think the noble Lord in the Chair alluded to dividing the slaughter-houses, and having what are called "booths," in Scotland. It is not found that in Edinburgh or Leeds, where these slaughter-houses exist, there is any peculation or robbery?—I cannot speak as to that.

7722. We have had evidence from those parts saying there was none; in those cases there would be, as usual, supervision exercised, as in the private slaughter-houses?—Perhaps so.

7723. I think you have had your attention called to dividing the trade, and making the carcase butcher slaughter in the public slaughter-house, and making the private butcher have a registered slaughter-house?—No, I have not said that; I merely mentioned it as it occurred to me.

7724. I think it was suggested by Mr. Rudkin?—I was not aware that the point had been mentioned before.

7725. It was mentioned by Mr. Rudkin that the carcase butcher might slaughter in the public slaughter-house, but that the private retail butcher should be allowed to have a private slaughter-house for the convenience of his customers: do you think that would be feasible in London?—I scarcely know how you draw the distinction between the private butcher and the carcase butcher.

7726. The one is the retail butcher who sells to the consumer, and the other, like yourself, sells to the butcher?—We have a customer who sends to us to sell certain portions of beef, and he sells certain beasts at the market and certain beasts at home; he would be both a carcase butcher and a retail butcher.

7727. Do you find the foreign meat trade in different hands to the English meat trade?—It very much depends on the class of meat and the state of our trade at the time. As to the inferior kinds of foreign meat, it is generally sold to butchers who carry on business in the poorer parts of London, or to contractors; but we have some consignments of foreign meat that are bought by the West-end butchers.

7728. The West-end butchers we have had here have told us they never think of buying foreign meat; do you agree with that?—In a general way that is true, no doubt; but we have recently had some consignments of meat from Holland as good as meat need be; I have had some of it sent home for myself, some parts of Dutch sheep and some veal, and it was exceedingly good.

7729. I suppose London is almost entirely supplied with foreign veal?—We have had a great deal of English veal; in fact there has not been much foreign veal the last few weeks.

7730. Is the trade in carcases a ready-money trade; if you have meat consigned to you, is it a ready-money trade?—We pay ready money for it, but we do not receive ready money.

7731. Is that the same with the meat killed in London?—For any consignments that we received this morning, we send a cheque off by this evening's post; some of our customers pay cash, and some take credit for a few weeks, more or less.

7732. As to all these animals, they come to you to be slaughtered, and the foreign meat that comes to you is consigned to you for sale; you do not buy it on your own account?—We never buy a piece of meat under any circumstances whatever; ours is entirely a commission business, and we confine ourselves strictly to that.

7733. Do you have large consignments from Aberdeen?—Yes.

7734. Do you find that those consignments fall off very considerably during the summer months?—Very much so.

7735. You could not maintain a permanent supply of dead meat throughout the year?—I think that, to a great extent, arises from the scarcity of meat there. Meat killed in Aberdeen by persons who are well accustomed to the trade, will come in better condition than meat killed much nearer London by persons who do not manage their business well.

7736. In Aberdeen, their fat beasts are exhausted, and they do not send them during the summer?—That is partly the case, and it is partly the case that there is more risk in sending them in the hot weather.

7737. I wanted to know whether you found a considerable diminution of supply of dead meat to London in summer?—Yes, it arises from those two causes.

7738. Mr. *Carnegie.*] Have you ever known any time this year when a contractor could not obtain meat in Newgate Market?—I think not this year. The weather has been cold this season.

7739. So that a contractor says, that as his meat has been condemned, in all probability the condemnation arises from his buying doubtful meat on the speculation of its passing?—I think it must depend partly upon the nature of his contract, whether it was meat to be supplied in London, or whether it was sent (as a good deal has been sent this summer) to Aldershot, and places of that kind. Meat may be perfectly sound at nine o'clock in the morning, and after it has been sent a distance it might be spoilt at the time of arrival.

7740. Do you consider that arises from defective railway arrangements?—No, from the hot weather.

7741. What is there to prevent meat travelling by railway to Aldershot, if it can come from Aberdeen?—When meat is sent from Aberdeen it is meat that is well dressed, and it reaches us in very good condition; but after it is once exposed to the air it changes very rapidly, and if that meat has to be repacked and sent to the country again, it would probably be quite useless the next morning. Frequently our customers

Mr. *W. J. Bonser.*

21 June 1866.

will ask us to send down a few lambs. We are always compelled to send town-killed meat, because meat that has once been packed and exposed to the air changes very rapidly.

7742. Lord *Naas.*] Is the packing of Scotch meat as good as it possibly can be?—It is the best we have at all.

7743. There is no alteration by which it could be improved, in the shape of hanging it upon the carriages, and so on?—There are advantages and disadvantages in the system; it is followed out to a great extent from Exeter and Plymouth; the meat comes at much less expense, and sometimes comes in very good condition; at other times it is very dirty from the dust that penetrates the carriage; then again, it has to be brought to our market by railway vans, and men carry it on their shoulders from the vans to the shops, and if it is raining it gets wet and very much deteriorated.

7744. You think, on the whole, the packing of meat in cloths is the best way?—I think that is the way I should send meat to London.

7745. With reference to the foreign meat that comes in bad, is it packed in the same way in cloths, and laid in masses on the deck?—The meat that comes from Hamburgh comes in that way in cloths, and comes generally in fair condition. From other parts I have not so much experience, but they pack it more carelessly in proportion to the Scotch.

7746. There would be no such thing as hanging it up on board the vessels?—It could only be done to a small extent, when there was only a small quantity, and room to hang it under shelter.

7747. Is the meat generally packed in the hold or on the deck?—It generally lies on the deck, and is covered with tarpauling; then it is exposed to be washed by the sea, unless great care is exercised.

7748. At present there is great inconvenience in the Newgate Market, owing to the crowding and want of space?—There is great inconvenience from that; but my premises are outside the market, and I do not feel it so much as those inside perhaps.

7749. Still, larger markets would be a greater advantage to the public?—Unquestionably they would be.

Monday, 25th June 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.
Mr. Edward Egerton.
Sir James Fergusson.
Mr. Graham.
Mr. Cogan.
Mr. Holland.
Lord Naas.
Mr. Norwood.
Sir Matthew Ridley.
Mr. Banks Stanhope.

MR. DENT, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. RICHARD WALSH, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. Walsh.* 25 June 1866.

7750. *Chairman.*] ARE you a partner with Mr. Aungier, who was summoned here?—Yes.

7751. What are you?—I am a cattle salesman and grazier, in Ireland.

7752. What part of Ireland?—In the County Dublin and in the County Meath.

7753. You are largely concerned in the exportation of cattle from Ireland to England?—I sell a great deal of cattle to go from Ireland to England. I sell to the dealers, but I am not personally concerned in the exportation.

7754. Do you sell fat or lean cattle?—All fat.

7755. You never sell store cattle?—No.

7756. Have you anything to say to the Committee on the manner in which the cattle are shipped at Dublin?—The only thing I would say is, perhaps it would be well if there was some inspection of the vessels, so that the vessels might not be overcrowded at certain seasons of the year.

7757. Inspection of the vessels?—Inspection of the vessels.

7758. Generally, are the animals brought down to the port of Dublin in good condition, do you consider?—In an admirable state. They get bought in the Dublin market; they are put there in lairs that night, and fed and watered, generally speaking.

7759. Do fat cattle come from all parts of Ireland to England for shipment?—Not all parts of Ireland, for all parts of Ireland do not feed cattle.

7760. Do they come from different directions?—They do.

7761. Are they brought down by railroad usually?—They are brought from the far parts of Ireland, not from the home counties. There are not many cattle brought from the counties of Dublin, Kildare, or Meath, by railway. We prefer walking them.

7762. Are most of the animals sold in the open market to dealers in England, or are they consigned to English salesmen?—They are consigned to the Dublin salesmen, and bought by dealers to go to England. Those which are consigned to the English salesmen do not stand in the Dublin market, but they go direct to Liverpool.

7763. Are there many consigned direct to English salesmen which do not stand in the Dublin market?—There are a great number.

7764. Is it your opinion that the steamers at certain times of the year are overcrowded?—Perhaps they are a little overcrowded, but not so very much.

7765. Not so much as to injure the health of the cattle?—I think not. I may say I inspected them on Friday last, and I thought their arrangements were very good.

7766. Those were the boats that run to Dublin and Liverpool?—To Holyhead and Liverpool. I saw some of the boats that had been used in going to London when the cattle were not allowed to go by rail. The boats were not near so good as the regular cattle boats; those were boats used to take cattle to London during the prohibition by railway.

7767. Are those boats kept entirely for fat animals, or are store animals also shipped in them?—They are used for both indiscriminately.

7768. Complaints have been made as to the state in which store animals arrive from Ireland; that they have been so crowded together that they are heated, and then landed carelessly, and have become liable to lung disease?—I think heretofore there has not been due attention paid to the way store cattle were dealt with in the ships. I think the store cattle are very badly treated on our Irish railways; they are too much crowded, and are also very badly treated in the loading; they get a great deal of abuse.

7769. We have had witnesses here who have stated that the cattle are naturally wild, and I suppose the drovers are wild also?—I think the railway servants are worse than the cattle drovers. I think the railway companies are very negligent in how they send them, and as to whether they keep them too long a time.

7770. We have a great number of cattle coming to Yorkshire; some of them are miserably lean, and very subject to disease, both foot and mouth complaint and lung complaint. The dealers, I think, attribute a good deal of that to the bad way in which they have been treated on board the steamers and on the railways; do you think there is any truth in that?—I think there is, as to the railways; I am not so much acquainted with the steam-packet companies, but I have heard the vessels have been crowded.

7771. Have you any suggestion to make with respect to the better regulations of the Irish railways or Irish steamers in the transit of cattle?—I think the steamers do not require so much, but I think the railways could be very much improved in their regulations as to cattle.

Mr. *R. Walsh.*

25 June 1866.

7772. Now what regulations would you suggest with respect to the railroads?—In the first place, I think the jobbers who buy cattle in the fairs ought not to be allowed to crowd any number they please into the trucks in order to save expense.

7773. You would suggest that they should pay so much per head, rather than so much per truck?—I should suggest they should pay so much per head; and I think, when the cattle are loaded, the railway companies should forward them forthwith. They sometimes keep them knocking about for hours.

7774. When they arrive at the port of embarcation are they, generally speaking, watered and put into lairs or fields before they are shipped?—The fat cattle are; the lean cattle are generally watered and fed before they are put on board. Sometimes they may arrive late, and be put on board the steamers forthwith, which I should say would be very injurious to them.

7775. How has the price of cattle in Ireland been affected during this spring by the restrictions which have existed upon the trade in animals?—Store cattle have sold wonderfully well; better than one could have thought, up to the time of the report as to the rinderpest breaking out in Ireland; then it affected it slightly.

7776. Do you think the price of store cattle has been as usual this spring?—They have not been quite so dear as they were last year. They were dearer last year than I ever remember them before.

7777. Have you found the price of fat cattle has risen much in consequence of the restrictions that have been placed on the trade in England?—I cannot attribute the rise so much to that; within the last fortnight we have had a serious rise; I think it is from the scarcity of fat cattle in England and Ireland.

7778. That serious rise has taken place during the last fortnight?—During the last fortnight or three weeks.

7779. Has it affected the retail trade as well as the graziers; I mean, have the butchers been charging higher prices for their meat?—The butchers were charging high prices all the spring. I do not think they have raised their prices much yet, but they will be obliged to do so.

7780. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Is it the case that, when they take the trucks, they are allowed to put any number of animals they please into the truck; is there no limit to it?—I think not.

7781. Do you think there is no supervision on the part of the railways?—Not for what they call "small" cattle. I believe they do limit the number of fat cattle.

7782. Do you know that as a fact yourself, or are you speaking from mere hearsay?—I know it as a fact.

7783. You do not think there is any supervision on the part of the railway authorities as to those cattle?—I think not; there may be some.

7784. I suppose they would be liable if any accident happened from their overcrowding?—I know on one occasion some cattle were killed, and they did not pay for them.

7785. Were any steps taken on the subject at law?—I cannot tell whether there was more than an application made.

7786. You say there has been a scarcity within the last fortnight; has that been in consequence of the grass being backward?—Yes, and also in consequence of the increased demand for England.

7787. What is the average price for beasts now?—I think fat cattle realised four guineas per cwt. last Thursday in Dublin. When I say that, I mean first-class animals, beef of first-class quality.

7788. Lord *Naas.*] Will you state to the Committee what has been the effect on the Irish trade of the restrictions which have been placed in England upon the transport of cattle in consequence of the rinderpest?—I think it has interfered with it very much indeed.

7789. State to the Committee how that has occurred?—They are not allowed to take the Irish cattle from Liverpool. If they stand in the Liverpool market they cannot bring them to any other market; they must be killed there, and I think about 1,000 or 800 beasts a-week supplies Liverpool. The usual number going to Liverpool is from 2,000 to 2,800.

7790. So that not more than one-half the weekly supply of Irish meat is consumed in Liverpool?—Not more than that is killed in Liverpool.

7791. Where does the rest go?—The rest is sent up to Birmingham and to the north of England, to Wolverhampton and Manchester.

7792. What has happened in respect of those animals since those restrictions have been laid on?—A great number of their best buyers, since the weather has got warm, have come to Dublin to buy the cattle, and take them direct to their places in England. When the weather was cool they did not mind so much buying the cattle in Liverpool.

7793. What effect, in your opinion, has that change in the course of the trade had upon the price?—I think it lessened the value of the cattle in Liverpool, and perhaps increased it in Dublin.

7794. The Irish producer did not lose by that practice?—If they continued sending their full number of cattle to Liverpool they did; some of them have, I have no doubt; Mr. Garnett will tell you that; he sends cattle to Liverpool, I do not.

7795. There has been no decrease in the price of cattle in Dublin in consequence of this partly new system being introduced of parties coming over to buy?—There was very little when the English cattle were more plentiful than they are now, and when they had more stall-fed cattle; then it had a serious effect on Dublin for three months, and reduced the price of cattle very much in March and April and the first week in May; since that they have been obliged to come to Ireland to buy all the cattle they can.

7796. Now, putting aside the question of the cattle plague altogether (as we may hope that cattle plague is not going to last for ever), what is your opinion generally as to the effect that inspection would have upon cattle transmitted from Ireland to England, as a preventative against the introduction of disease other than cattle plague?—Do you mean if the cattle plague had gone away from us?

7797. Yes?—I think it would have rather an injurious effect.

7798. Do you think such a system of inspection would be necessary for fat cattle?—I do not; I am speaking as if we had no rinderpest in Ireland, which I believe we have not.

7799. Would it be in any way advantageous for

for store cattle?—I think not, if we had no rinderpest in Ireland.

7800. I mean as a safeguard against foot and mouth disease, or against pleuro-pneumonia?—Pleuro-pneumonia is so much on the decrease, and we have had so much less of it this year, that it is out of the question; and the foot and mouth disease is such a trifling thing that I do not think it requires any interference.

7801. Foot and mouth disease and pleuro-pneumonia are the only diseases of much importance which affect cattle?—Quite so, except the murrain, which we always have to a slight extent.

7802. Upon what do you ground your opinion that pleuro-pneumonia has decreased very much in Ireland lately?—I have had very good opportunity of knowing it. I have been for a good many years connected with the sale of cattle in Ireland, and in the month of May it was always more prevalent in the grazing stock than any other time of the year. At this time, in May, we have not sold one quarter of the number of cattle we have sold in any year during the last 15 years affected with lung disease.

7803. Do you think that state of things applies to the country generally?—I do.

7804. How has it been as regards foot and mouth disease this year?—We have not had it at all this spring; we have not heard of a single case of it.

7805. Are you aware of the state in which the store cattle generally arrive at English ports from Ireland?—I do not know much of that, I know how they leave us. The store cattle come in a very heated and uncomfortable state to Dublin before they are shipped; in consequence of the time they are upon the railways I think.

7806. Are a great proportion of the store cattle that are exported to Dublin brought to Dublin by railway?—A great number of them are, a very great proportion of them are brought by railway.

7807. Do you think that greater care and greater quickness in transport would be a great advantage in respect of those cattle?—I think it would be a very great advantage.

7808. Do you know how long the cattle are generally kept on the railway?—I used to ride a great many more of my own cattle than I do now. I now prefer walking them even for 70 or 80 miles. I have put cattle in the trucks at Limerick at 12 or 1 o'clock on one day, and not got them at my place near Dublin till the next morning, from six to eight o'clock.

7809. Sir *James Fergusson.*] How many miles is that?—About 80 Irish miles.

7810. Supposing they are put on the train at two o'clock, at what time does that train start?—Not till four or five in the evening.

7811. Are those trains special trains?—Sometimes they are special trains, and sometimes they are the ordinary trains.

7812. Are you limited by the railway company as to the time at which you shall send your cattle to the train?—In order to box them they like to have them in good time.

7813. They insist on having them at about that time in the day?—They do or did. I gave up sending cattle by rail because they were very much abused, and I found the cattle went much better by walking.

7814. We have had it in evidence before this Committee, that the Irish drovers are much rougher in the handling of cattle than the drovers in England; have you had much experience upon that point?—I have not had much experience of the English drovers.

7815. Do you think the knocking about, of which you speak, is altogether attributable to the delay before starting the trains, so that the cattle bustle each other; or may it not be from the rough handling?—I think they get a great deal of abuse in loading from the railway servants, and also from the Irish drovers.

7816. In fact, that the persons concerned in loading cattle generally are unnecessarily rough in their handling of them?—I think they are.

7817. May not that be more the cause of their deterioration than the time they stand in the trucks?—No; I think the time they stand in the trucks is very detrimental to them.

7818. Do you think they arrive at the trucks in a healthy state?—I do, when they come from the farms and the fairs in good order.

7819. They are not fevered by hard driving?—No, very seldom indeed.

7820. Lord *Naas.*] I believe at most of the large fairs there is a railway station pretty near?—Yes, nearly all. Ballinasloe is the largest fair we have. There we have a station. The accomodation is not so good as it might be.

7821. Taking the case of cattle transported from a distant port of Ireland to an English port, are you of opinion that there is an enormous amount of unnecessary delay and also abuse, both on the railway and in the steamers?—Not so much in the steamers. The steamers advertise their time of sailing, and I think their accommodation is far superior to the railway.

7822. Is there not a variance in the kind of accommodation in the different steamers that leave the port of Dublin; are not some steamers better than others?—Some are better than others. I spent some two or three hours on Friday last in examining them. The boats coming to Holyhead are very superior; and the boats coming to Liverpool cannot be improved, I should think, with the exception of giving the cattle a little more room.

7823. The Holyhead boats are new boats?—Yes. The Holyhead boats and the Liverpool boats are very good. The boats which were used when the cattle were sent to London, during the time of the restrictions, were not so good.

7824. Do you think from your knowledge of travelling cattle, if cattle were travelled generally by railway, and loaded with care and punctuality and dispatch, they would travel as easily by railway as by steamer?—Not quite, I think. I think they are a little more abused in the railway. For instance, the stopping of the trains, and what they call shunting the trains, to allow other trains to pass, will affect them very much on their feet. They slip, and the feet are very liable to get loose between hair and hoof.

7825. There is a greater amount of risk?—I should say there was.

7826. Looking to they way in which animals of a valuable nature are transported by railway—valuable bulls and so on—there would be no difficulty in transporting them properly?—Those animals get so much room.

7827. Looking at that fact, they could be imported without risk?—Yes.

7828. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Would it be impracticable to place quantities of cattle either for store or slaughtering in horse boxes, like you do

Mr. *R. Walsh.*

25 June 1866.

fine bulls?—If they got more room and put in open trucks they would answer, but I think they are not very well constructed for the transit of cattle.

7829. Unless the trucks are constructed with a separate partition for each animal, it is necessary to pack them close?—No, it is not. I very often send half a box of cattle, that is, five, and if they had a whole box to come in, they would come in a much superior condition than they would come in the ordinary way of loading.

7830. That would enable them to turn round?—It would, and it would be of great service if they had some stuff under their feet.

7831. Mr. *Holland.*] Is the railway fare paid at per head or per truck?—Per truck.

7832. If you pay per truck, you may pack them how you please?—Before last year you might put as many small cattle as you liked.

7833. Lord *Naas.*] Has there been any attempt to establish a dead meat trade between the Irish ports and England?—No; there is some dead meat sent at certain portions of the year to Glasgow from Dublin.

7834. What description of meat is that?—Very good. There is Mr. Tierman and a Mr. Geale in the trade, who has agents in Dublin, who buy the rumps, and those portions of the animals, and send them to Glasgow; those are from very superior beasts. There is not the consumption for all those parts of the good beasts they kill in Dublin.

7835. Is that a new trade?—No.

7836. It has been going on for some time?—It has; but it has not increased. I should say it has rather decreased than increased.

7837. There is nothing of the sort going on between Liverpool and Dublin and Bristol and Dublin?—I am not sure there is none going to Bristol; there is none going to Liverpool. One or two people may send small portions to Bristol.

7838. Are the fat cattle which are exported from Dublin principally grass-fed beasts?—For seven or eight months they are.

7839. For how many months in the year do you think the Irish trade consists almost entirely of grass-fed beef?—I think from the 10th June to about the 10th January entirely.

7840. About seven months?—Yes.

7841. Then for the remainder of the year?—They are stall-fed cattle.

7842. They are fed, I believe, principally on turnips?—On turnips a good deal, potatoes, linseed cake, and Indian corn; barley is much used in Ireland, and has been found to be very fine food.

7843. Do you think the practice of giving the beasts corn and oil cake in Ireland has increased very much of late years?—Very much; 10 years ago we knew nothing of it.

7844. Do you think the condition of the cattle sent away in the winter months has very much improved of late years?—I think the cattle feeding of Ireland altogether has very much improved.

7845. At a certain time of the year, is there not a good deal of what is called "grain-fed" beef sent away?—The dairymen's cows in April and May are fed in Dublin. In the interior of the country there are not so many as there were.

7846. The grain-fed beef consists principally of fat cows; cows that have been used for milk, and then afterwards fatted?—Yes; they are grazed outside Dublin in summer a good deal.

7847. Do you think the practice of selling at home by farmers in Ireland is increasing, particularly for fat cattle?—I think not.

7848. Is it not the practice generally for the farmer to send his fat beast to the neighbouring fair, or to consign it to a salesmaster in Dublin or Liverpool?—Generally speaking, it is consigned to a salesmaster either in Dublin or Liverpool.

7849. So that a great portion of the Irish fat cattle do not stand, as a rule, in the country fairs?—Certainly not.

7850. The country fairs are almost entirely occupied by store cattle?—Yes; and some small portion of fat cattle in the spring. In some of the fairs in Limerick there may be a good many fat beasts and cows; in Roscommon, in the month of October, for instance.

7851. Sir *James Fergusson.*] I should like to know whether the salesmen sell the cattle for themselves, or whether the owners advertise them?—Oh, dear no! there is no advertising at all. If you were a grazier you would consign your cattle to me; you would write to me to Dublin, or to any salesman, and we have a staff of men by which to send them to the market, and they are sold for you.

7852. Lord *Naas.*] It is entirely a ready-money trade?—Yes; entirely.

7853. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] You paying all the expenses of transit?—We generally pay all expenses, and charge it to the owners.

7854. Lord *Naas.*] That system is adopted usually by the large farmers as well as by the small farmers?—Yes; by the graziers.

7855. By the stall feeder or by the grazier?—Yes.

7856. Have you any dealing yourself, as a salesmaster, in the sale of store cattle?—None.

7857. None whatever?—We may sell a few beasts, but I do not think they would amount to a score of beasts in a year. Some of our clients' friends who live in Dublin might send a few to us, and we sell them, more as a compliment than anything else.

7858. How is the great trade in store cattle conducted; principally by dealers?—No; the cattle owners send to the fairs, and sell to us and the large graziers.

7859. I mean the stock that is exported?—They are generally brought by dealers from Ireland to England.

7860. The dealers bring over their own cattle?—Generally speaking. Some of the Roscommon stock owners send store cattle to Glasgow.

7861. The general course of the export store trade is this, I believe: that the cattle are bought in the fairs by the dealers, and carried over by those dealers, or by their servants, and disposed of in different markets and fairs in England?—Yes.

7862. The salemaster's profession, as a profession, has little or nothing to do with that trade?—Nothing whatever.

7863. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Have you any knowledge of the trade in the north of Ireland, from Belfast, as to the sending over of store cattle to the west coast, to ports such as Morcambe Bay?—I have not.

7864. You have no knowledge of the condition in which animals are shipped from the port of Ireland to the Scotch coast?—I have not. We have

have very little connection with the north of Ireland.

7865. Is the quantity of stock of various kinds in Ireland larger than usual at this moment?—I think it is.

7866. Have you known of losses occurring by accident to cattle consigned from Dublin?—Very seldom. I presume you mean fat cattle consigned to salesmen.

7867. Yes?—Very seldom, indeed.

7868. As a rule, in the shipment of these cattle, has more care been preserved than in the shipment of store cattle?—I think a great deal more care has been observed with fat cattle.

7869. You have spoken of the condition of these cattle on their arrival at Dublin. Has it appeared to you that they are shipped in that condition of health which is likely to predispose them to disease, on being further driven on landing in England?—Not as a general rule; but in some cases they are not brought as well as they might be to Dublin.

7870. Have you ever yourself made complaints to railway authorities of the bad treatment that cattle have received when put on board their trucks and consigned by yourself?—Yes; I have told railway authorities that I would not send any more cattle by rail, in consequence of the way they have treated them. I have complained to them; and, on the part of some of our customers, I have complained of the way they have sent the fat cattle to the market. For instance, they made a rule last year, on the Midland Great Western Railway, that cattle coming from the county of Sligo, which is an important grazing county, should be put into the trucks at half-past four or five in the evening. Now, that train would not start from Carrick-on-Shannon, which is the name of the station down there, until two or three o'clock next morning; and, furthermore, there were great complaints made to us by some of our Mayo constituents, that the cattle, when they came to the Liffey branch of the Midland Railway, and which were coming on to the broad stone to the Dublin market, were unhooked off the engine, and kept on the rails until the engine was sent down to the North Wall, and had left its trucks there, and had come back again to bring them to the broad stone, which might have kept them two or three hours longer on the rails; and there were a great many of our friends complained very much of that.

7871. Did you ever get any redress for that?—Yes, we got redress. Once, a lot of cattle belonging to two of our friends came in a very bad state to Dublin; they were loaded at Carrick-on-Shannon on a Tuesday morning, and something or other occurred to the train, and they were taken out again on Tuesday evening. The train could not come in; they were reloaded on Wednesday, and did not arrive in Dublin until Thursday morning, in a very bad state. For those two lots of cattle our friends were compensated, amply compensated.

Mr. *R. Walsh.*

25 June 1866.

7872. Have you ever turned your attention to the subject of their being watered on their journey in the trucks?—I do not see well how it could be done, because the unloading them and loading them again would do them more injury than the advantage to be derived from water.

7873. Does it appear to you they could be watered in the trucks?—I do not see how it could be done.

7874. Lord *Naas.*] The average distance that cattle are carried in Ireland is very short as compared to England?—From Mayo to Dublin is a distance of 150 miles.

7875. That is the furthest point, is it not?—No, they come from Cork to Dublin.

7876. Is not that about the same distance?—No, it is more; it is 180 miles.

7877. Sir *James Fergusson.*] Cattle need never be for 24 hours in the trucks in Ireland?—Not if they are properly managed.

7878. *Chairman.*] You very rarely import any foreign cattle into Ireland?—No; some Spanish cattle come there, and some few Dutch cattle have come there once or twice.

7879. Lord *Naas.*] There was a considerable importation of calves at one time?—The importation of calves from this city to Dublin was very great.

7880. *Chairman.*] Your wish would be to have as few restrictions as possible placed on the Irish trade with England; I mean legal restrictions?—Yes, that would be so; while our cattle are in a healthy state we do not require it.

7881. You would be against any system of veterinary inspection at the ports on arrival in England?—I do not think it necessary. Of course, I should have no great feeling one way or the other; our cattle go fat, and if there is a proper staff to have the thing properly done, I do not see why it should not be properly done.

7882. Lord *Naas.*] You are also very much opposed to anything like a system of veterinary inspection as regards fairs and markets in Ireland?—It would be a very difficult thing to get it properly done.

7883. Would it interfere much with the trade?—Yes; unless it was done by very superior people, and men of unquestionable character.

7884. You gave similar evidence to this before a former Committee, or your partner did?—My former partner did.

7885. Have you anything further to suggest?—No; I do not know of any other point.

7886. You do not think you could give the Committee any further opinion?—No; I should be happy to answer any other question to the best of my ability.

Mr. Samuel Garnett, called in; and Examined.

7887. Lord *Naas.*] You have been engaged for some years as a grazier in Ireland?—Yes, for many years; nearly 40.

7888. I believe you have been in the habit of buying your own cattle?—Yes; always.

7889. I believe you attend the fairs in different parts of Ireland?—I do; mostly in the west of Ireland. I like the stock there better than in the other parts.

7890. State to the Committee generally, how you conduct your business, and at what time of the year you buy your cattle?—We buy a little in September and October. In the spring of the year, we buy a good deal more in proportion; I feed about 800 head of cattle myself. In autumn, we generally buy about 150 or 200; the rest we lay in in spring, commencing in March, and ending about the middle of May.

Mr. *S. Garnett.*

Mr. *S. Garnett.*

25 June 1866.

7891. I believe your land is all fattening land of the first quality?—Yes.

7892. *Chairman.*] In what county?—County Meath.

7893. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] As to those you buy in September, do you stall feed them in the country?—No, that is not my practice; I generally sell them in the following June.

7894. Do you generally keep them out all the winter?—Mostly. I have a little tillage; a very small proportion of tillage.

7895. Lord *Naas.*] The cattle that you buy in the autumn, you intend for early beef in summer?—Yes.

7896. Do you give them a little hay in winter?—I give them a little hay in the fields in winter; some of them are wintered in houses and yards, but not many on my place.

7897. Are the beasts you feed mostly heifers or bullocks?—I feed both; about 200 bullocks.

7898. As a rule, you never keep a beast more than a year?—Not generally; sometimes I get a good young beast to lie over longer.

7899. The general practice is to get rid of the stock you buy within the year?—Yes, that is the general practice.

7900. What age are the beasts you buy?—They are not younger than three or four or five years old. The cows I buy sometimes perhaps a little older.

7901. Where do you generally buy them?—Generally in West Meath, in Longford, in Roscommon, and in Galway. I buy in Mayo sometimes; sometimes in the county of Kildare and at Carlow, but not often. I am fonder of the cattle in the western country.

7902. Are those cattle generally bred in the western country?—Very often there is a trade in young calves and young stock to the graziers; they are brought by dealers to them in the western country; they grow them down there; they get their calves in Limerick and at Carlow, and Kildare, and Meath, and Longford, and from Fermanagh and the North, to Mayo and Sligo.

7903. The general course of the trade is, that the younger stock of calves and yearlings are bought by one class of graziers. They are kept for a year and a half, and then sold to persons in your condition, who hold very good land, and are so fattened up?—Yes, that is the general course of the trade.

7904. So that the heifer or the ox is generally about three and-a-half year's old before it comes to the butcher?—Three and-a-half years or four. We generally buy three and-a-half year old heifers in the fall of the year, and they are four when we sell them.

7905. Do you convey your store cattle much by railway?—I tried it for some time, but lately I have given it up altogether; I would rather walk them 70 or 80 miles than put them into trucks.

7906. Why do you object so much to the railway?—At the large fairs the cattle generally go down as they are bought; but at the railway they have to wait an immense time, and they put on a heavy train with one engine, and wait until they get it well filled, and when it starts, it is very often passed by the passenger trains, and has to lie by on the road going up. They are shunted so often backwards and forwards, that they come off their journey in a very bad state, and if there is any disease going about, they are sure to catch it. You might walk them 70 miles and they might never get such a thing.

7907. Your experience is, that the risk of infection is much greater in travelling by railway than walking?—That has been so hitherto. I have seen since I have come up to London, that all the trucks are whitewashed. Up to the present time, they have never disinfected them in that way in Ireland.

7908. Mr. *Edward Egerton.*] Are they not whitewashed now?—Not now.

7909. Lord *Naas.*] What is the expense of walking a beast from Roscommon fair?—The beast comes home cheaper by walking. They walk them probably not more than 12 or 14 miles a day. They come home cheaper and better with a careful driver.

7910. Have any representations been made to the railway companies, by graziers, as to the careless way in which they convey the cattle?—There may have been, but I have not really brought home anything by railway for a good while.

7911. You have seen no improvement?—I do not think there is any improvement. I have heard of a good many cattle being lost this spring; they have been killed by coming by railway.

7912. Do you think that good railway management would obviate a great number of these difficulties?—Perhaps it might; I do not know.

7913. How do you dispose of your fat cattle?—I ship them to Liverpool; the same salesmaster sells them for me at Dublin and Liverpool. Last year I sent a few to Glasgow, for the first time in my life.

7914. I suppose you never go yourself?—I never go with the cattle. I have great confidence in my salesmen; I have been dealing with them for many years, and they do it as well as I could do it myself.

7915. I believe it is a ready-money trade?—Yes.

7916. You receive your cheque by return of post?—Yes.

7917. In what state do your fat cattle arrive generally at the English ports?—Generally speaking, in very good condition. I try to avoid the day on which the great crowds go. For instance, in Dublin, a great many of the graziers send their cattle on the Wednesday before the Thursday's market, and they generally go safer than they would afterwards. The great dealers, who buy in Dublin, send down great crowds of cattle, particularly when the great flush comes on at the latter end of the year, September, October, and November, which are the heavy months. By shipping them on Wednesday they ship them at a lower rate.

7918. You generally send them the day before?—Yes; the dealers ship them on a Thursday, and sometimes on the Friday.

7919. *Chairman.*] Do you ship for a particular market in Liverpool?—Monday is the only market in Liverpool of any good.

7920. On the whole, you think your cattle arrive in the market at Liverpool in a good state?—I think they do, generally speaking. The salesmen have sometimes complained to me of the arrival of cattle; not of my cattle, but of other cattle from Drogheda, especially at the fall of the year, in places where there is a great quantity of store stock sold. They have not a sufficient quantity of vessels for the pressure of the time, and at other

other times of the year they do not put them on because they have not got the pressure. I mean that at the large October and September fairs of Kells, Navan, and other places in this country, the press of cattle is so much greater than usual that for that particular time they have not boats enough.

7921. You ship entirely from Drogheda and Dublin?—Yes; from Drogheda I ship from the largest farm I have; and as to the other farms, I ship from Dublin.

7922. Do you walk all the cattle to port?—I do walk all the cattle to port; the farm is only 16 miles from the port of Drogheda, and I walk them there; my other farms are within eight miles of Dublin.

7923. You are at no great loss in the transmission of cattle from Ireland to England?—I have been sending cattle for 39 years, and all I ever lost was one lamb; I have been very lucky; I have never experienced any loss worth speaking about.

7924. Do you send many sheep?—Not to Liverpool, I sell my sheep in Dublin; I sell a good deal of cattle in Dublin.

7925. Do you consign them to the Dublin salesmaster in the same way?—The same salesmaster sells for me in both markets; I sometimes go to Dublin to see how the price goes, and what is going on.

7926. But not to interfere in the sale?—Not to interfere in the sale, simply to see how they sell.

7927. Has there been much alteration in the trade since the restrictions relative to rinderpest have been enforced in England?—I think the state of things in Liverpool market now is causing some salesmen to come over to Dublin to sell; the buyers are coming with them, and I am told more salesmen will come to Dublin to sell if these restrictions are continued in Liverpool.

7928. Will you state in a few words, what it is they complain of?—If the cattle are shown in the Liverpool market they must be killed in the town; they cannot sell more than a certain number for the purpose, and the consequence is, the salesmen are selling them at the ports where they land, and in the parks and in the yards in the town. When they make the sales there, the cattle are allowed to be carried away all over England; and if they are shown in the market they are not allowed to be taken away. I cannot see that they are a bit safer from rinderpest when sold in these places, than they would be if they were sold in the market. They leave Dublin under a bill of health; they are inspected and sent off; they are obliged to evade the order in that way.

7929. If a beast is not consigned to some person at a distance from Liverpool, and a salesman wishes to forward him on, he does not send him to the market, but disposes of him privately?—He disposes of him to the buyers who come up from Newcastle, Birmingham, Manchester, and other towns.

7930. Do you know whether that has affected the price at all?—I think it has affected the price in the Liverpool market.

7931. Do you think the producer would get a less price for his cattle now in consequence of that than otherwise?—I have not sent any cattle to Liverpool in consequence of it; I am selling them in Dublin; all I have sold this year I have sold in Dublin.

7932. You have heard of no complaints from the producer, of loss in price in consequence of their going to Liverpool?—Yes; I have heard of that.

7933. That practice has been in existence for some time?—Not very long; it has existed on account of the disease.

7934. It has, of course, only been felt hitherto by the producers of the corn-fed cattle; the grazier has not began to feel it yet?—Not quite yet. We have only had three markets where grass beef has had to be sold. The beasts are coming in very slowly this year; it is more backward than usual.

7935. Have you anything to complain of as an exporter, from the overcrowding of the steamers occasionally?—For myself I have not; I have been told by my salesmaster, Mr. Aungier, of Liverpool, that sometimes from the Drogheda station at the end of the season the cattle have been very much overcrowded, so much so that the salesmen prefer the cattle shipped at Dublin by 10*s.* a head.

7936. Do you think there should be some regulation, either by law or through the instrumentality of the Board of Trade, as regards carrying cattle by steamer?—I think it would be a very good plan to have all steamers licensed to carry a certain number under Government inspection.

7937. Would there not be a difficulty in licensing the steamers, on account of the difference of size in the animals; a vessel might carry double the number of yearlings to the cargo she might carry of fat beasts?—Yes.

7938. How would you arrange that?—I am not prepared to say how it should be managed. Of course they might carry a great many more smaller cattle.

7939. Do you think it would be sufficient that it should be left to an official at the port to say whether a steamer was overcrowded or not. Would there be any objection to that?—I do not know whether it could be managed that way, because the matter might be arranged between the official and the company.

7940. There would be great danger of that?—Yes. It is very hard to put these restrictions on. Certainly, they do overcrowd at times when the press comes on, and all dealers are anxious to get their beasts to a particular market, and they press the companies very hard to have them put on. When dealers purchase at a fair in that way, they like to be at as little expense as possible, and they hurry on.

7941. Probably they are contented with such small profits, that the delay of a day or two might take away all their profit?—Yes. The great fairs supply direct to market. A number of young bullocks are brought for store feeding in England, and they carry them off in great crowds, or used to do before the rinderpest began last year. The landowners came to a great loss by reason of the rinderpest, and they could not sell the young bullocks, and were obliged to hold them over.

7942. Have you ever given your attention to the possibility of any restrictions upon the sale of store stock, with a view to prevent disease in Ireland, in fairs?—It would be very hard to get it done properly. That sore-mouth disease is a very contagious thing; it is most contagious. Cattle might take it when it was not upon the land; they might get it in a day's journey.

7943. What is the general opinion of persons engaged in the trade with regard to anything like inspection or restriction of cattle exposed for sale in the market; is it favourable to it, or the contrary?

Mr. *S. Garnett.*
25 June 1866.

trary?—I do not know really how it could be well carried out; for when a lot of sheep go to the fair at Ballinasloe they might affect the whole fair, and the other people's cattle, before coming to the fair, might have been as clear from it as they possibly could be. Still, when they get in gaps and places that are infected, they will all get affected, and sheep suffer from it immensely. When they get it on their journey it knocks them up completely; if they get it at home quietly it does not tell so badly upon them; but if they are sold at a standard fair with it on them, and have to journey afterwards, they suffer immensely. I do not know how you could prevent it. Suppose Ballinasloe fair was coming on, and 40 or 50 graziers had their stock all healthy and well, you could not prevent them sending them to the fair, and the whole fair might be affected by one score of sheep.

7944. You think the inconveniences which would probably arise from that kind of thing would counterbalance the advantages?—It would probably be worse than it is now.

7945. The cure would be worse than the disease?—Yes.

7946. Do you think it would be a good thing if some more stringent penalties were laid upon persons who knowingly expose diseased cattle in the public markets?—I think that would be better. I think that people who knowingly sent diseased cattle to a public store market should be well punished.

7947. How would you prefer to punish them; would you punish them in a summary way?—I do not know about that; I leave that to Parliament; but I think it would be a very good thing to do. It is very cruel for anyone knowingly to send diseased cattle into a market.

7948. Have you known instances of legal proceedings in consequence of such a thing being done?—I threatened a gentleman with legal proceedings myself many years ago, and he paid me some money. It happened many years ago; about the pleura-pneumonia. There was another gentleman in the fair whose driver knew the driver of the cattle, and heard from him that the cattle were infected. I threatened him with an action, and he paid me money.

7949. Did you buy the cattle?—I did, and sold them again.

7950. Were they diseased?—They were; some of them died coming home. I sent them to Liverpool, and I lost 40*l.* by them.

7951. Supposing you had taken legal proceedings against this gentleman, it would have been a tedious and expensive process, would it not?—It might be. I do not like law if I can avoid it; but I threatened him with a lawsuit, on account of what I heard his man had said, who was aware of the fact, and he must have been aware of the fact himself, because his man told another grazier's man not to have anything to say to them. A few were taken ill and died on the way home. I sent to Mr. Aungier to sell them at Liverpool for slaughter. I did not lose more than 40*l.* by them.

7952. Do you think it would be possible to have any proceedings taken on the spot before a magistrate, which might be effective for punishing persons who wilfully exposed diseased animals?—I think it might be possible, if you could prove that they did it knowing that the cattle had the disease. The difficulty would be great.

7953. You think the knowledge that such a law was in existence might deter people from exposing the cattle?—I think it might.

7954. From your great experience in stock in Ireland, do you think that diseases, that is to say, the two diseases that are most prevalent, foot and mouth disease and pleura-pneumonia, much propagated by the country fairs?—I do not think that pleura-pneumonia is much propagated at country fairs. It is not near so contagious as the other disease. I think, when cattle are a long time fed together, particularly in a house, that that lot will be subject to it; but it does not go so quickly through them as the other disease, or so much as to affect the cattle in the fairs.

7955. You think that the risk of taking pleura-pneumonia from cattle in a fair is not very great?—I think not.

7956. How is it with regard to foot and mouth disease?—I think it spreads like wildfire. It is the most contagious thing I ever knew.

7957. Do you think it is much propagated by fairs and markets?—I think it is, certainly. If there is any of it in the market, it is certain to be propagated. I think I saw it in the London market this morning among the foreign cattle; I am nearly sure I did.

7958. You would propose that the exposing of cattle in a fair that were evidently suffering from foot and mouth disease, should be punishable?—I would if it could be accomplished.

7959. Foot and mouth disease is not fatal?—No.

7960. But it occasions very great loss?—It occasions very great loss, and I have been under the impression that it probably laid the foundation of the other diseases coming after it.

7961. What other diseases?—Pleura-pneumonia affecting the animal's constitution.

7962. Sir *James Fergusson.*] And also predisposing to the cattle plague?—I do not know about that; I have had no experience of that yet, I am happy to say.

7963. Lord *Naas.*] Will you state to the Committee how a very serious loss may occur to a man from his half fat cattle taking foot and mouth disease?—They get shaken all over; it is a very feverish disease, and they get into a very feverish state. The best thing in the world you can do to them is to leave them quiet. Then they get sore between hair and hoof, and the hoof generally comes off. It affects them for more than six months very often; I had cattle affected last October, and they still feel it.

7964. Do they lose condition?—Very much at the time, but they pick up afterwards; if it comes upon cattle lying quietly on your land, it does not signify much, but if they are travelling with the disease, or suffer abuse of any kind, they suffer immensely, and sometimes die.

7965. Do you think that the foot and mouth disease breaking out amongst your cattle, would lose you on the average a couple of months' feed?—It will lose me on an average a month's feed.

7966. And that is a serious loss?—That is a serious loss. The first case I ever saw, was in the year 1841; it was on my own land, and I could not see that there was any infection whatever to bring it; it came somewhere from the atmosphere. It was an epidemic, or something of that sort; I had the cattle in the month of October, and it was in the month of March when I saw the first case.

7967. Have you suffered much from the pleura-pneumonia?

pneumonia?—Indeed I have, from time to time, a good deal.

7968. Is it on the decrease in Ireland?—Very much; it is not near so bad as it used to be; house-fed cattle are more subject to it; cattle that are wintered in the house are more subject to it than the outlying cattle, but that may be from the exposure; we have very cold winds in the months of March and April, and if we buy cattle that are house-fed, and turn them out, that produces it.

7969. You find the cattle that are turned out in the winter thrive better on the grass?—They are generally most healthy cattle.

7970. The business is conducted on a very large scale, is it not?—By a great many in our country.

7971. State to the Committee what number of cattle some of the large graziers buy, and feed off in a year?—Some feed 1,600; I have heard some feed 2,000.

7972. How many acres of ground must a man hold who feeds 1,600 head of cattle?—I have 1,100 acres, and I feed about 800 cattle. Other gentlemen I know feed double the number; I suppose they have double the quantity of land.

7973. The practical trade is generally carried on by men holding large tracts of land?—Yes; there are very large landholders in the west, who rear these cattle.

7974. Do you think the tendency is to carry it on on a larger scale from year to year?—It has a tendency to increase it. Those that are able to do so, and have had a good opportunity of taking land, have done so; but land has been rising in price, and that restricts it.

7975. I suppose the first outlay of capital is very considerable?—Yes.

7976. What do the store cattle generally stand you in on an average?—My store cattle are generally about 13 *l.* or 14 *l.* a-piece all round; that is the store price.

7977. So that the capital necessary for engaging in that business would be 11 *l.* an acre, I suppose?—It would be more; it would be 12 *l.* or 13 *l.* an acre, at the present prices.

7978. For stock alone?—For stock alone.

7979. *Chairman.*] Has not pleura-pneumonia been very fatal indeed in Ireland this spring in some cases?—I do not hear so much of it this spring as I have in other years.

7980. I thought I had read an account of it, that it had been particularly fatal, in consequence of the cold winds?—I do not think it has been in our country. Mr. *S. Garnett.* 25 June 1866.

7981. We imagine in Yorkshire, where we buy a great number of your cattle, that the Irish cattle are more subject to pleura-pneumonia than any cattle we get, and we attribute it to the exposure in the trains and in the steamboats, and because they are so badly treated; do you think that is likely to be the case?—That may be the cause of it. Wishing to avoid it, I do not put my cattle in trucks, I always travel them home from the different fairs.

7982. But the Irish dealers who bring them, bring them by railway?—They of course bring them all by truck in the railway.

7983. Our idea is, that they crowd them very unnecessarily and very injuriously on board the steamers?—I think they do, particularly after the large fairs. They are all trying to push on for the markets. I know they do crowd the packets, and they put as many of them into the trucks as the trucks will carry, undoubtedly.

7984. Lord *Naas.*] There is no such thing as a dead-meat trade from that country?—Not that I am aware of; I do not know that it would be well carried on, except, perhaps, in Dublin, and there they could not get rid of the offal well. Liverpool would, perhaps, be a better place in which to carry it on than Dublin. The shipping is so great, there would be an easy means of getting rid of the coarse class of cattle better.

7985. The establishment of the dead-meat trade would interfere with the old-established course of trade very much?—It would. I think it is a kind of thing which, if it pays, will be carried on, and if it does not pay it will not be carried on.

7986. It is just one of those things which will regulate itself?—Yes. I think it would be very hard to carry it on during the summer months anywhere. I am sure I do not know how they do it from Aberdeenshire; but, you may depend, if it pays in one place it will be done in another if it can be done. I think the less a trade of that sort is interfered with the better.

7987. *Chairman.*] Is there any other point you wish to suggest to the Committee?—No, nothing at all.

William Watson, Esq., called in; and Examined.

7988. *Chairman.*] You are Managing Director of the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company?—I am. *W. Watson, Esq.*

7989. I presume your experience of the shipping of cattle from Dublin is very considerable?—Generally, I have experience.

7990. Do you ship cattle from any other port than Dublin?—No.

7991. To what ports in England do you ship?—Only to Liverpool.

7992. Not to Holyhead?—No.

7993. Can you make any suggestion to the Committee as to any improvement in the present method of transmitting cattle from Ireland to Liverpool?—I am not prepared to suggest anything. Whenever those who are interested in stock apply to us, of course we meet them as far as we possibly can. With regard to crowding, that is a very difficult question; as often, parties are so anxious to get away their stock; but we have adopted a plan for holding out an inducement to ship the cattle on Wednesdays by a reduction of the rate, as a compensation for the keep of the cattle in England, in order to get the shipments divided over the week.

7994. How many vessels have you devoted to this cattle trade?—Generally 10.

7995. Do they carry any other freight beside cattle?—Yes; whatever cargo offers.

7996. Where do you carry the cattle, in the hold or on deck?—Both ways. Sometimes a vessel is loaded with nothing but cattle.

7997. Is there any distinction between the shipping of fat cattle and store cattle; will the same boats take both?—Yes; the only distinction is that of price. The store cattle are generally shipped at a lower freight.

7998. Is that because you can put more on board?—Yes; although some store cattle are as large as the fat cattle.

W. Watson, Esq.

25 June 1866.

7999. Do you charge by the head?—Yes, so much a head.

8000. What is the average passage from Dublin to Liverpool?—We consider a 10 hours' passage a very quick passage; in bad weather it is 14 hours. It extends from 10 to 14 hours, according to the weather.

8001. We have had witnesses here who have stated that the cattle are very badly treated in putting them on board the Dublin steamers; that they are knocked about very much?—Of course there is a degree of roughness to make them go down into the ship, but they are not slung now, we hear no complaints from the owners of the stock about it.

8002. Do you ever hear any complaints from the persons to whom they are consigned on the other side?—No, never.

8003. Do you find that the restrictions which have been lately imposed on the trade have caused much difficulty with regard to the cattle trade?—It is hard to say how much is owing to the restrictions, and how much to the course of trade. Of late the trade in lean stock has been nearly extinguished; but that is quite independent of restrictions.

8004. Why do you think the trade is extinguished; is it from fear of the English cattle?—There being market for them in England, was the reason.

8005. How have the restrictions on the English trade affected the fat cattle trade in Ireland, do you think?—The only restriction that I am aware of is, that they cannot leave the Liverpool market alive; they must be slaughtered immediately, and probably that restriction may diminish the numbers going over. Of course parties, you are aware, come from the interior to the Liverpool market to supply themselves; from London, Birmingham, and other large towns.

8006. At the present moment if they are consigned, and if they do not stand in the Liverpool market, they can be taken on?—So I understand.

8007. Has there been any decrease or increase during the present year in the shipment of fat cattle?—I think it has rather decreased.

8008. I suppose you have no statistics as to the quantity of fat cattle bought in Dublin and Liverpool?—No; I only got the notice to attend on Saturday last in Liverpool.

8009. What course do you pursue in respect to the cleansing of your vessel after you have brought a cargo over?—The vessels are cleaned out thoroughly after the cattle are debarked in Liverpool; sawdust is used, and they are made clean enough to take cargoes of fine goods to Dublin, which fine goods of course are expected to come without dirt about them.

8010. Have you ever made use of limewash or other disinfectants?—No; I think not.

8011. You never thought that necessary on account of the foot and mouth disease?—We have no diseased cattle from Ireland.

8012. You have cattle affected with the foot and mouth disease from Ireland?—I do not think it has been considered necessary on account of that.

8013. Lord *Naas.*] Are there any Board of Trade regulations or others which affect the cattle trade in any way?—None that I am aware of.

8014. It is completely a free trade?—Quite a free trade.

8015. What regulations do you yourselves make with regard to crowding?—We generally give instructions not to crowd them, so as to prevent those in the trade making any complaints.

8016. How does that work; do you often refuse to take cattle that are presented for exportation?—I am not prepared to answer that question; I suppose occasionally we may keep them over till the following day; but we have always professed to give any number of ships necessary to carry away the stock before Saturday night.

8017. Have you generally a spare ship which can be sent forward, if necessary?—We have at the end of the week.

8018. Is the supply of cattle regular?—No, it is rather irregular. It depends, of course, upon the prices at this side, and upon the number coming to Smithfield.

8019. What are the days of the week on which the greatest crowd takes place?—Friday, I think, is the principal shipping day; Friday and Saturday. There is not so much on Thursday, which is the market-day in Dublin.

8020. I suppose it is very difficult to tell, on Friday morning, how many cattle will do?—Quite uncertain. Sometimes the cattle that are expected do not come; it is very uncertain.

8021. Do you often send off more than two ships' load at a time?—Yes; frequently four or five in the busy season.

8022. When do those ships return?—They return the next day if they are wanted for cattle, and if not they wait until their regular turn, to load with cargo at Liverpool. The balance of the trade is always from Dublin; we have no live stock from England; in fact, the little we had we put a stop to.

8023. The back trade is generally very bad, with regard to any description of goods?—Yes; we require the extra number in Dublin for the cattle trade.

8024. Have you improved the accommodation in your ships lately?—We have added two new ships to our fleet of late.

8025. Are the new ships very superior ones to the old ones?—The St. Patrick is the last we put on; she is faster than the others, but as far as accommodation goes I do not think there is any advantage in her; probably she will cross the Channel in an hour's less time.

8026. Have you seen the vessels which bring the cattle from Aberdeen?—No, never. As I am in London I should like to take a look at them to see if we could get any hints from them.

8027. We have had it in evidence that they are very fine vessels?—I dare say.

8028. Do any other companies carry cattle from Dublin?—Yes, there are two other lines; there are the screw vessels, and a new line has been put in opposition; they also carry a good deal of cattle.

8029. Mr. *Holland.*] How are the cattle placed on board, are their heads tied?—Yes, they are always tied with a rope round their horns, and they are watched in the passage generally by the persons employed by the owners of the stock; Liverpool salesmasters employ their own bullockmen.

8030. Lord *Naas.*] The company employ no men to look after the cattle on the voyage?—No; but if any assistance is wanted, with regard to the cattle on board, they give it, but we do not consider we have charge of the cattle at sea.

8031. Mr.

8031. Mr. *Holland.*] You have no divisions between the lots?—No; we have for horses, but not for cattle.

8032. Mr. *Graham.*] Is there ever any insurance of these cattle?—I fancy not, the risk is considered so trifling. I was looking at the evidence of Mr. Kilby, before the Cattle Disease Committee, and he said that he brought a very large number of cattle over, and never lost but one; and Mr. Garnett has said here to-day, he has only lost one lamb in all his time. We have several times proposed a very small rate of insurance, but we could not get it accepted because the risk is considered so trivial.

8033. Lord *Naas.*] Have you had any claims for compensation for losses?—Very few.

8034. Have they been settled without resort to law?—We have never had a trial with but one exception, a few years since at the assizes at Naas. The commander of a vessel, in a very heavy gale of wind, thought it prudent to come back, and there was an action commenced against us for not going to sea; however, we got a verdict.

8035. I suppose that was a claim for loss of market?—Yes; but as for any claim for damage I do not recollect such a thing.

8036. Mr. *Graham.*] Of course your vessels are insured?—No, we run them at our own risk; we have too many to insure them; we think it is cheaper to run the risk than to pay the insurance.

8037. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] How many vessels have you?—In this trade we have eight or ten; we have in other lines and in this line together, I think, about 20 ships.

8038. Mr. *Graham.*] Then, being your own insurers, it is your interest to see that the vessels are not overloaded?—It is our interest that they should be perfectly safe at sea. I recollect one instance we had, a loss which we did attribute to the improper loading, and it was considered necessary to throw the cattle overboard in consequence of it. We paid at once. That was about 12 years ago. Of course we considered ourselves responsible.

8039. You consider yourselves responsible when cattle are thrown overboard?—Undoubtedly; we accepted the responsibility at once and paid the claim.

8040. Lord *Naas.*] Have you ever been obliged to throw cattle overboard?—That has been the only case.

8041. Mr. *Graham.*] The loss would be taken on the general average generally, but you take it yourselves?—We do; we thought it not worth while dividing it among the rest of the cargo.

8042. Lord *Naas.*] Are the facilities for debarkation in Liverpool very good?—Yes; I do not see anything required there. We have inclined planes for the cattle to walk out of the holds. They walk on shore at once. They are landed in dock at the pier-head or the landing-stage, immediately on arrival.

8043. If it were possible to establish a market in Liverpool near to the point of debarkation, would it be an advantage?—I do not think it would, from my knowledge of the trade.

8044. The market is two or three miles from the port?—Yes, it is two or three miles. It would be an extra convenience, of course; but, generally speaking, I suppose the cattle go to parks, and are driven from the parks to the markets. In fact, it must always be so. The cattle we ship on Saturday arrive at Liverpool on the Sunday morning, and they are not in the market till the next day.

8045. So that even if the market were close to the quay, great numbers of the cattle would be driven out of the markets?—Just so.

8046. *Chairman.*] Do you ever bring any dead meat?—No, we have never been asked to bring dead meat. Of course it is a subject we have often thought about, and we should be well disposed to co-operate in the matter, and to take the carcases over without being bruised.

8047. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] What arrangements have you got with the London and North Western Railway for forwarding cattle?—We have through booking arrangements at Liverpool. Of course, any trade to Holyhead they take in their own vessels; we have also an arrangement with the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway.

8048. With any other companies?—We have nominally with other companies, but we do very little with them. We have arrangements with the Manchester and Sheffield, and with the Great Northern; in fact, I may say we have through booking arrangements with all the railway companies coming to Liverpool. We send a good many cattle up to London by these through routes to London and also to Manchester.

8049. There is no difficulty in sending a beast to any part of England?—No; we send store cattle to all parts of England at which there are markets for them when the trade is going on.

8050. I believe there is only one railway in England comes down to your quay in Dublin?—Yes; that is the Midland Great Western.

8051. The cattle that come from the other railways are driven across the town?—Yes.

8052. Would it not be a great convenience if all the railways went down to the shore?—I do not think it would be a great convenience; it would, of course, for lean stock, but as to fat cattle, I do not see what value there would be in having a railway down to the quay. There is no accommodation there in the way of grass for them. Of course they should go somewhere for grass after standing in the market.

8053. They would still have to remain, I suppose, for some time?—Yes, from Thursday to the shipping time; they would have to remain, perhaps, the following two nights; if it was any advantage, we would gladly have co-operated to bring the cattle market down to the port, but we thought it would be rather an injury to the trade than otherwise.

8054. They might have to be driven back again?—Yes, they would necessarily; first, they would have to come there, then they would have gone back, and lastly would come back again. We thought it would be better to let the market remain where it is, which is in an excellent position for it. The promoters got their Bill, but they did not make their market.

8055. Mr. *Norwood.*] With reference to a question put to you as to the conveyance of dead meat from Ireland in your steamers, you said you had had the matter under your consideration?—Yes.

8056. Did you come to any conclusion as to the mode in which the dead meat should be conveyed in the steamers?—Only in my own mind; I planned, in my own mind, that we should have shelves in the vessels so as to prevent any one carcase lying on the top of another.

8057. Shelves in the hold?—Yes, as they are

W. Watson, Esq.

25 June 1866.

fitted up already for carrying troops; in some of our vessels we have shelves or bed places for the troops; in some of our ships we can carry half a regiment in that way; and if we could carry the carcases separately from one another, so that they would be freed from any kind of bruising, I think that would answer. I believe, in the trucks they bring up from Scotland, they put one carcase upon another, and I understand the meat does not suffer; but of course the greatest difficulty in carrying on the dead-meat trade is during the hot weather.

8058. Of course, the heat of the hold would aggravate the thing?—Perhaps, for the time it would be in transit Several people interested in the cattle trade have spoken to me about it, and some were very urgent indeed as to the gain it would be to the producer to send it as dead meat to market instead of as live cattle. If it could be turned into a trade of that sort, it would get rid of one great risk of contagion, which is from the cattle drovers, who go in such numbers; that is a difficulty which we have never been able to meet, to prevent the contagion coming back with them.

8059. Could you carry as much dead meat as live cattle in your vessels?—I should think fully, because the weight of the offal would not be carried; I should think it would go fully as cheap, if not cheaper.

8060. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Could you not shelve it upon deck, and cover it, in order to protect it from the sun and wet?—That is not the risk, the risk is really the lapse of time in hot weather. I do not think that the plan of shelves on deck could be adopted; but, of course, below in the hold there is ample ventilation, as necessarily, when we carry live stock we must keep the hatchways open; it is in the holds we should have the shelves.

Mr. Joseph Hennessy, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Hennessy.*

8061. *Chairman.*] You are an Importer of foreign cattle at Bristol?—I am a Salesman and importer of Irish cattle alone.

8062. You have nothing to do with the foreign cattle trade?—Nothing whatever.

8063. Do you import any foreign cattle into Bristol at all?—I have only had a few from Plymouth; not directly into Bristol.

8064. Are foreign cattle imported into Bristol to any extent?—None.

8065. From what Irish ports do you get an importation of Irish cattle?—From Cork, Waterford, Dublin, and Wexford.

8066. Are you principally concerned in the fat cattle trade, or the store cattle trade?—In both.

8067. Do the fat cattle come indiscriminately from all the ports you have mentioned or from other ports?—The majority of them come from Cork; a few only come from the other ports.

8068. Do you find those cattle generally arrive in a satisfactory condition?—We do.

8069. Do they arrive healthy?—Yes.

8070. Are they suffering at all from the lengthened voyage, or from the treatment on the voyage?—In my opinion, the greatest suffering our cattle experience is after they arrive in the Bristol river, from the delay under the sun; the tide rises very high, at times up to 33 feet, and down as low as 16 feet,; sometimes at low tides, there is great difficulty in getting them out of the vessel in consequence of not having a sufficient number of low stages to let the cattle out on the level.

8071. Then they may be detained on board the steamer, in the river, for some time?—They are; but that could be avoided if the Dock Company would agree to what we have asked them to do many times, namely, forming stages by which stock could be landed immediately on the arrival of the steamers, before entering the basin, or floating harbour.

8072. Do you not think they are very crowded on board the steamers?—At times they are; the store cattle in the summer time, in many cases, have been overcrowded.

8073. Could you suggest any regulations to be enforced, either by the Board of Trade or by the Government, with respect to the shipment of cattle from Ireland?—Not unless an experienced man was appointed who would know from experience what a vessel would take, and the number to allow in that vessel and no more.

8074. Then you would have an inspector at the port of shipment, and leave it to his discretion as to the number?—Yes; a man that has had experience in the matter for years. Some vessels can take much more than others, though apparently they are not so large; perhaps they may be larger; but a man having experience in landing cattle and going with them would be the person to regulate it.

8075. If you left it to discretion in that way, would not a person be very liable to give way to the prejudices either of the owners of vessels or the owners of cattle?—I do not know; a disinterested man ought not to do so.

8076. Do you think that the store cattle are too much crowded together?—In ordinary cases, I do. There are none coming at the present time, but occasionally it is so. When there is a great demand for store cattle, and they are anxious to make a market, they may be overcrowded. Coming on a certain day in the week, the market day in Bristol being on Thursday, they all want to send the cattle at once.

8077. To what parts of England do the store cattle imported into Bristol generally come?—I may say every part of England, but principally into Kent. A great many of the Kentish men come down and take them to the different localities.

8078. These cattle in the port of Bristol, consigned by you to different salesmen, are bought by dealers who come over from Ireland?—The majority are consigned to salesmen, who sell them in the Bristol market.

8079. Are the fat cattle usually slaughtered at Bristol?—Under the present regulations.

8080. I am speaking of ordinary times?—In ordinary times they supply the different localities about Bristol, such as Bath and Frome.

8081. Those are sold in the Bristol market, to go to the smaller towns for consumption?—Exactly.

8082. What are the present regulations?—They are slaughtered within four days after having been in the market. Any fat cattle coming

coming into Bristol must not be allowed in the market; they must be sent by an order from a magistrate to the place in the country, without being allowed in the market.

8083. Under the present regulations can a butcher at Bath, for instance, give you an order for cattle, and may these cattle go through your hands without going into the market at home, to Bath?—It is so at present.

8004. Is there a good deal of selling in yards and privately at Bristol at present?—The cattle have now fallen off from Ireland, it being between the two seasons; but in consequence of the restrictions put upon sheep and other things in that way, the sheep not being allowed to go into the market have to be sold about the streets in many cases.

8085. Did you find that the Irish graziers raised objections to the restrictions that were placed by the Government lately upon the trade?—They raised objections; inasmuch as having no competition they did not get as much of our cattle in the market from the different localities as they would otherwise.

8086. Was the price of fat cattle considerably lower?—Very much lower than was anticipated, and much lower than it would have been had we had competition from the different localities.

8087. Is the price of fat cattle at Bristol much lower than in other towns?—It is much lower than it is at Dublin.

8088. Is the price of meat to the consumer lower at Bristol than it is at Dublin?—I do not think it is.

8089. How do you account for the price being lower in Bristol than it is in Dublin at the present time?—I do not know whether the supply to Dublin is much shorter than usual.

8090. Has the supply to Bristol been much larger than usual?—No; not so large as usual; the demand has fallen off considerably.

8091. How do you suppose that the country buyers, who have usually been supplied from Bristol, have been supplied?—In consequence of the restrictions the farmers have held their own cattle, and had to kill them at their own houses, and buyers have gone out to those localities and bought their cattle until latterly, when they could get a magistrate's order to bring them into town.

8092. They have been able to bring their cattle now into market for a considerable period?—Not many weeks.

8093. Have the prices of fat stock in Bristol market been much lower since that restriction was removed?—The price is now advancing, but the quantity has fallen off from Ireland, it being now between the two seasons; that accounts for it.

8094. It generally is high just now all over England, on account of the lapse between the two seasons; did you, when the restriction of trade was going on, send much dead meat to London, and to the manufacturing districts?—No; the only meat going to London from Bristol has been principally prime meat to the London Market.

8095. There was prime meat sent to the London market?—Yes.

8096. Is there any meat sent from Bristol to Birmingham, or the manufacturing districts?—With one exception, I sent eight dead beasts on one occasion when I could not get a pass to send them alive; those are all that have been sent.

8097. Your trade is entirely that of a salesman of live cattle; you are not a butcher?—No.

8098. Mr. *Banks Stanhope.*] I wish to ask you a few questions with regard to the carriage of these cattle; are the Irish cattle carried on deck?—Some of them are; principally the store cattle when they do come.

8099. Are they all in one row, or are they outside in pens?—They are all in one row; the fat cattle tied, and the store cattle loose, they being small.

8100. Are there any below at the same time?—We have generally put the fat cattle below to keep them from the inclemency of the weather; to keep them comfortable.

8101. Is there any rule with regard to the number of fat cattle that are to be taken in a certain space below?—No; we never have too many fat cattle on board any of our vessels, because our market has not sufficient consumption for a very large quantity.

8102. In your opinion, would it be possible that all cattle vessels should be licensed to carry a certain quantity of stock, either store stock or fat stock, as the case might be?—There would be many difficulties in the way, in consequence of the size of the cattle principally.

8103. I presume fat cattle, to a certain degree, are more or less of one size?—Yes, they are generally of one size.

8104. There would be no difficulty in regulating that portion of it?—No.

8105. Store cattle are principally animals that are fed for one year?—They are principally yearlings and two-year old heifers that we get into Bristol in the shape of stores.

8106. Might it not be possible to specify the number of yearlings, or two-year olds, or three-year olds, and that the ships might be licensed to carry a certain number only in a given space?—I think not. According to the different holds of the vessels, so many yearlings could go into such a hold; that might be done, but our vessels bring in a general cargo. They have sheep and lambs, pigs, horses, fat cattle, lean cattle, and so on. There would be great difficulty in that matter.

8107. Can you make any suggestion to stop the inconvenience which often happens, as to the vessels being inconveniently overcrowded with store cattle?—Only that which I have named; a particular man having authority to see that the vessels were stowed properly, and not allowing them to be overcrowded.

8108. Is there any method of Government interference which you could recommend?—I think not. The overcrowding of cattle very seldom happens; I have seen it, but it very seldom happens.

8109. Are they at all fed on board?—With the fat cattle we always send hay, but the store cattle cannot be fed; they waste the hay under their feet.

8110. Do you give them any water?—Not on board. We may give the fat cattle water occasionally in fine weather.

8111. Have you ever heard that the Irish store cattle in England were more subject to the rinderpest than any others?—Never.

8112. Have you ever heard that they are very subject to pleura-pneumonia?—No.

8113. Do you think that the present system of carrying over store cattle is advisable?—Our vessels have been improving yearly since I have been in business. I do not think we could have a better system, if alterations were made, for free egress from the ship, so that directly the vessels

Mr. *J. Hennessy.*

25 June 1866.

come up the river to land; we have now to wait sometimes three or four hours.

8114. Mr. *Holland.*] In the market at Bristol, before the restrictions, were all your fat cattle and store cattle mixed?—No. The market is divided into two sides, one for store cattle and the other for fat cattle.

8115. Are foreign cattle mixed with the store cattle at all?—We have no foreign cattle, with the exception of those that have been exposed some time ago in London, and brought down to Bristol to be sold.

8116. There is no foreign importation?—There is no foreign importation into Bristol.

8117. Where do you send these store heifers in particular?—We sell them to the different dealers from Kent and Sussex, and other places.

8118. For grazing?—For grazing.

8119. Sir *Matthew Ridley.*] Is there any inspection of cattle at Bristol?—At present there is. The inspector comes round the market also and inspects any Irish cattle that we send out of Bristol to Bath or Frome, or any other neighbourhood.

8120. How long has that regulation been in application?—Some two months, perhaps.

8121 Only since there was a rumour of the cattle disease being in Ireland?—No; prior to that.

8122. Had there been no system of inspection of Irish cattle previously to the occurrence of the cattle plague?—No; there was no disinfection. Parties travelling with cattle were obliged to disinfect themselves and change their clothes, and so forth; that was adopted on board the vessels.

8123. Are the vessels thoroughly cleansed on discharging?—On every voyage the holds are whitewashed, and disinfectants are used every time they come.

8124. The filth is taken out without delay?—The filth is taken out without delay at both ends, and the vessels disinfected and whitelimed each voyage.

8125. What is the length of the passage?—Twenty-four hours is the ordinary passage; some do it in 18 hours.

8126. Mr. *Norwood.*] With reference to the overcrowding of the holds of the vessels, could not the difficulty be overcome in this way: suppose it was considered desirable to have a certified quantity of stock which might be conveyed in a hold; the hold might be measured, the cubical contents of the hold ascertained, and then there might be a certain number of cubic feet allotted to each description of animal; for instance, a horse might have so many cubic feet, beasts so many, store cows so many, and pigs so many; the difficulty is not insuperable?—It is not.

8127. You seem to fancy it could not be done by legislative means?—It is not insuperable, I think.

8128. At the present moment, the Board of Trade license vessels for the conveyance of passengers upon a system something like the system I have stated; they take the superficial space and the cubical contents, and the number of passengers are regulated accordingly. The same might be done with regard to stock?—It is possible, certainly.

8129. And it would be desirable?—The only difficulty I see, is with reference to the different sizes of the cattle.

8130. The difficulty could be got over if there was a certain amount of cubic space allotted to each description of animal?—Yes; I think it is not insurmountable.

8131. Do you say that the store cattle are left to run about the decks unpenned?—Yes; they are small cattle.

8132. That is a serious matter in bad weather, is it not?—No; they form pens with shifting boards on deck.

8133. So that they are confined within certain limits?—They are confined within certain limits.

8134. Mr. *Banks-Stanhope.*] Are they fed at all at Bristol?—Yes. We have farms, and we turn them directly from the ship's side on to the grass. We have water-troughs all along the quay, put there by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Society, for the benefit of the cattle when they come out of the vessel; they are put on the quay directly.

8135. And always fed?—The store cattle are sent to the grass directly they come out; the fat cattle are sent to the lairs, and the stores to the grass.

8136. Mr. *Graham.*] Suppose such a regulation to be made as was spoken of just now, that a certain cubic space should be allotted to each animal, would it be practically possible when there was a mixed cargo of sheep, pigs, horses, and cattle coming down to the wharf, to accommodate the quantity to be taken on board to these measurements, without breaking up the different lots of different dealers?—There would be the difficulty I spoke of, but still I do not think it is insurmountable. There would be a difficulty about it, and as I say, I do not see any possible means of overcoming it, only by appointing a practical man, who has been in the habit of loading the vessels, and who could be relied upon.

8137. But this regulation supposed him to be bound not to take above a certain quantity; your first suggestion was that the practical man should go upon his own judgment?—Yes; if he knows what his vessels will take properly he should not be bound to take more.

8138. The suggestion proceeds upon the idea of a certain space of cubic feet; a man arriving with a flock of sheep might find his flock of sheep cut off in the middle because of the space not being sufficient?—Yes; there would be that difficulty.

Monday, 2nd July 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carnegie.	Mr. Graves.
Mr. Dent.	Mr. Graham.
Mr. Willbraham Egerton.	Lord Naas.
Sir M. W. Ridley.	Mr. Norwood.

MR. HUNT IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. HENRY ETRIDGE WILKINSON, called in; and Examined.

Mr. H. E. Wilkinson. 2 July 1866.

8139. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] YOU are the inspector of foreign cattle imported into Newcastle?—I am.

8140. How long have you acted in that capacity?—Since the month of February 1864.

8141. You are not the only inspector, I think. You have a colleague?—I am the only inspector for the Board of Customs.

8142. But you inspect equally for the corporation of Newcastle?—I inspect equally for the corporation of Newcastle.

8143. You inspect the cattle market?—I inspect the cattle market.

8144. The Committee are aware that the importation of foreign cattle into the port of Tyne is very considerable. Have you brought any figures of the amount of cattle imported in the last 12 months that you could put in?—I can give you the particulars for the last two years; and with that is marked the number of accidents and the cases of rinderpest that were seized in the boats that came to Newcastle with rinderpest on board; and the number of accidents that have occurred to animals taken from the holds of vessels, and so forth, and the separate number of cattle, sheep, and pigs, and the date.

8145. Will you give me the gross number of cattle imported in the last two years, as you say the return is here?—I have the returns for the last two years separate and distinct.

8146. Will you give the return for 1864 and the return for 1865?—I have it in this way. I have it from the 30th June 1864 to the 30th June 1865; and from the 30th June 1865 to the 30th June 1866, taking a half year from each.

8147. Will you read the figures?—The total number imported in the year ending the 30th June 1865 was 3,625 cattle, 10,564 sheep, 1,847 pigs.

8148. Then the return for this year?—For the year ending the 30th June 1866, 7,019 cattle, 22,355 sheep, 484 pigs.

8149. Will you now give us the number of accidents for each of those years occurring to cattle (as I understand you) in course of being either on the passage, or on being taken out as you have it in your return?—On the 29th May 1865, one cow was severely injured in removal from the hold of the vessel, slipped out of the slings, and was slaughtered in consequence. On the 12th September 1865, seven animals were landed in a state of exhaustion from over heating. Of these, four ultimately recovered; the remaining three were slaughtered and destroyed as unfit for human food.

8150. What are the total number of cases of rinderpest in the year since it visited us; from the first seizure of rinderpest to the present time?—I have it of the foreign animals. On the 17th September a cargo, consisting of 135 cattle, arrived in the "Lord Raglan" from Rotterdam, 120 of them were affected with rinderpest and died, or were destroyed; 115 were slaughtered, and passed as food.

8151. Is that the only instance in which a foreign cargo has been seized for rinderpest?—No; there was a second on the 8th October. The "Lord Raglan" brought 34 cattle, one of which was affected with rinderpest, and was destroyed. The remaining 33 were slaughtered, and passed as food.

8152. Mr. *Dent.*] Was that a cargo from Rotterdam?—Yes.

8153. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Was it in the same vessel?—Yes.

8154. Will you put in those Returns?—I brought them for the purpose, if they are required. You will find the name of each vessel, the date, and a weekly reference calculated for each week up to our market day, which is on the Tuesday, so as to show the arrivals each week.

8155. Is there only one arrival in each week?—More. There are always two from Hamburg, and there were always two from Rotterdam. There is one a fortnight from Antwerp, one a fortnight from Dunkirk, one a fortnight from Denmark.—(*The Returns were then handed in, for which* Vide *Appendix.*)

8156. You have had constant opportunities of judging of the condition of the foreign cattle on their arrival?—Yes.

8157. What is your opinion as to the general condition in which they have arrived; I do not mean as regards fatness, but as regards health?—Very good. I have never, excepting in the instances mentioned, seen animals suffering from disease of any consequence, save and except the ordinary foot and mouth disease. I have stopped the import of those wherever I possibly could. I have always quarantined them, and we have been put to some expense about it. For some

Mr. *H. E. Wilkinson.*

2 July 1866.

time we have not had any imported with that disease.

8158. I mean whether they have in point of condition suffered much from the passage?—No; they have been in perfect health, as far as that is concerned. Our boats are, with the one or two exceptions I have pointed out, not over-crowded; they are not entirely cattle boats, they are not over-crowded, and the men take great care of the cattle. The vessels are calculated, as a rule, to carry a much larger cargo of cattle than they do, and I am bound to say they arrive in very good condition.

8159. It does not appear to you that the ventilation is deficient?—The ventilation is not conducted in most of the vessels on any very sound or fixed principle; and when they have carried their full complement, I have occasionally complained of the vessel being over-heated. I have known instances where they have had to lie-to in a storm, or where they have persisted in going on where they ought to have lain-to, where the cattle have suffered a good deal.

8160. What vessels, beyond those of the General Steam Navigation Company, are there on that station?—There is a vessel belonging to Pile, Spence, and Co. of Hartlepool, called the "Fairy Queen," which runs to Aarhuus, in Denmark. She is fitted up almost as a cattle ship.

8161. Which cattle come to you in the best condition, with reference to the appearances they present after the voyage?—For the reasons I have stated, that they are so seldom over-crowded, I can make no distinction. They are in excellent health; I have no complaint to make in that respect.

8162. Are these vessels cleansed out as soon as ever they have discharged the cattle?—They are thoroughly cleansed out. The vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company adopt a very good plan of bringing their cattle standing on sand ballast of 18 to 20 inches thick, and they turn off that, as well as they could, from a well cleansed floor.

8163. Are they disinfected after the dirt is taken out?—They are thoroughly disinfected under the supervision of the Board of Customs, according to the orders; but previously to that time, they were always thoroughly sluiced out. I complained so much of the foot and mouth disease, and the owners said so much about it, that the ships always had to be cleaned out thoroughly.

8164. Is that filth thrown into the river?—It is taken away in the hoppers, and goes out to sea.

8165. When these cattle are landed they are now put, I believe, under some shedding?—There is a very nicely constructed place for that purpose.

8166. That was erected by the Corporation?—It was erected by the Corporation, and is capable of holding something like 300 cattle and 400 or 500 sheep, with ample divisions in case of two or three cargoes being landed at once.

8167. Is that immediately contiguous to the quay of landing?—It is immediately contiguous, as this plan will show (*introducing a plan*). After the cargo is taken out it is thoroughly sluiced out with water, and disinfectants are applied.

8168. Is that done under your inspection?—It is done under my inspection. There are also large slaughter-houses attached to it, where we can kill any amount of animals. We can kill a whole cargo, if necessary.

8169. A whole cargo might be destroyed in a day, if necessary?—They might, if necessary.

8170. Is there facility in that shedding to institute any system of quarantine as regards these animals?—I think there is a perfect facility. We had not the slightest accident from the other quarantine yard, and that was not near so good an arrangement. There was not the slightest case of rinderpest traced to those 125 animals, and we had them there for four days.

8171. What store cattle come in these vessels?—Very few. The principal store cattle came from Denmark until the last order was issued. We have had several importations of cows, which have replenished the cows lost in the town; some hundreds.

8172. Can you tell the Committee what number of cows have died in Newcastle since the outbreak of the rinderpest?—385 died, and 376 were slaughtered and passed as food.

8173. Were those principally the cows of the freemen that went upon the moor?—They were principally the cows belonging to the freemen and to the town.

8174. Had cows been imported from Holland into Newcastle between the time of last autumn and the period at which their introduction was forbidden by the Order of the Privy Council?—There were a few.

8175. Did any disease appear to be imported by them?—There was none. We could trace, step by step, every case we had in the town, and out into the district.

8176. I think this outbreak among the cows broke out in two different districts of the town at different periods; first in the western, and subsequently in the eastern district?—It never yet got into the eastern district; from what cause is almost difficult to determine; it never yet got there, except in two small instances, where a solitary cow was lost, and that was to be distinctly traced to carelessness on the part of the individual.

8177. What was the condition of the cow-houses at the time of the appearance of the rinderpest?—They were in a wretched state; a great proportion of the cows were on the moor.

8178. Are those cowhouses under inspection now?—They are.

8179. What cases have you had lately of rinderpest in the town?—We have had no cases of rinderpest since the 6th March, and then they were animals that a butcher unfortunately bought in the market on a market day, of which two lots of cattle were seized with rinderpest. He kept those animals over; he took them to the east end of the town, and in about five days they showed rinderpest. They were slaughtered, and they were the only six the corporation had to pay for. That was on the 6th March. We had had no rinderpest for a few weeks previous in the town, and have had none since.

8180. How long do the cattle that are placed in the sheds for inspection on landing remain in those sheds before they are removed to the cattle market?—Until I am thoroughly satisfied that they are right.

8181. What period of time would be sufficient to satisfy your mind as to the existence or non-existence of rinderpest in any cargo?—So far as rinderpest is concerned, I never have had any trouble

trouble in examining them. I have generally been able to determine it on the first examination, and within four or five hours, if the animals were not in any distress from a severe passage.

8182. You could not detect it in the process of incubation, of course?—I do not profess to do that.

8183. And therefore a quarantine, to be effectual, could hardly be calculated at a period of less than 14 days?—It would scarcely be safe under 14 days.

8184. Should you be in favour of quarantining store cattle as a general principle?—I should, unless I was well satisfied that the district from which they came was perfectly free.

8185. Would you think it necessary to quarantine them now, if they came from a country in which rinderpest is not proclaimed to exist?—If I was satisfied that the arrangements there were good and sufficient, I should not quarantine them.

8186. Do you think that store cattle would be increased in value by being quarantined, and a certificate granted by an inspector, stating them to be in good health; would they be advanced in value to the purchaser?—I think they would; I do not think they would be bought as store cattle unless they came from a country where it was well understood they were free from disease.

8187. Is it your impression that buyers would give more for cattle certificated as having undergone quarantine, than they would for those as to which they had simply to take their chance?—I will give you one simple proof of it, as far as my own district is concerned: when a few Dutch cows come over, and a few German cows in milk, I have only to say to the cowkeepers, "Do not buy them;" and they will not; and every one has to be slaughtered. On the contrary, with regard to the Denmark cows, I recommend them to buy them, and they have purchased immense numbers of them.

8188. What is your opinion as to the policy of allowing the transit of foreign-imported stock by means of the rail, at this moment, to the large towns in the district of Newcastle, such as Sunderland, Morpeth, and Hartlepool?—I am in favour of it.

8189. You are not aware whether any decision has been come to by the Privy Council on the subject?—Not as to foreign cattle. I do not know what decision they have come to.

8190. Do you think that the present shedding, or site, into which the cattle are placed on being landed, is all sufficient for a quarantine depôt, without making any further preparation?—It would not answer for a large accumulation of stock; it answers our purposes very well as a quarantine so far, but not to accommodate a three weeks' supply.

8191. Are there slaughter-houses now provided by the Corporation contiguous to the cattle market?—There are.

8192. That was done with a view to meet the supply of the large population when the introduction of live stock took place; has a dead-meat market sprung up there at all?—No; they slaughter the animals at the slaughter-houses erected for the purpose; and then they cart them into the country. At present they are suffering very much, and many of them are losing money very fast, and complaining bitterly.

8193. Do you think it possible to supply the district adjoining to Newcastle, under the present system, by dead meat alone?—It is perfectly impossible.

8194. Is that cattle market, which you are constantly in the habit of visiting, well cleansed, and the filth carried away?—They are well cleansed, and the filth is carried away.

8195. Where is that filth carried to?—I think I may say that the market is thoroughly disinfected every week; there is chloride of lime sprinkled over the whole of it; but I can show you a plan whereon the whole of the sewage is laid down.—(*A Plan was produced and explained to the Committee.*)

8196. Now, as to the slaughter-houses at the places where the cattle are landed, are they purified in the same way?—Thoroughly. Here are the three principal wharves on which the cattle are landed; and there is the short distance they have to walk to the receptacle for them, which is a large place into which they have to walk.—(*The Witness explained the Plan to the Committee.*)

8197. *Chairman.*] I see this is marked "slaughter-houses;" are those public slaughter-houses?—No. This is the corporation foreign cattle-yard.

8198. Do the slaughter-houses belong to the corporation?—The slaughter-houses belong to the corporation, and are only used to destroy diseased beasts.

8199. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] The slaughter-houses near the cattle market are equally the property of the corporation, and are used by those who buy the beasts to kill them there, and then they take the carcases into the country?—They are situated close to the cattle market; within a very few yards of it.

8200. Have you been in the habit of slaughtering animals where you detect *pleura-pneumonia*?—I invariably have them slaughtered.

8201. If you detect it on their arrival, are those cattle condemned?—The whole of the cargo is condemned.

8202. Have those cargoes of cattle, when they are brought to the London Wharf, as it is called, to wait long before being inspected, in consequence of the tide being insufficient to bring them up?—No; they are invariably removed as soon as the vessel comes alongside. They never come up the river without having water enough. They have very powerful donkey-engines attached to the hold, and they can take them out in slings at the rate of a 100 an hour.

8203. Do you think a detention of that sort at the edge of a wharf would be as injurious to the cattle as the voyage itself?—If they stand any time it becomes very injurious. The ventilation is of a nature depending upon the motion of the vessel.

8204. As I understand, the inconvenience does not arise in the landing of cattle at Newcastle?—It does not.

8205. Have you had any opportunity of judging of the condition of the Irish cattle at the time of their landing, of their being delivered from the boats bringing them from Ireland?—I have. I have frequently come over from Ireland with them.

8206. What is their general treatment?—They are carried upon deck; they are huddled together; and if there is any storm at the time, they get a good deal knocked about; they slip and tumble about, and get a great deal more bruised than the foreign cattle do.

Mr. *H. E. Wilkinson.*

2 July 1866.

8207. Can you speak to the condition of the beasts that come over from Belfast, and the west coast, to Morecambe Bay?—I can speak to the condition of the cattle that come to Morecambe Bay from Belfast, and also to the condition of the cattle that come to Silloth. They have no foot-hold in those boats. They are merely on the slippery deck, and they tumble about a good deal.

8208. *Chairman.*] Are you acquainted with those ports?—I have been in the habit of going to and from Ireland, some years ago. I went over three times last year, and came back by the different routes.

8209. Lord *Naas.*] What routes did you come back by?—I came back to Morecambe with cattle.

8210. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Have you noticed those cattle suffer very much from exposure on deck to the sun in coming from Ireland?—I have not; I have generally had the misfortune to come over in stormy weather, and I have seen them suffer a good deal then.

8211. They are all on deck?—They are all on deck.

8212. Do you consider it is well that those animals should be brought without covering on deck in hot weather; is it not likely to create a predisposition to disease on their being driven up the country after being landed?—Yes; I should think it would.

8213. Did you hear of a cargo of cattle having come over last autumn, which was said to have suffered a good deal in that way, and which had to be sluiced with salt water to cool the cattle on deck?—I do not know whether I heard of that particular cargo. I heard of a cargo of cattle being landed that were said to have had the rinderpest; whether it was the same cargo or not I cannot say. I do not know the particulars.

8214. As to the conveyance of sheep; a great many sheep have been landed at Newcastle?—Yes.

8215. In what condition have they arrived? What has been the effect of the voyage upon them?—I seldom or ever have had cause to detain any of them. Occasionally, in very rough weather, they get a little salt water over them if they happen to be upon deck, and I always keep them until I see that they have recovered. It is a very rare circumstance.

8216. Do they seem to have suffered from too close confinement or close packing upon board those boats?—I never had any sheep destroyed from that cause.

8217. The prices have risen a good deal in the Newcastle Market?—They have.

8218. To what do you chiefly attribute that?—To the want of stock.

8219. A short supply?—Yes.

8220. They have risen very much?—They have risen very much, and our foreign imports are on the increase.

8221. Are the quoted prices at Newcastle Market struck by the clerk of the market?—No, they are published from the report of the inspector of meat, Mr. Sinton.

8222. He is not clerk of the market?—He is not.

8223. Do these prices appear to you, who have great experience and opportunities of judging of that market, and are constantly in it, to be accurately given?—I think they are fairly given.

8224. Are they given upon a comparison of notes between the butchers and salesmen, or is it a general calculation drawn by Mr. Sinton, from his own experience, and large practice and acquaintance with that market; are the prices a record of his own personal experience and individual opinion?—He makes it his business to go round the whole of the market, apparently, and to ascertain for himself the prices from listening to bargains going on. He was a butcher himself at one time, and has some idea of the quality of meat. He hears the prices, and therefore it is easier for him to make an estimate than many other men.

8225. *Chairman.*] Are the prices that are quoted the prices of live animals, or the prices per stone of dead meat?—He calculates the price per stone from the purchases that he sees made.

8226. He witnesses the purchase of live animals; he calculates what those live animals will weigh when dead, and draws his estimate accordingly?—Yes, a great many butchers in that district buy animals to weigh at so much per stone.

8227. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Does it appear to you that those prices are fairly given to the public under that estimate?—It appears to me that they are fairly given in our market.

8228. Is there anything you can suggest to the Committee which might be an improvement in the management of the import trade of stock into the country; do you consider it desirable that any Government regulation should be established, or any certificate given for the vessels which import them?—I do; I think that all vessels should be as liable to be inspected, and to be certified as being fit to carry cattle as to carry passengers.

8229. Do you think that the interests of those engaged in the trade would not be sufficient for their own security to employ only the better class of boats; do you think the trade would regulate itself without any Government interference or supervision?—With us the trade is very well conducted, as far as I am capable of judging. The vessels are powerful, good, fast sailers. The cattle seem to be invariably well attended to, and I have heard no complaints, but I have seen vessels arrive, thorough-going cattle ships, with the animals in a disgraceful state.

8230. Where was that?—In London.

8231. What vessels were they?—It was when I was here in August of last year. I saw four or five vessels land their cargoes in a disgraceful state.

8232. Was that at Blackwall?—At the Blackwall Pier.

8233. Do you recollect what vessels they were? No. One of them was not thoroughly adapted for cattle; that I do well remember. The other one I went on board of was one of the immense cattle boats; and after the cargo was taken out, I saw a lot of mutilated pigs lying about, looking in a very helpless condition.

8234. That you have not seen in the port of Tyne during your experience?—No, it occurs no oftener than I have stated here.

8235. Could you give us the last quoted price at Newcastle Market?—Ten shillings per stone of 14 lbs.

8236. Mr. *Dent.*] It is always a dear market, is it not?—I think it does command good prices. It is generally higher than the London market.

8237. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say you would like a system of Government regulations as regards the vessels in which cattle are imported?

imported?—My impression is, that the ventilation of cattle ships at the present time is conducted on no system at all.

8238. Do you think it desirable that all vessels should be registered and licensed?—Precisely. If they profess to carry so many cattle, I should allow them to carry no more than a certain number; and there should be provision also for regulating the watering of the cattle.

8239. In the vessels that come to Newcastle, is there any provision for watering cattle?—They have in each vessel large iron tanks, to hold a certain quantity of water; two large tanks, which hold 1,200 gallons each. In a storm it is almost impossible, in the way the animals are tied in our vessels, round at the sides, to get to their heads.

8240. The animals are tied round by the sides of the vessels, by their heads?—Always.

8241. Would it not be a better plan, if animals were tied with their heads towards the centre of the vessel?—Yes.

8242. With a space in front, so that a man could pass down between the heads of the animals, and water them?—Yes, that would be very desirable, so that a man could pass down between the heads, and water them with the hose.

8243. If that arrangement were made, ventilation could be more easily supplied; there could be ventilating shafts under the heads of the animals?—That could be done. I think they require a shaft to take the cold air down to the bottom of the hold, before it comes up. In one vessel, the "Fairy Queen," from Denmark, I got them to adopt that plan.

8244. I suppose you think it necessary that the holds should be properly penned off with partitions?—Yes; as we have them in the Tyne steamships, there are partitions put up between four and five.

8245. You think that should be regulated, according to Government regulation?—Yes.

8246. What space would you allot to each animal?—There is such an immense difference in their size, that I could scarcely tell you.

8247. You say they should be licensed to carry so many. How would you deal with the question of a large animal; the pen that would hold six small animals, would only be able to hold four large ones; how would you deal with that, with regard to licensing the vessels?—I should take the number of large or medium size animals, and arrive at it in that way.

8248. You would take an average?—Yes, take an average animal.

8249. Do you find it the case that animals from certain countries are, as a rule, larger than the animals from other countries?—There is no comparison; the animals we receive from Denmark, as compared with those large working bullocks from other places, are like Shetland ponies, compared with dray-horses.

8250. Would you say, for instance, that six Dutch cattle should represent four Spanish cattle, or anything of that sort?—Yes; that might be arranged, I think.

8251. With regard to sheep and beasts, would you allow so many sheep to represent a certain number of pigs?—That might be arranged as well.

8252. Have you considered that in detail at all?—Not thoroughly in detail.

8253. Do you think if you had time, you could put down on paper a scheme for it?—I think it might be done without much trouble. I have some idea of the amount of cubic feet of air required for animals under different circumstances, and the space in which they can conveniently live. I do not think there is much fear of the over-crowding if the ventilation is made efficient. That is the great point; the ventilation should be regulated either by a fan-blast, or any other approved method.

8254. Animals that have come over without much ventilation are much more liable to take disease, after landing, than if they came over in a hold properly ventilated?—I should say they were; although I took a great deal of trouble to trace out a cargo of Danish cattle, when some of them were suffocated on board, I never saw animals in such a distressed state in my life; many of them were quite prostrate. In the course of time some of those that had recovered were sent to Leeds. I traced them out, and found there was not a case of disease in any one of them. I have much doubt if the possibility of creating contagious disease by over-crowding or exposure; it may be developed, not created. They are very hardy animals, are the Danes.

8255. Is the Newcastle Cattle Market a great market for the country all round about?—Yes.

8256. What other market is there anywhere near?—There is no other market anywhere near.

8257. What is the nearest cattle market to Newcastle?—The nearest cattle market of any consequence, and it is a very small market, is Carlisle. There are also Leeds and Darlington.

8258. What towns depend upon the Newcastle Market for their supply?—North and South Shields, and Sunderland; they are very large towns, each of them. Blythe, Morpeth, Consett, and Durham; that is within a radius of 12 or 14 miles. This morning I received a letter from some 20 or 30 butchers directing my attention to a few villages around them; and I just added up the population, which comes to something like 50,000. It is one continuous town.

8259. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Was it in the Cowpen and Blythe district?—Yes; they are most anxious to have something done for them; they are suffering very much. The united population of those places amounts to something very great.

8260. *Chairman.*] Is there more than one market-day in the week?—At present there are two a week; but the second market was made to meet the Order in Council, compelling foreign stock to be slaughtered in four days: it is of very little avail; they do not attend to it.

8261. Before that there was only one market-day?—Before that there was only one market-day, on the Tuesday.

8262. What was the ordinary supply of fat stock?—On the average, about 1,000.

8263. When the Order in Council forbade foreign cattle to be removed inland, that established a second market?—Yes; but it is not attended. The cattle salesmen prefer risking the order and keeping their cattle in the sheds.

8264. The foreign cattle go now into your cattle market?—They go into our cattle market; and they always have done so.

8265. By the Order in Council they must be killed within four days?—They must be killed within four days.

8266. They cannot pass inland at present?—They cannot.

Mr. *H. E. Wilkinson.*

2 July 1866.

8267. What is done at present with these cattle; what is the course of trade?—I believe the course of trade to be this, that the cattle come into the cattle salesman's shed, and the butchers buy them from the sheds and slaughter them in Newcastle.

8268. And convey them away in sides?—In sides. A great deal of irregular trade is carried on in that way. Our sheep market is in the same anomalous position. We have no show of sheep in our market in consequence, because when once they are branded they have to be destroyed.

8269. There is nothing to prevent sheep going by rail now?—No; but if once they are shown in our market, and the salesmen did not meet with a sale, they would still have to be slaughtered.

8270. And that prevents their coming into the market?—Yes.

8271. What is the present course of trade with regard to slaughtering these foreign beasts and conveying their carcases away. Do the buyers at the other towns buy the carcases of the Newcastle butchers who slaughter at Newcastle?—The butchers slaughter at Newcastle themselves, and cart them home.

8272. Suppose it was a permanent arrangement that all the foreign beasts imported should be slaughtered at Newcastle, do you not think that the course of trade would alter very much, and that the buyers would buy of the Newcastle butchers?—No, I do not think they would do it. The pitmen do not believe in the sight of dead meat. They like to have some proof of an animal's existence before they purchase. They will not have it at all. The principal portion of the foreign cattle goes down to Sunderland.

8273. This is still going on to a great extent?—It is.

8274. Have you heard great complaints that meat has been spoiled in the transit?—Yes, especially meat at this time of year, that has travelled by railway; and the cattle get heated and exhausted in the trucks, and have to be killed. The meat will not keep; it scarcely stiffens in the first instance.

8275. I am speaking of foreign animals imported in vessels, and slaughtered at Newcastle, and sent off as dead meat. Have you heard that that meat has been spoilt?—Yes, they complain, but not so much of them as they do of the others.

8276. Have you heard of cases of meat being spoilt?—Yes, I have. I have known it to be spoilt.

8277. How does it travel; is it packed, or does it go in trucks with a covering over it?—These country butchers in the large district I have just given you the details of, take them all in their own carts.

8278. But I am speaking of the supply to the large towns?—They pack them in sides, and send them by the road.

8279. Do they pack them in hampers?—No; they lay them in the pack, side by side.

8280. In the trucks?—No, they suspend them from the roof.

8281. In sides?—Yes.

8282. Have they what they call meat vans?—They have only the ordinary covered vans.

8283. And they suspend them inside those vans?—Yes.

8284. Do you hear any complaints of their getting dusty as they travel along?—The only complaint I have heard of was that they did not stiffen the second time, and they get putrid rapidly.

8285. Are they sent off before they are stiffened?—I expect they give them time to stiffen, and they think they take them away as stiff as the meat can possibly be; but the complaint is that as soon as they get them home they get flaccid; they never stiffen again, and the meat spoils.

8286. Do you apprehend that the carcases have ever been properly stiffened?—In the extremely hot weather which we have had during the last two or three weeks, it has been very difficult to get meat of that sort to stiffen.

8287. Is it within your knowledge that meat that is once stiffened will get flaccid again?—It will become flaccid again, and just in the same condition as the run hare; you may have the stiffening, and in the course of half-an-hour it will pass off again completely; so it is with the meat in this condition.

8288. What is your system of slaughter-houses at Newcastle; I am not now speaking of those belonging to the Corporation, but the butchers' slaughter-houses; are they licensed?—The principal slaughter-houses of the town are built by the corporation, and they are rented from the corporation. I am speaking under correction. I think the freemen or the different companies of the town built those large public slaughter-houses. At all events, they are large public slaughter-houses.

8289. They are public slaughter-houses, and the butchers rent them?—The butchers each rent their own.

8290. And they have as much control over their own part of the slaughter-houses as if it was upon their own premises?—They have, with this exception, that the whole are under inspection.

8291. Does that conduce very much to the facility of inspection?—Very much.

8292. Are there private slaughter-houses besides in the town?—There are.

8293. Are they licensed?—They are not licensed.

8294. Are they inspected?—There is a nuisance inspector, who has control over them.

8295. Do you find that the butchers prefer having their own slaughter-houses, or renting the public slaughter-houses?—The public slaughter-houses are every one let.

8296. They find it is more convenient for the trade?—They find it is very convenient for the trade. It keeps their workmen all about them, and they have the means of keeping the places thoroughly cleansed: they are well-built, well-flagged, and well-drained; and the corporation carts take the manure away, and all that sort of thing.

8297. Mr. *Dent.*] Did you ever hear last autumn of any diseased cattle being thrown overboard from foreign ports on the coast?—I read accounts of such. We searched the Manifests and we found it had not occurred to any boats that came to the Tyne.

8298. You do not conceive that there would be any danger in the removal of foreign cattle from Newcastle Market to the large consuming towns?—I should advocate it if they were situated on a line of railway, and to allow them to be killed at the stations, not to travel by road.

8299. At present you say there is a good deal of

of evasion of the orders in Newcastle?—There has sprung up within the last week or two some little evasion of them.

8300. Do you think there has been any check to the importation of foreign cattle from the restrictions that have been placed upon them?—The restriction has robbed us of the dairy cows from Denmark entirely; that is, stopped. Of course we have none from Rotterdam.

8301. Do you think that the fact of having to slaughter them within four days of their arrival has checked the importation of foreign cattle?—I do not know what effect it may have had. The German war has been somewhat of a stimulus; there has been more sent over on that account.

8302. They have sent them over to prevent them being taken?—Yes, I think so.

8303. Mr. *Norwood.*] Have you seen cattle conveyed in railway trucks?—I have inspected the whole of the cattle that has come to the Newcastle market for some time.

8304. Are they sometimes over-crowded?—Occasionally.

8305. I suppose you would advocate Parliamentary interference with the stowage of cattle in railways as well as in ships?—There is some little interference with the cattle conveyed by railway already, to a certain extent.

8306. With regard to the cubical contents of the truck?—No, they are liable to be brought up for over-crowding them; for cruelty.

8307. Do you know whether there is any specified amount of room given to an animal in railway trucks?—The trucks are calculated to carry so many.

8308. You do not know the basis on which that is done?—No, I do not.

8309. With reference to giving them water in bad weather, that is very difficult. Of course, that difficulty is caused by the weather?—It is a very difficult matter at sea, in bad weather.

8310. Would cattle take water in the case of a severe storm, do you think?—They invariably take water in the holds of these vessels, whenever they can get it.

8311. They would not eat when they are suffering from sea sickness, I suppose?—I never have seen them suffer very much yet.

8312. They do suffer, I believe?—They do suffer a little. I think they suffer more by reaction. They suffer more within 24 hours afterwards than they do at the time.

8313. I suppose if there were a quarantine they would suffer very much during the quarantine, and fall off very much in condition and weight, from change of food and change of scene?—I do not think they would if they were cared for. All fat animals do fall off, to a certain extent, in consequence of change of food and change of air. They do generally slide the first week or so.

8314. That is a reason why the fat cattle are generally killed soon after importation, whether there is an Order in Council for it or not?—They always are.

8315. They do slide off somewhat?—They do.

8316. *Chairman.*] Have you considered whether it is practicable to water animals in railway trucks?—I should scarcely think it would be in a limited space.

8317. Lord *Naas.*] Do you think it is necessary, except in very long journeys, to water cattle in railway trucks?—I think not.

8318. What is the length of time you think a beast can go without water, in ordinary times, without injury?—Twenty-four hours.

8319. And that, under proper railway management, would be sufficient to take an animal almost from one part of the United Kingdom to another?—Yes; with us there are watering troughs in the stations, and they take them out and put them in again very quickly.

8320. *Chairman.*] Do you think, in very hot weather, an animal could go twenty-four hours without water?—I was asked "under ordinary circumstances." I should say that in very hot weather they would require water often. Store cattle would travel well enough.

8321. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] This paper of the population of the various townships shows above 25,000 persons. Is the whole of that population at the present moment supplied by dead-meat brought in butchers' carts from Newcastle?—Entirely.

8322. Is none of that meat sent by the trucks by the Blythe and Tyne line, which communicates immediately with these districts?—I cannot say that, but the bulk of it is sent out in the carts; I have that from the principal butcher in the district, a man of the name of Barrass.

8323. Has the price of meat risen in Newcastle since the Act of Parliament was passed on the 20th February?—Very much; we have had it as high as 12*s.*

8324. What was it before that time. Can you give us the price?—It was down to 8*s.*

8325. When was it 8*s.*?—It has been 8*s.* this spring.

8326. Lord *Naas.*] Is that the retail price, or the carcase price?—That is the carcase price at present.

8327. *Chairman.*] You say that it has been 8*s.* this spring?—Yes.

8328. And it has been 12*s.*?—It has been 12*s.*, and it was down again to 10*s.*

8329. Can you account for its fall to 10*s.*?—I think it may be accounted for by the extra supply we have had during the last couple of weeks. Three weeks ago there were only 320 animals in Newcastle market, 240 of which were foreign.

8330. And you wanted a thousand?—Our requirements are about a thousand, but there is an immense quantity of cattle sent past the town to different places in consignment.

8331. So that your demands now are not so great as they were?—Not quite; but they object to the system. There is a want of competition, and there is no regularity in prices.

8332. Mr. *Dent.*] There are a great many cattle bought in Newcastle for Leeds and Wakefield?—Yes; and a good many are bought that are never brought into the market.

8333. I mean in ordinary times?—In ordinary times there are.

Mr. William Davies Stephens, called in; and Examined.

8334. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] You are Managing Director of the Tyne Steam Shipping Company?—Yes.

8335. How many boats have you engaged in the import of cattle?—We have two vessels on the Hamburg station, two vessels on the Rotter-

Mr. *W. D. Stephens.*

2 July 1866.

dam station, and one vessel on the Antwerp station, and one on the Dunkirk station.

8336. How many cargoes of cattle do you bring in on the average each week?—We bring in two from Hamburg. We have not brought any from Rotterdam for some time, on account of the stoppage of the cattle; previously to that we used to bring in from Rotterdam.

8337. What is the length of the passage from Hamburg?—About 40 hours from wharf to wharf with our fastest steamers.

8338. We have learnt from the last witness there is no detention of cattle when they arrive, and that you get them without delay?—The vessel cannot arrive at Newcastle, except on the flood tide. We must have water to get up to the wharf.

8339. Do you carry any deck cargo?—Yes, occasionally.

8340. We learn that usually cattle are watered to some extent on the voyage?—Yes.

8341. Are they fed in any way?—They are fed with a quantity of hay, brought on board by the shippers.

8342. Is there any dead meat consigned to you from Hamburg?—No.

8343. Or from any other foreign ports?—No.

8344. Are there any other boats which bring cattle into the Tyne, in addition to yours?—Only one vessel from Denmark.

8345. Is that a smaller vessel than your own?—Very considerably.

8346. Have you been on board of her?—No; I have seen her from the quay, that is all.

8347. You do not know whether the arrangement of that vessel is different from your own ships?—I do not know, except from what I have heard.

8348. Have you seen other vessels engaged in the cattle import trade besides your own?—I have.

8349. Have you visited them, and looked to their construction?—Yes, that is some time ago, not during the last three or four years.

8350. Have you, within that period, made alterations and improvements within the holds of your own vessels to facilitate the trade?—We have. The vessels that we have on the Hamburg station were previously on the London station, and were not adapted for carrying cattle. After they commenced to carry cattle, we put ventilators from the hold, in which the cattle were carried, and down the hatches. We kept the hatches open at sea, as a general rule; we had what we call a "windsail" slung over towards the wind, from which the wind gets down into the hold, and thus the ventilation is carried on. In some of the vessels we have two ventilators of 12 inches; in some of them we have one ventilator of 18 inches diameter in the fore part of the main hold. The vessels that were put on the station were put upon it with the substantial view of carrying cattle, from the position of the boiler. The "Admiral," a vessel of 625 tons gross, and 120 horse power, is a very fast steamer. She steams 11 knots under steam alone, and her boiler is situated 12 feet from the bulkhead; the back of the boiler is towards the engines; consequently the cattle that are put into the after hold are a considerable distance from the boiler. In the "Sentinel" the positions are just the same; the engines are placed with the back of the boiler towards them, consequently between the front of the boiler and the bulkhead there is a considerable space, and the cattle are carried in the hold free from the heat.

8351. Lord *Naas.*] Are there any fans to the ventilators?—No, we have none, but the holds are large holds, I can give you the sizes if you would like to have them, and the measurements. I have prepared myself with a few measurements on the subject. In the "Admiral" we have them 44 feet long and 25 feet beam; in the 'twixt decks 6½ feet; in the lower deck 7½ feet. Of course we have stanchions running fore and aft to keep the cattle from rolling against each other in case of bad weather.

8352. Mr. *Norwood.*] What are the 'tween decks?—Six feet six and about seven feet six below. In the "Sentinel" we have 40 feet by 23; and six feet above and six below. In the "Lord Raglan" we have 40 feet by 26 by seven, both above and below. Would you like the contents in feet?

8353. Yes?—There are 15,000 feet in the main hold of the "Admiral;" 11,000 in the "Sentinel;" 14,000 in the "Lord Raglan."

8354. Sir *M. W. Ridley.*] Having given us the dimensions, can you give us the number of cattle that are lodged in that space?—Do you mean the largest number that we have ever carried?

8355. Yes?—I never heard of more than 140 or 142; but if I said 150, I should certainly be outside the mark.

8356. Mr. *Norwood.*] Is that in one hold?—Yes, and in one ship too. We rarely carry them in the fore-hold.

8357. You only have two holds?—Yes; the engines are right aft.

8358. Then, you have a large main hold?—We have a large main hold and fore-hold, in which we put any cargo we have, such as butter, cheese, and sugar, from Holland.

8359. It would appear as if there were 100 cubic feet to each animal?—There are just about 100 cubic feet. The "Admiral" is about the largest, 15,000; that makes about 100 cubic feet to each animal; in the "Sentinel," we never have more than 100 or 110 cattle, which gives about 100 cubic feet again.

8360. *Chairman.*] Should you object to any Government regulation as to the number of cattle to be carried on board the ship?—No, we should rather prefer it for the general good.

8361. Have you any idea what space ought to be allotted to a bullock?—After the questions you asked Mr. Wilkinson, I was referring to it in my own mind, and I thought 100 cubic feet each would be a very good rule.

8362. With regard to the space that is to be allotted to them laterally?—As to that, in a great measure, you must allow the shipowner to arrange his own space.

8363. You would not have any regulations about that?—No.

8364. You would require 100 cubic feet for each beast?—I should think so.

8365. How much for a sheep?—I should think you would calculate five sheep to a beast.

8366. And pigs the same?—I should think so. Pigs are generally carried on deck. We very rarely carry a sheep on deck. We have occasionally, but very rarely, done so.

8367. Do you think there should be any regulations

lations as to the ventilation?—Yes; that is the most important of all.

8368. No vessel should be allowed to carry without proper regulations for ventilation and watering?—No. There is always a small perquisite of 1 *s.* a head allowed to the captain from the shipper, which, to a certain extent, guarantees a great deal of care being taken of the cattle.

8369. That is paid by the shipper?—That is paid by the shipper. It is a sum of 1 *s.* each paid to the master. I can give you the number of cattle we have carried.

8370. Lord *Naas.*] I suppose the great difference between the size of the cattle would prevent any restriction as to absolute numbers being enforced?—I think so; I think you might average them better at so much per head, than you would according to size. I think it would be very difficult to carry out. From Hamburg we generally have one class of cattle.

8371. Have the people in your ships ever had occasion to throw cattle overboard?—Never.

8372. Have you had any actions brought against you for losses?—Never. I never heard of such a thing; I never heard of any complaint, scarcely. The passage is very short; from Rotterdam the passage is only about 30 hours, and from Hamburg, the vessels we have now make the passage within 40 hours. At one time, when I first knew it, it was from 48 to 60 hours; the consequence is, they are kept comparatively in good condition.

8373. Is there any inspection of cattle when they are imported?—Yes, they are inspected both at Hamburg and Rotterdam.

8374. Who inspects them?—I do not know; I cannot tell that.

8375. You do not know whether the regulations are strictly enforced or not?—Yes; I believe they are strictly enforced.

8376. Mr. *Norwood.*] Had you not certificates given you in the Dutch trade, especially before the restrictions?—Not that I know of.

8377. I myself have seen those certificates?—I never saw them; I cannot speak to that. I never saw them, or heard of them.

8378. With regard to the storing of the beasts, I think the previous witness said you put their heads to the sides of the vessels?—Yes.

8379. That is not the plan we adopt in Hull; we generally put their heads in the centre, and there is considerable advantage in that, because there is a vacant space by which they can more easily water them?—Yes, that would be better. I shall be very glad to carry out that suggestion.

8380. Have you seen foreign cattle with rinderpest?—No, never.

8381. Did you ever know a case of rinderpest in foreign cattle?—No, never; I never saw any.

8382. I asked the question, because I never knew anybody who had seen foreign cattle with rinderpest?—I never saw any. We have steam cranes on board our vessels, so that we can land any number of cattle that they can bring within the river.

8383. Do you sling them?—Yes.

8384. That is not a good plan, is it?—I never heard of such a thing as a complaint; people give us credit for carrying cattle in a remarkably good manner.

8385. Do you sling cows?—Yes.

8386. *Chairman.*] Do you sling cows that are heavy in calf?—I do not know that we ever have them heavy in calf to my knowledge. I never heard of such a case; it is a large sling, a broad sling, which reaches from their fore-quarters right to their hind legs. The sheep we lift in large square boxes, which lift about a dozen at a time, with an end to move like the after part of a cart, and so let them walk out.

Mr. CHARLES HUNT, called in; and Examined.

8387. *Chairman.*] YOU are the Comptroller of the Out-door Department of the Customs?—Yes.

8388. The Committee require information as to the powers under which you act now?—We have Orders of the Privy Council under which we act.

8389. Have you a copy with you?—No.

8390. I believe you gave evidence before the Committee on the "Cattle Diseases Prevention Bill," and you handed in some papers at that time?—Yes.

8391. There have been some fresh Orders since that?—Yes, several.

8392. You have not brought them with you? No. We are merely the executive of the Privy Council to see that their Orders are carried out.

8393. You have no information to give us beyond what we could obtain from those Orders?—Not any.

8394. Your authority is derived solely from those Orders?—Yes; purely.

8395. Who issues those Orders to you?—The clerk of the Privy Council. They come to us from the clerk of the Privy Council.

8396. You never get Orders from the Board of Trade?—No.

8397. I shall ask you to hand in a copy of the Orders now in force under which you act; perhaps you will let the Committee clerk have them?—Yes. From what date would the Committee like them.

8398. You had better send us the Orders that have taken place since those that you handed in two years ago. I do not know whether you remember what those were?—I can easily refer to them. We have had several since then.

8399. The last Order seems to be one dated in 1856?—There have been a great number of Orders since that time. They are principally Orders affecting the embarkation of cattle; they are not Orders affecting the practice to be pursued with regard to the examination or delivery.

8400. Principally with reference to importation? —Principally with regard to importation. There have been some few orders, but they have been principally with regard to regulations for importations.

8401. I suppose you can hand us copies without any expense?—Yes, I can hand you copies that have been sent to us.

8402. Lord *Naas.*] Has there been any alteration made in the duties of the out-door officers of the Customs with regard to the importation of cattle?—Not any.

8403. *Chairman.*] Can you give us any opinion upon the matters we have been asking about, as to the licensing of vessels for carrying cattle, and only allowing them to carry a certain number.

Mr. *C. Hunt.*
2 July 1866.

Will you give us your opinion as to the desirability of having any regulation of that sort?—I think it would be difficult to enforce any regulation of the kind. It would meet with opposition on the part of shipowners in London.

8404. Do you say the same with regard to ventilation?—I do not think so with regard to ventilation.

8405. There would be no difficulty with regard to the space of cubic feet for each animal?—Yes, there would be great difficulty there, because of the size of each animal.

8406. Do you think you could strike an average?—I think you could do it, but it would lead to many disputes; as to every cargo landed you would have a dispute as to the number of animals landed and the cubic feet of space. You would have to compel some person or other to define what was a fat animal and what was a lean one. It would lead to endless disputes.

8407. Could you not strike an average, and say a certain number of cubic feet for every head of fat stock, large or small?—You might do that.

8408. But would there be any difficulty about it?—I think so. You must have a staff to enforce it, in the first instance; some person appointed by the Board of Trade to measure these vessels; and then you must see that the number of animals carried in them does not exceed the measurement; and all that must be calculated before you can deliver any of these beasts.

8409. Could it not be done in this way, that the vessels which were previously measured, might be licensed to carry so many beasts or so many sheep; and could you not make so many sheep represent a certain amount of space. Then the ship's papers would show you the number actually carried?—Yes.

8410. There would be no great difficulty about that?—There would not be any great difficulty.

8411. With regard to ventilation, do you think there would be any difficulty about that?—I do not think the ship-owners would object to any system of ventilation. I think they do all they can in that matter now.

8412. We have had evidence that in some cases cargoes of cattle have come in in great distress?—No doubt.

8413. If there was a regulation as to ventilation that would be avoided?—It would alleviate it to a certain extent; but I imagine the distress has principally arisen from bad weather.

8414. Bad weather, with a crowded hold?—Yes; occasionally the vessels are overcrowded, but, I think, as a rule, not very often.

8415. Lord *Naas.*] Do you see the cattle as they come in?—Very frequently; not always.

8416. Do they arrive in better condition than they used to arrive in some years ago?—Do you mean as far as the stowage on board the vessel is concerned?

8417. Yes?—I do not think they do; because formerly the importations were not so large. They arrive in a more healthy condition.

8418. Are the steamers a better class of steamers?—Yes, much larger.

8419. *Chairman.*] It is stated that the animals suffer more in their passage up the river than they do at sea?—I should very much doubt that.

8420. It is said they do not obtain the same amount of ventilation coming up the river?—There may be less ventilation, but I should think the animals do not suffer so much coming up the river; the water is much smoother.

8421. Do they suffer much from heat in the river?—I should think they do not; particularly in the case of vessels which discharge so low down the river as Thames Haven.

8422. It has been stated that those which are landed at Thames Haven do not suffer so much as those which come to Blackwall?—I think there is very little difference.

8423. Are you acquainted with Thames Haven?—Well.

8424. Do they discharge many cargoes of cattle there?—Not many; the trade was principally confined to Rotterdam; since the regulations, very little.

8425–6. Do you think it would be desirable that you should require the cattle to be discharged at Thames Haven and other places?—I think it would be desirable under certain circumstances, but it is rather a difficult question. I think there are many places in London in which they discharge which do not possess sufficient accommodation under existing circumstances.

8427. Is it not complained of very much by the inhabitants of Blackwall and Poplar, and places lying between there and the Metropolitan Market, that the animals are a nuisance in the streets?—Yes, they say that; but I do not think that would be a reason for prohibiting their being landed there. I think the principal reason for prohibiting their being landed high up the river would be, the want of sufficient accommodation on the different wharves for the proper examination of the animals, and keeping and slaughtering them if necessary.

8428. You think, at present, there is not sufficient accommodation?—During the prevalence of the disease I do not think there is; there would be sufficient accommodation if every animal was landed in a perfectly healthy state, and was merely required to be passed across the wharf.

8429. But where they have to undergo a careful inspection there is not sufficient space?—There is not. At the same time our veterinary surgeons, who are responsible for passing the cattle, think there is. It is a matter of opinion, but at some of the wharves, in my opinion, there is not sufficient space.

8430. Are the inspectors whom we have examined here under your orders?—Only to a limited extent. They are professional men, and have simply to examine the cattle as regards their healthfulness. They are only under my orders as having to convey to them the orders I receive from the Privy Council from time to time. I could not tell them to pass cattle, nor could I order them to detain them. They are entirely responsible for that.

8431. Do they make a return to you of the animals that are stopped by them?—They make a return of the animals that are stopped once a year, giving the reasons for the detention.

8432. Is there any appeal to you from their decision?—Not any.

8433. Mr. *Dent.*] Are they virtually responsible?—Their decision is final. The trade have the option of appealing against it by requesting a third party may be called in.

8434. *Chairman.*] What are your duties with regard to the importation of cattle?—Simply as the organ of communication between my own Board and these veterinary inspectors, for the purpose of conveying to them the Orders issued by the Privy Council.

8435. Mr. *Norwood.*] Under the control of the water-guard?

water-guard?—Yes; the water-guard and the out-door department is in one now.

8436. Lord *Naas.*] There were some statements made here with regard to the inconvenience of landing cattle, in consequence of the hours at which the Custom-house officers inspect the cattle; do you think there is anything to complain of in that respect?—They are inspected at any time during daylight.

8437. In winter?—Yes; in winter it would be dark at four o'clock; the veterinary surgeons could not examine cattle, with regard to the state of their health, in the dark; that is impossible; they must have daylight for their duty.

8438. In point of fact, the hours in the middle of winter at which cattle can be landed are very few?—They can be landed at any hour; but they can only be examined by the veterinary surgeons during daylight.

8439. They can be landed at any hour?—Yes; immediately the vessels come alongside we allow the cattle to be landed; there is no delay.

8440. There is no restriction from revenue causes on the landing of cattle?—Not at all, not any; on the contrary, the great object is to get them out as quickly as possible.

8441. As regards the dead meat, are there any restrictions by the revenue as regards landing dead meat?—No; they land it during daylight at any time; they have the additional advantage of landing it before they pass the entry. In strictness, no goods should be allowed to land before the entry is passed; but the exception is allowed to be made in the case of dead meat, from its being perishable.

8442. Can dead meat be landed on Sunday?—Not at any time. On Sunday, in summer time, it is allowed to be landed up to nine o'clock in the morning.

8443. There is some arrangement made with regard to dead meat in its favour?—Yes; everything is done in favour of perishable articles that can possibly be granted to them.

8444. Mr. *Dent.*] There is no restriction at present as to the ports at which cattle can be imported?—No, I think not.

8445. Would the Board of Customs suggest that the importation of cattle should be restricted to certain ports?—I do not know whether they would do that.

8446. Do you think their attention has ever been directed to that question?—I think it is likely it has, but I do not know of my own knowledge.

8447. You do not know whether they have formed any opinion upon that subject?—I should say they have not.

8448. Do not you think it would be a means of preventing the importation of disease, if particular ports were selected as the ports of import?—I do, as a matter of my own opinion.

8449. We do not take this officially, but as your own opinion?—Yes.

8450. You would be enabled, then, to have better inspection, and better accommodation for the animals?—Yes.

8451. You do not think there would be so many officers required to inspect?—I do not think it would make any difference with regard to the number of officers; because you must have a sufficient number of ports approved for the landing of cattle to supply those districts in which those ports are situated.

8452. You could not give us any idea of what ports could be selected so as to be sufficient for them?—It must depend upon the accommodation that the ports would supply.

8453. There would be the accommodation of the ports, and the districts which would require to be supplied with food?—Yes, it would be dependent entirely upon that.

8454. Have you any means in the Board of Customs of knowing where disease is existing on the Continent?—Only by the communications which we get from the Privy Council.

8455. I think the Board of Customs made some suggestion to the Royal Commission to inquire into the cattle plague as to improvements which they thought might be carried out; did they not?—I do not think any of them were examined upon the question.

8456. I imagine they made some suggestion by letter to the secretary?—It is possible. I do not know.

8457. Could you, as an officer of customs, suggest any improvements that could be made for the prevention of the importation of diseased cattle?—The only improvements you could make would be in a system of quarantine, if it was thought desirable to enforce it. It is difficult to carry it out in London.

8458. In London, the importation of foreign cattle is very small?—Yes.

8459. They are mostly imported for immediate slaughter?—They are mostly intended for immediate slaughter.

8460. There would not be a necessity for a quarantine of animals that were intended to be slaughtered?—Not at all.

8461. *Chairman.*] There are many milch cows imported into London?—Yes, a great number.

8462. Mr. *Dent.*] You consider that at present there is a great want of accommodation at some of the landing-places in London?—Yes; I think every place should possess means for the purpose of detaining the cattle as long as it is considered necessary, and also ample accommodation for cleansing, if it is desirable to do so.

8463. *Chairman.*] Do you think it desirable that all animals should remain for a few hours at the river side before they pass the inspection?—The inspectors have the power of keeping them as long as they see fit.

8464. Do you think it is desirable, under all the circumstances, that they should rest a few hours before inspection?—I should think it would be. There would be some difficulty, because the importations into London are so large, and the accommodation is so small, that you would have to keep the vessels standing a long time till other vessels were removed from the wharf.

8465. With the present arrangements?—Yes.

8466. You would recommend much greater accommodation?—Unquestionably.

8467. Can you suggest any place for that purpose?—Down the river; either at Thames Haven or at Dagenham. The objection to Thames Haven is, that in very bad weather there might be a difficulty in vessels lying alongside; but I do not think that would apply to Dagenham. Vessels would be there in any weather. It has been urged that if you increase the landing at those places in consequence of the ground being pasturage, you would perpetuate

Mr. *C. Hunt.*

2 July 1866.

disease in consequence of the diseased animals being brought there.

8468. What do you say to that?—I say I do not think so.

8469. If you had a regulation requiring animals to undergo quarantine the result would probably be that they would be very careful what animals they sent?—Yes.

8470. The more severe the ordeal here is, the more likely they are to take precautions not to send diseased animals?—Quite so. The restrictions placed upon the importation of cattle have already had that effect. We get much more healthy cattle now taken generally than before.

8471. Mr. *Dent.*] The per centage of disease in foreign cattle is not very large?—Very small.

8472. Even before the restrictions it was very small?—Very small.

8473. As a rule, it would not pay the foreign importer to send 100 head of cattle?—It would pay an unscrupulous man, because he could get it at a low price, and if he could get them in here he might get a large price for them.

8474. Mr. *Norwood.*] Do you know into how many ports in England cattle come now?—No.

8475. There are not a great many?—Not many.

8476. Mr. *Dent.*] I thought they could come into any they liked?—No; the ports must be approved for the landing of cattle.

8477. *Chairman.*] Is that by Order in Council?—By the order of the Board of Customs. The Board of Customs have power to approve of any port for the landing of cattle.

8478. Mr. *Dent.*] That is under the present restriction?—Yes; you cannot land cattle anywhere you please.

8479. *Chairman.*] Then, if there is that restriction, you can give us a list of places upon referring to documents, I suppose?—Yes; I can send you a list of the ports at which cattle can be landed.

8480. You had better do so, if you please?—I will.

8481. Mr. *Norwood.*] Did you ever see a foreign beast affected with rinderpest?—Yes, I have.

8482. Did you ever hear from anybody of any foreign cattle affected with it?—Yes; I have heard from all our veterinary surgeons, of whom we have three, that they have seen foreign beasts with rinderpest.

LIST OF APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

Papers handed in by the Chairman: PAGE

Memorial praying for an Investigation into the Regulations now in Force in respect to the Importation of Foreign Cattle - - - - - - - - - - - - 303

Letter from Commissioners of Customs to Colonel Harness, R.E., C.B., forwarding Reports of Inspectors - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 304

Appendix, No. 2.

Paper handed in by Mr. Robinson, 28th May 1866:

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, and Landed at different Places - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 307

Appendix, No. 3.

Appendix to Dr. Letheby's Evidence, 31st May 1866:

Extract from Report on the Cattle Plague in England in 1865, by Dr. H. Letheby, Medical Officer of Health for the City of London - - - - - - - - 315

Account of the Meat, Game, and Poultry Condemned in the City Market, as unfit for Human Food, during the last Five Years, 1861 to 1865 - - - - - - - 321

Kind of Meat Condemned - - - - - - - - - - - - - 321

Appendix, No. 4.

Letter from the Board of Trade to the Chairman of the Committee, dated 6th June 1866 - 322

Appendix, No. 5.

Papers handed in by Mr. Charles Hicks, 8th June 1866:

Form of Cattle Pass (translated from the German) - - - - - - - - 324

Letter to Messrs. C. Hicks & Co., London; dated Poissy, 24th May 1866 - - - 324

Statement of the Number of Cattle sold by Mr. Hicks in Three Months, and the Number sold to each Class of Men - - - - - - - - - - - - 325

Appendix, No. 6.

Papers handed in by Mr. Thomas Rudkin, 18th June 1866:

Return showing the Numbers of Animals in the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, for Eight Weeks, commencing from 16th April and ending 10th June 1866, and corresponding Weeks for 1865 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 326

Return showing the Numbers of Animals in the Lairs of the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, for Eight Weeks, commencing from 16th April and ending 10th June 1866, and corresponding Weeks of the Year 1865 - - - - - - - - - 326

Return showing the Prices of Meat at the Metropolitan Market, from 17th April to 10th June 1865 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 327

Return showing the Prices of Meat at the Metropolitan Market, from 16th April to 9th June 1866 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 327

Appendix, No. 7.

Papers handed in by Mr. Rudkin: PAGE.

Return showing the Number of Animals in the Metropolitan Cattle Market for Nine Weeks, commencing 12th February and ending 14th April 1866, and corresponding Weeks of 1865 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 328

Tolls.—Newgate and Leadenhall Markets - - - - - - - - - 328

Appendix, No. 8.

Paper handed in by Captain William O'Brien:

Return of the Quantity of Meat sent by the North Eastern Railway from Hull to Leeds, in each of the Five Weeks ending the 16th of June 1866 - - - - - - 329

Appendix, No. 9.

Letter from Mr. Gebhardt to Mr. Milner Gibson, M. P., dated Stamford House, 344, Camden Road - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 329

Appendix, No. 10.

Papers handed in by Mr. H. E. Wilkinson, 2nd July 1866:

Return of the Number of Cattle landed at the Port of Tyne in each Week from 5th July 1864 to 26th June 1866 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 331

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne, and Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day - - - - - - 332

Return of Stock Exhibited in the Borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne Live Cattle Market, in the Twelve Months ended 26th June 1866, compiled by Mr. John Bell, Superintendent - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 338

Appendix, No. 11.

Papers handed in by Mr. Charles Hunt:

Copies of Orders issued to the Customs Department by the Lords of the Privy Council relative to the Cattle Plague - - - - - - - - - - - - 339

Appendix, No. 12.

Letter from Mr. Seymour Clarke to Mr. H. Waddington, dated 11th December 1865 - 385

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAPERS handed in by the *Chairman.*

MEMORIAL praying for an Investigation into the Regulations now in Force in respect to the Importation of Foreign Cattle. App. No. 1.

The Memorial of the Foreign Cattle Trade Association, to the Lords of the Privy Council,

Sheweth,

1. THAT the regulations to prevent the introduction of diseased cattle into this country, as at present carried out, greatly interfere with the legitimate trade in healthy cattle, and that if such regulations continue to be enforced the importation of stock from the more distant countries must eventually be abandoned, by reason of the heavy losses thereby entailed upon the owners.

2. That the complaint known as foot and mouth disease attacks at certain periods all cattle that travel by railway, road, or sea, and are sold in markets, its appearance being only a question of time, and that no system having for its object the detention of certain animals that contract the complaint before their arrival in London, can have any influence upon the general existence of the disease.

3. That the detention of cattle at the wharves during the past fortnight, has occasioned a ruinous loss to the owners, over and above the depreciation that has taken place in the market value of fat stock; that such extra loss has been occasioned by the impossibility of feeding and tending the large numbers of cattle detained and kept without shelter at the wharves; the want of accommodation for slaughtering which prevents buyers from attending; and lastly, the depreciation of price, resulting from large quantities of meat being forced, without any alternative, upon the markets for absolute sale; that under these circumstances upwards of 1,000 head of cattle have been disposed of in the aforesaid space of time, at a reduction of 4*l.* a head under the price obtained in the Metropolitan Market.

4. That the detention at the wharves occasions great suffering to the cattle from exposure to weather and want of food, water, space, and rest; that owing to the exhaustion produced by these causes, the weaker animals are frequently trampled upon and greatly damaged, and that such state of suffering is lengthened by reason of the accommodation for slaughtering at the wharves being totally inadequate to perform the amount of business required.

5. That the detention of a large proportion of imported cattle at the wharves on account of foot and mouth disease does not act as a preventive to the spread of the complaint, and that a mode of procedure with apthous cattle might be adopted at debarcation (if necessary), that would relieve the trade from a portion of the loss occasioned by the regulations now in force without subjecting other cattle to infection.

6. That the approach of warmer weather much increases the risk that importers of cattle labour under, and threatens them under adverse circumstances with an almost total loss of their property, as the flesh of animals subjected to such treatment as the existing regulations necessarily occasion, will frequently be unfit for food within 24 hours after slaughter.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray your Lordships that the working of the regulations now in force in respect to imported cattle, may be fully investigated; that if necessary such other regulations as the case may require, may be adopted, having for their aim the establishment of the trade in foreign cattle upon equable and satisfactory foundations, and that to that end a deputation of the trade may be received to confer upon the existing grievances, and the measures calculated to remove them.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

(signed) *Charles Hicks.*

App. No. 1.

(No. 102.)

LETTER from Commissioners of Customs to Colonel *Harness*, R. E., C. B., forwarding Reports of Inspectors.

Custom House,
Sir, 23 April 1866.

HAVING laid before the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs your letter of the 9th instant, transmitting for their observations, by desire of the Lords of the Council, the accompanying memorial of the Foreign Cattle Trade Association, relative to the regulations affecting the importation of cattle suffering from foot and mouth diseases,

I am directed to transmit to you, for their Lordships' information, copies of the reports of the two veterinary surgeons employed by this department to inspect foreign cattle, to whom the memorial has been referred; and I am desired to state that the points involved being of a professional character the Board do not feel competent to offer any opinion thereon.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

Colonel Harness, R. E., C. B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sirs,

REFERRING to the accompanying Petition from the Cattle Importers, I have to report—

1. The regulations for the examination of foreign cattle have been greatly modified since 1864 in favour of the importers, as up to that time, from the period of my being first appointed, now more than 21 years, when any one animal forming part of a cargo was found affected with eczema, or foot and mouth disease, the whole of the animals were slaughtered, and consequently these regulations were much more satisfactory to the inspecting veterinary surgeons, as there was little or no risk of the disease being propagated; or the animals were kept in quarantine until recovered, at the option of the consignees, which never did occur as the animals were invariably slaughtered or died, whereas, under the present regulation, only the animals positively affected with eczema are stopped, those apparently healthy being at once delivered.

2. It is quite true that eczema does attack more or less all cattle travelling by railway and steamers, but that arises in a great measure from the poor animals being deprived of food, water, and rest during their journey, and the disease being in the initiative state previous to their starting is sure to show itself; but it is egregiously wrong to state that, allowing such diseased animals to pass through the streets and into sheds, will not have any influence upon the spread of the disease, as some of the animals arriving are so much affected that the hoofs are dropping off, and their tongues foul; when the slightest friction is applied on the inspection of them, and in fact are past recovery.

3. Seeing that the detention of cattle at the wharves takes place after a voyage by sea of the animals, of from 16 to 48 hours, a period of time quite insufficient to produce the disease in the malignant form in which it is frequently seen, it appears to me a question entirely for the importers, whether it would not be for their interests to have the animals properly examined previous to their being shipped, which is now represented to be the case; but from the state in which the animals arrive, it must be very superficial, and of no use, when those found suffering might be detained at the port of embarkation until cured, so that they would be sure to arrive here in a more healthy condition, and so save the consignees the loss of which they now complain.

4. Seeing there is ample space at Brown's and the Brunswick Wharves, Blackwall, for the detention, with free liberty of space, for all the cattle that have been detained at any one period up to the present time, the question of food, water, &c., must rest with the consignees, until power be given to the veterinary surgeon to order such food, water, &c., to be supplied, and it is not a point which can in any way bear upon the detention of diseased animals so far as the public interests are concerned.

5. The detention of a large number of animals affected with so catching a disease, must surely, in a great degree, act as a preventive to the spread of the disease, as after such diseased animals have been driven through the streets, should any sound and healthy ones follow, some of the latter would be sure to take it. Although the memorialists state that a mode of procedure might be adopted at the place of debarcation with apthous cattle, but do not give any particulars of such mode, and therefore it is quite impossible to give any opinion on it.

6. This is also a question for the consignees of the cattle, seeing they are not compelled to kill any animals detained, within a given period, and therefore can wait until the animals are recovered before selling them, or until the dead meat-market shall be favourable to their being slaughtered.

The fact is that in warm weather, when there is plenty of grass and cool food for the animals, the cases of eczema are much fewer, although the importation of animals is much larger in number.

Seeing that the existing regulations are not more stringent than the interests of the public demand, more especially under the present serious malady of rinderpest prevailing among cattle, and that to relax them would tend to increase the number and virulence of the diseases with which foreign cattle might be affected, and that eczema is one of the most contagious and infectious of those diseases, I would most earnestly advise that on no account should these regulations be in any way relaxed or departed from, as the remedies for the almost total prevention of eczema in animals arriving by sea from foreign ports rest entirely with the importers themselves and their agents at the ports of shipment, and can be easily adopted with very little cost.

(signed) *W. Simmonds.*

London, 18 April 1866.

252, Old Kent-road,
Honourable Sirs, 19 April 1866.

In reference to Mr. Hicks' memorial to the Lords of the Privy Council, complaining of the practice adopted at the wharves with diseased cattle, I beg to state that it is extremely probable that these regulations may interfere with the trade to some extent, but that it is unavoidable at times when large numbers of diseased cattle arrive at the same time and place with healthy ones.

With regard to the foot and mouth disease, I am well aware that there is much difference of opinion as to the propriety of detaining cattle affected with it, or not, and I regret to state that this difference of opinion exists between my colleague, Mr. Simmonds, and myself, and is the reason for this most unusual circumstance of our reporting separately upon the paper referred to us.

I by no means attach the importance to the disease that Mr. Simmonds does; it rarely being a fatal one, admits in most cases of being easily cured, and never of itself impairs the fitness of the flesh of the animal affected by it for human food.

It is a disease which at certain periods of the year prevails to as great an extent among the cattle of this country, as among those abroad, the same causes (generally considered to be atmospheric ones) doubtlessly being in operation for its production; and my experience has taught me that at times when it is prevalent, that it is almost impossible to move cattle in the spring which have been stall-fed during the winter, without their becoming more or less affected by it, the exertion required of them being probably the exciting cause.

I have attended the Metropolitan Market for the purpose of satisfying myself on this point; and upon two visits to the Christmas cattle show at Islington, I observed that several of the animals sent there for the purpose of exhibition and competition for valuable prizes, were affected with it.

These are a few of the reasons I have for thus unfortunately differing with my colleague, and I could enlarge upon them considerably, if needful; but this difference of opinion has in no way caused any difference in the course pursued by us with regard to the disease, as we perfectly agree as to its contagious character, and also as to the object of one appointment which is to prevent the introduction into this country of foreign cattle affected with any contagious disease, and it would therefore be impossible for us (consistently with our integrity) to give the certificates required by your Honors, that all cattle passed by us are free from contagious or infectious disease, in cases where the foot and mouth complaint exists.

It is simply, therefore, a question whether this disease might not, without any danger to the cattle of this country, be exempted from the regulations affecting imported cattle; and I am aware of many difficulties connected with it, such as constituting a bad precedent, &c.; but it is one which I have, under all the circumstances, felt it my duty to submit to your Honors.

I have done so after the most careful consideration and study of the subject, and I must confess with much reluctance, as I believe it to be the only professional subject upon which my friend, Mr. Simmonds, and myself differ, and after many endeavours to reconcile our ideas on this matter.

If the extinction of the disease could be in any way brought about by stopping foreign cattle affected with it, I would by all means stop them, but I do not believe that it is diminished in the least by doing so, as the cattle imported are almost all for immediate slaughter, and have but little, if any, opportunity of spreading the disease. With regard to milch cows and store cattle, an exception might probably be made; but it is a question in my mind whether any good would arise even from this, as at times I believe there is scarcely a farm or dairy in the country in which the complaint does not exist.

It is true that many of the cases we meet with in foreign cattle are much worse than we find at home, but I believe this to be explained by the fact of their having been confined in a standing position in railway trucks and on board ship for several days, subjected to privations of food and water, exposure to weather and other hardships, reasons I think certainly sufficient to aggravate diseases, and probably enough of themselves to produce them.

I would wish it to be distinctly understood that my observations apply to the foot and mouth disease alone, there being other diseases which it would be unwise in the extreme to treat otherwise than with the greatest stringency; and even if it be thought right that this malady, "Eczema," be continued under existing regulations, I would urge the propriety of going back to the custom of stopping the whole cargo rather than passing those not actually affected at the time of examination, as this would at least have the effect of causing unanimity of proceeding, if not of opinion, among inspectors, and of insuring the stoppage of all cattle affected with it, which the present system does not, as I have frequently seen cattle the day after their arrival, which at the time of their being inspected presented no outward signs of the disease, equally as bad as those of their fellows which had been stopped, thus showing the absurdity of the practice as a means of stopping the introduction of contagious disease from abroad. But I must repeat my opinion, that no practical good whatever arises from detaining animals for this disease, while it tends to place unnecessary obstacles in the way of the trade.

With regard to the loss said to have been recently sustained by the owners of cattle detained at the wharves, I believe it to have been caused more by the glut of dead meat in the market than by the detention. As to the remaining portions of Mr. Hicks' memorial, relating to the animals suffering from want of food, exposure, &c., I conceive the remedy for these evils to be in the hands of the wharfingers and others concerned, by providing more ample accommodation, either at the present landing places, or procuring additional or fresh ones, as the inconveniences complained of would apply to rinderpest or any other disease for which it might be necessary to detain cattle, as well as the disease in question; and it would be no justification for us neglecting our duty by passing diseased cattle, because of the inconvenience occasioned by the detention of them.

Indeed, it would be monstrous that a question of such importance should be made secondary to the interests of any trade whatever. Better be it that the importation of live foreign cattle be even entirely prohibited, if no better method could be

App. No. 1.

devised, rather than our own cattle, second to none in the world, be devastated as they have recently been, as I have no doubt that the deficiency of food which would be caused by such prohibition would now be supplied by the importation of dead meat.

Therefore, while concurring with Mr. Hicks, with the views expressed by him as regards the foot and mouth complaint, I can but think that in the other paragraphs of his memorial he has lost sight of every interest save that of himself and fellow foreign cattle salesmen. It may be thought by your Honors that the opinion I have now expressed differs from that which I have frequently before expressed in conjunction with my colleagues; and as far as regards the disease "Eczema," I frankly admit it does; but I trust I may be credited when I state that the change of opinion has been brought about by the numerous opportunities I have had of testing the operation of the regulations which I have been engaged in carrying out during the time I have had the honour of being employed by your Honors (between eight and nine years), and of thereby acquiring experience which has wrought upon me the conviction that while even more stringent measures, such as quarantine, &c., are necessary for some diseases, no good is effected by the present regulations being applied to the foot and mouth disease.

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. G. Holmans.*

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPER handed in by Mr. *Robinson*, 28 May 1866.

ACCOUNT of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, and Landed at different Places.

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
1 Jan.	346	5	–	–	128	British and Foreign Wharf.
4 „	29	–	61	–	54	British and Foreign Wharf.
„ „	141	10	50	–	160	Blackwall.
	36	4	30	4	45	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	75	10	80	1	175	Harwich.
	25	–	476	–	41	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	652	29	697	5	603	
8 Jan.	554	6	294	–	30	British and Foreign Wharf.
	460	10	180	–	210	Blackwall.
	210	8	75	–	180	Harwich.
	30	–	502	–	40	London Bridge.
	125	15	40	–	210	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	45	3	15	–	110	Thames Haven.
	1,424	42	1,106	–	830	
11 Jan.	63	–	182	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	420	15	260	–	210	Blackwall.
	84	10	180	–	150	Harwich.
	40	2	340	–	62	London Bridge.
	110	25	210	–	302	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	717	52	1,172	–	724	
15 Jan.	603	–	243	–	489	British and Foreign Wharf.
	715	15	180	–	602	Blackwall.
	130	10	60	–	150	Harwich.
	25	–	602	–	58	London Bridge.
	300	–	120	–	250	Thames Haven.
	353	243	240	–	1,410	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	2,126	268	1,445	–	2,959	
18 Jan.	657	7	147	–	637	British and Foreign Wharf.
	480	8	247	–	1,400	Blackwall.
	218	70	174	–	2,457	Harwich.
	47	–	575	–	64	London Bridge.
	280	–	350	–	1,100	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	120	–	12	–	479	Thames Haven.
	1,832	85	1,505	–	6,137	
22 Jan.	688	–	325	–	653	British and Foreign Wharf.
	550	–	226	–	840	Blackwall.
	180	–	–	–	557	Harwich.
	15	–	710	–	45	London Bridge.
	520	25	180	–	710	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	22	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	1,975	25	1,111	–	2,805	
25 Jan.	26	–	138	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	210	–	40	–	750	Blackwall.
	257	–	–	–	927	Harwich.
	35	–	615	–	25	London Bridge.
	72	10	200	–	815	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	600	10	993	–	2,517	
29 Jan.	418	–	–	–	476	British and Foreign Wharf.
	210	–	315	–	1,680	Blackwall.
	180	–	107	–	557	Harwich.
	15	–	710	–	35	London Bridge.
	320	10	–	–	915	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	1,143	10	1,132	–	3,663	
1 Feb.	8	3	152	–	267	British and Foreign Wharf.
	810	25	340	–	1,780	Blackwall.
	78	–	–	–	462	Harwich.
	15	–	75	–	90	London Bridge.
	72	10	80	–	1,200	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	86	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	1,069	38	647	–	3,799	
5 Feb.	460	1	312	–	259	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,194	206	219	–	570	Blackwall.
	302	–	27	–	841	Harwich.
	27	–	380	–	50	London Bridge.
	210	16	150	–	910	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	100	–	–	–	210	Thames Haven.
	2,293	223	1,088	–	2,873	
8 Feb.	32	12	–	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	410	10	180	–	633	Blackwall.
	153	4	–	–	12	Harwich.
	10	–	350	–	25	London Bridge.
	50	10	210	–	606	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	72	–	110	–	205	Thames Haven.
	727	36	850	–	1,481	
12 Feb.	377	–	394	–	606	British and Foreign Wharf.
	610	–	415	–	1,210	Blackwall.
	110	–	120	–	680	Harwich.
	21	1	610	–	30	London Bridge.
	210	15	180	–	910	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	100	–	15	–	130	Thames Haven.
	1,428	16	1,734	–	3,566	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
15 Feb. -	199	–	17	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	507	14	150	–	1,310	Blackwall.
	80	–	25	–	950	Harwich.
	27	4	715	–	55	London Bridge.
	180	10	6	–	410	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	108	–	7	–	960	Thames Haven.
	1,101	28	920	–	3,685	
19 Feb. -	466	8	302	–	720	British and Foreign Wharf.
	510	7	150	–	950	Blackwall.
	170	10	200	–	1,100	Harwich.
	32	1	51	–	640	London Bridge.
	215	15	210	–	940	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	115	–	–	–	340	Thames Haven.
	1,508	41	913	–	4,690	
22 Feb. -	55	3	15	–	20	British and Foreign Wharf.
	210	6	42	–	1,100	Blackwall.
	110	3	15	–	750	Harwich.
	17	1	335	–	32	London Bridge.
	77	15	110	–	780	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	469	28	517	–	2,682	
26 Feb. -	438	1	170	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	715	15	240	–	1,010	Blackwall.
	215	7	180	–	1,112	Harwich.
	15	4	310	–	210	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	145	15	–	–	710	Thames Haven.
	1,528	42	900	–	3,042	
1 Mar.	54	–	68	–	14	British and Foreign Wharf.
	290	–	51	–	136	Blackwall.
	175	26	–	–	237	Harwich.
	7	–	340	–	190	London Bridge.
	140	15	210	–	790	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	49	–	–	–	88	Thames Haven.
	715	41	669	–	1,455	
5 Mar.	563	–	491	–	304	British and Foreign Wharf.
	610	15	310	–	710	Blackwall.
	110	15	80	–	56	Harwich.
	15	2	315	–	210	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	115	–	90	–	175	Thames Haven.
	1,413	32	1,286	–	1,455	
8 Mar.	74	7	–	–	20	British and Foreign Wharf.
	125	10	75	–	220	Blackwall.
	60	118	–	–	1,010	Harwich.
	22	1	375	–	190	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	281	136	450	–	1,440	
1865:						
12 Mar.	577	4	357	–	426	British and Foreign Wharf.
	473	5	43	–	4,053	Blackwall.
	–	120	–	–	600	Harwich.
	15	–	405	–	210	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	84	15	75	–	306	Thames Haven.
	1,149	144	880	–	5,595	
15 Mar.	29	15	168	–	164	British and Foreign Wharf.
	515	4	75	–	3,110	Blackwall.
	58	–	–	–	600	Harwich.
	–	–	315	–	490	London Bridge.
	210	15	85	–	1,110	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	110	8	58	–	120	Thames Haven.
	922	42	701	–	5,594	
19 Mar.	667	–	294	–	813	British and Foreign Wharf.
	710	25	95	–	1,250	Blackwall.
	210	30	75	–	1,410	Harwich.
	10	1	280	–	375	London Bridge.
	215	15	120	4	1,300	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	74	5	10	–	40	Thames Haven.
	1,886	76	874	4	5,188	
22 Mar.	37	21	–	–	77	British and Foreign Wharf.
	110	15	6	–	210	Blackwall.
	164	29	120	–	313	Harwich.
	11	2	210	–	318	London Bridge.
	215	8	75	–	1,205	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	64	15	120	–	210	Thames Haven.
	601	90	531	–	2,333	
26 Mar.	479	–	393	–	982	British and Foreign Wharf.
	150	–	50	–	175	Blackwall.
	79	–	–	–	1,400	Harwich.
	9	–	350	–	320	London Bridge.
	180	7	15	–	910	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	110	15	72	–	410	Thames Haven.
	1,007	22	880	–	4,197	
29 Mar.	6	–	257	–	556	British and Foreign Wharf.
	120	15	72	–	1,300	Blackwall.
	128	–	–	–	1,395	Harwich.
	7	–	275	–	180	London Bridge.
	24	10	72	–	940	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	62	15	25	–	215	Thames Haven.
	347	40	701	–	4,586	
2 April	464	–	413	7	431	British and Foreign Wharf.
	810	–	215	–	1,140	Blackwall.
	156	–	48	–	416	Harwich.
	22	1	310	–	372	London Bridge.
	150	–	80	–	420	Thames Haven.
	275	22	180	–	910	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	1,877	23	1,246	7	3,689	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
4 April	72	4	47	–	167	British and Foreign Wharf.
	454	–	100	–	447	Blackwall.
	140	–	25	–	1,600	Harwich.
	7	2	290	–	110	London Bridge.
	110	7	75	–	975	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	82	15	125	–	250	Thames Haven.
	865	28	662	–	3,549	
9 April	416	40	215	–	341	British and Foreign Wharf.
	520	15	110	–	1,140	Blackwall.
	272	18	180	–	1,410	Harwich.
	8	–	310	–	402	London Bridge.
	275	22	90	–	475	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	172	15	–	–	410	Thames Haven.
	1,663	110	805	–	4,178	
12 April	412	–	48	–	29	British and Foreign Wharf.
	720	18	68	–	1,110	Blackwall.
	111	–	–	–	1,530	Harwich.
	10	–	310	–	115	London Bridge.
	120	15	62	–	1,402	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	95	–	–	–	415	Thames Haven.
	1,468	33	488	–	4,601	
16 April	407	–	49	–	29	British and Foreign Wharf.
	375	–	110	–	1,140	Blackwall.
	128	–	62	–	597	Harwich.
	7	–	215	–	185	London Bridge.
	593	–	74	–	1,585	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	29	–	–	–	215	Thames Haven.
	1,539	–	510	–	3,751	
19 April	23	19	8	–	284	British and Foreign Wharf.
	110	7	25	–	1,510	Blackwall.
	125	–	48	–	447	Harwich.
	5	–	280	–	115	London Bridge.
	115	22	48	–	1,410	Thames Haven.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	378	48	409	–	3,766	
23 April	727	46	244	–	193	British and Foreigh Wharf.
	733	7	68	–	975	Blackwall.
	268	14	175	–	1,110	Harwich.
	4	–	190	–	210	London Bridge.
	210	22	140	–		St. Katherine's Wharf.
	250	–	60	–	310	Thames Haven.
	2,192	89	877	–	2,798	
26 April	16	107	61	–	124	British and Foreign Wharf.
	440	–	–	–	1,110	Blackwall.
	29	–	–	–	–	Harwich.
	15	–	175	–	220	London Bridge.
	190	16	50	–	920	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	80	22	72	–	315	Thames Haven.
	770	145	358	–	2,689	

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
30 April	523	66	268	–	570	British and Foreign Wharf.
	610	72	190	–	1,150	Blackwall.
	268	15	95	–	1,412	Harwich.
	15	1	290	–	275	London Bridge.
	175	30	210	–	75	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	150	22	71	–	110	Thames Haven.
	1,741	206	1,114	–	3,592	
3 May	276	85	69	–	37	British and Foreign Wharf.
	415	72	110	–	920	Blackwall.
	84	11	72	–	420	Harwich.
	–	1	290	–	310	London Bridge.
	415	27	110	5	890	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	84	15	25	–	172	Thames Haven.
	1,274	211	676	5	2,749	
7 May	408	62	181	–	455	British and Foreign Wharf.
	515	15	90	–	720	Blackwall.
	224	42	70	–	1,240	Harwich.
	8	1	310	–	280	London Bridge.
	175	11	82	–	720	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	240	–	72	–	315	Thames Haven.
	1,570	131	805	–	3,730	
10 May	247	87	11	–	81	British and Foreign Wharf.
	315	82	25	–	980	Blackwall.
	169	110	42	–	385	Harwich.
	7	–	310	–	412	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	72	20	84	–	115	Thames Haven.
	810	299	472	–	1,973	
14 May	331	129	132	–	494	British and Foreign Wharf.
	290	71	40	–	1,140	Blackwall.
	338	300	172	–	1,600	Harwich.
	–	2	270	–	310	London Bridge.
	34	–	–	–	200	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	993	502	514	–	3,744	
17 May	539	25	–	–	127	British and Foreign Wharf.
	490	62	80	–	1,400	Blackwall.
	320	–	–	–	950	Harwich.
	–	–	110	–	320	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	105	20	70	–	150	Thames Haven.
	1,454	107	260	–	2,947	
21 May	324	–	118	–	2,356	British and Foreign Wharf.
	490	15	72	–	1,710	Blackwall.
	295	40	120	–	2,100	Harwich.
	–	–	130	–	210	London Bridge.
	310	72	115	–	1,400	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	112	20	68	–	606	Thames Haven.
	1,531	147	623	–	8,382	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	alve	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
24 May	43	84	76	–	645	British and Foreign Wharf.
	175	18	20	–	1,175	Blackwall.
	72	5	10	–	250	Harwich.
	–	1	120	–	410	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	92	25	81	–	315	Thames Haven.
	382	133	307	–	2,795	
28 May	676	–	–	–	2,271	British and Foreign Wharf
	715	–	10	–	1,820	Blackwall.
	430	15	50	–	1,980	Harwich.
	–	–	150	–	210	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	–	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	315	22	72	–	175	Thames Haven.
	2,136	37	282	–	6,456	
4 June	389	12	111	–	1,845	British and Foreign Wharf.
	480	10	30	–	1,710	Blackwall.
	280	74	20	–	1,750	Harwich.
	95	32	8	–	420	Thames Haven.
	–	–	210	–	315	London Bridge.
	215	14	20	–	1,411	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	1,459	142	399	–	7,451	
7 June	13	111	41	–	273	British and Foreign Wharf.
	–	–	230	–	275	London Bridge.
	184	7	50	–	1,710	Blackwall.
	220	16	10	–	1,350	Harwich.
	91	15	6	–	1,400	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	120	16	20	–	215	Thames Haven.
	628	165	357	–	5,223	
11 June	421	45	140	–	2,246	British and Foreign Wharf.
	250	18	40	–	1,910	Blackwall.
	240	20	70	–	1,500	Harwich.
	–	–	180	–	210	London Bridge.
	115	10	20	–	1,950	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	72	–	14	–	150	Thames Haven.
	1,101	93	464	–	7,966	
14 June	64	88	114	–	388	British and Foreign Wharf.
	450	18	20	–	1,618	Blackwall.
	280	20	60	–	900	Harwich.
	–	–	190	–	210	London Bridge.
	411	15	279	6	2,795	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	210	–	–	–	1,150	Thames Haven.
	1,415	141	663	6	7,061	
18 June	626	66	271	–	1,521	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,510	35	72	–	4,100	Blackwall.
	–	–	150	–	310	London Bridge.
	172	50	42	–	1,610	Harwich.
	110	10	20	10	1,915	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	226	15	24	–	626	Thames Haven.
	2,644	176	579	10	10,082	

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
21 June	40	138	187	–	325	British and Foreign Wharf.
	575	16	110	–	1,950	Blackwall.
	–	–	180	–	310	London Bridge.
	190	40	120	–	1,710	Harwich.
	112	90	60	5	1,400	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	310	20	90	–	1,800	Thames Haven.
	1,227	304	747	5	7,495	
25 June	466	111	476	–	2,499	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,710	30	220	–	2,100	Blackwall.
	–	–	210	–	190	London Bridge.
	40	–	–	–	1,702	Harwich.
	180	10	45	–	1,810	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	169	120	104	–	1,679	Thames Haven.
	2,565	271	1,055	–	9,980	
29 June	32	136	258	–	387	British and Foreign Wharf.
	625	10	180	–	1,915	Blackwall.
	3	11	175	–	240	London Bridge.
	142	72	102	–	1,950	Harwich.
	102	15	72	5	2,200	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	290	10	60	–	910	Thames Haven.
	1,194	254	847	5	7,602	
2 July	454	11	222	–	1,929	British and Foreign Wharf.
	409	–	190	–	2,100	Blackwall.
	2	10	135	–	190	London Bridge.
	168	–	–	–	451	Harwich.
	260	–	200	–	900	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	100	–	–	–	836	Thames Haven.
	1,393	21	747	–	6,406	
5 July	33	91	328	–	268	British and Foreign Wharf.
	600	10	160	–	1,910	Blackwall.
	–	12	202	–	175	London Bridge.
	104	317	92	–	1,378	Harwich.
	192	6	–	–	215	Thames Haven.
	210	4	20	–	1,115	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	1,139	440	742	–	5,061	
9 July	276	102	305	–	1,713	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,150	24	10	–	1,570	Blackwall.
	5	31	50	–	45	London Bridge.
	124	147	10	–	215	Harwich.
	225	–	71	–	196	Thames Haven.
	240	374	50	–	3,110	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	2,020	678	496	–	6,849	
12 July	72	69	380	–	438	British and Foreign Wharf.
	810	19	18	–	1,980	Blackwall.
	4	15	41	–	45	London Bridge.
	110	250	113	–	1,042	Harwich.
	220	321	70	–	2,238	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	150	224	–	–	264	Thames Haven.
	1,366	898	622	–	6,007	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
16 July	151	45	434	–	1,781	British and Foreign Wharf.
	900	95	20	–	2,100	Blackwall.
	–	12	50	–	42	London Bridge.
	122	255	116	–	1,039	Harwich.
	150	300	200	–	1,600	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	156	–	55	–	263	Thames Haven.
	1,479	707	875	–	6,825	
19 July	138	134	551	–	1,468	British and Foreign Wharf.
	200	42	8	–	2,310	Blackwall.
	3	18	210	–	120	London Bridge.
	259	50	110	–	473	Harwich.
	200	101	155	–	1,400	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	51	–	–	–	10	Thames Haven.
	851	345	1,034	–	5,781	
22 July	305	10	611	1	2,571	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,201	20	154	–	2,800	Blackwall.
	4	10	150	–	210	London Bridge.
	94	–	–	–	627	Harwich.
	150	184	224	–	1,208	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	125	–	–	–	130	Thames Haven.
	1,879	224	1,139	1	7,546	
26 July	35	181	619	–	582	British and Foreign Wharf.
	500	110	150	–	1,110	Blackwall.
	5	4	65	–	41	London Bridge.
	119	20	25	–	331	Harwich.
	180	109	320	5	1,410	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	51	–	–	–	181	Thames Haven.
	890	421	1,179	5	3,655	
30 July	364	84	694	–	4,183	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,161	–	54	–	2,900	Blackwall.
	5	10	72	–	45	London Bridge.
	150	311	24	–	410	Harwich.
	160	263	7	–	1,116	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	72	110	15	–	945	Thames Haven.
	1,912	778	866	–	9,599	
Aug.	19	48	477	–	480	British and Foreign Wharf.
	614	120	210	–	1,316	Blackwall.
	3	9	71	–	32	London Bridge.
	139	–	–	–	170	Harwich.
	107	110	1	–	440	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	67	151	–	–	1,262	Thames Haven.
	949	438	759	–	3,720	
6 Aug.	352	58	555	1	4,135	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,163	10	270	–	2,568	Blackwall.
	2	7	60	–	40	London Bridge.
	152	352	20	–	868	Harwich.
	90	150	14	–	610	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	129	89	420	–	739	Thames Haven.
	1,888	666	1,339	1	8,960	

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
9 Aug.	35	121	370	–	153	British and Foreign Wharf.
	3	5	70	–	44	London Bridge.
	218	220	190	–	1,416	Blackwall.
	185	58	–	–	391	Harwich.
	96	326	50	–	1,594	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	493	–	8	–	460	Thames Haven.
	1,030	730	688	–	4,058	
13 Aug.	213	33	519	–	3,804	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,279	22	180	–	2,460	Blackwall.
	1	6	190	–	30	London Bridge.
	172	402	15	–	740	Harwich.
	115	210	17	–	920	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	194	–	–	–	320	Thames Haven.
	1,974	673	921	–	8,274	
16 Aug.	2	127	444	–	130	British and Foreign Wharf.
	710	180	170	–	1,210	Blackwall.
	2	5	60	–	41	London Bridge.
	240	35	–	–	515	Harwich.
	177	176	40	–	1,194	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	134	99	–	–	249	Thames Haven.
	1,265	622	714	–	3,339	
20 Aug.	45	40	522	–	4,191	British and Foreign Wharf.
	610	–	420	–	2,110	Blackwall.
	6	2	180	–	110	London Bridge.
	110	150	99	–	650	Harwich.
	25	320	275	–	1,875	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	250	–	–	–	178	Thames Haven.
	1,246	512	1,496	–	9,114	
23 Aug.	26	84	505	–	267	British and Foreign Wharf.
	918	–	303	–	4,182	Blackwall.
	4	1	210	–	110	London Bridge.
	247	131	180	–	1,242	Harwich.
	163	370	372	–	1,904	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	14	–	–	–	302	Thames Haven.
	1,372	586	1,570	–	8,007	
27 Aug.	30	10	40	–	304	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,411	15	375	–	4,210	Blackwall.
	4	1	70	–	140	London Bridge.
	27	262	134	–	310	Harwich.
	110	215	560	–	1,900	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	165	108	–	–	345	Thames Haven.
	1,747	611	1,179	–	7,209	
30 Aug.	44	–	36	–	2,110	British and Foreign Wharf.
	941	–	163	–	3,224	Blackwall.
	4	–	76	–	130	London Bridge.
	22	–	6	–	210	Harwich.
	66	99	221	–	989	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	128	100	27	–	270	Thames Haven.
	1,205	199	529	–	6,933	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
3 Sept.	378	22	391	–	5,485	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,290	–	692	–	4,321	Blackwall.
	10	4	210	–	115	London Bridge.
	240	161	163	–	1,250	Harwich.
	33	283	269	–	1,147	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	280	–	–	–	150	Thames Haven.
	2,231	470	1,725	–	12,468	
6 Sept.	4	113	309	10	270	British and Foreign Wharf.
	348	–	243	–	2,170	Blackwall.
	–	–	150	–	205	London Bridge.
	115	120	110	–	795	Harwich.
	20	150	210	–	816	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	270	–	–	–	650	Thames Haven.
	757	383	1,022	10	4,906	
10 Sept.	436	14	205	–	3,491	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,402	20	460	–	4,103	Blackwall.
	4	6	210	–	95	London Bridge.
	72	183	310	–	1,310	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	260	175	76	–	1,160	Harwich.
	190	118	–	–	270	Thames Haven.
	2,364	516	1,261	–	12,442	
13 Sept.	167	27	204	–	202	British and Foreign Wharf.
	78	–	237	–	1,950	Blackwall.
	25	–	110	–	90	London Bridge.
	130	110	215	–	825	Harwich.
	44	170	326	–	3,210	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	367	–	–	–	621	Thames Haven.
	811	307	1,092	–	6,898	
17 Sept.	382	18	185	–	4,161	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,417	–	540	–	3,366	Blackwall.
	5	1	210	–	180	London Bridge.
	275	68	90	–	1,718	Harwich.
	124	158	449	–	1,946	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	246	–	–	–	186	Thames Haven.
	2,449	245	1,474	–	11,567	
20 Sept.	11	54	42	–	233	British and Foreign Wharf.
	235	–	714	–	2,759	Blackwall.
	10	–	242	–	380	London Bridge.
	170	75	127	–	1,337	Harwich.
	22	190	475	–	2,650	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	210	20	–	–	215	Thames Haven.
	658	339	1,600	–	5,574	
24 Sept.	381	99	211	–	5,395	British and Foreign Wharf.
	–	–	197	–	68	London Bridge.
	2,073	–	50	–	2,956	Blackwall.
	102	170	–	–	3,721	Harwich.
	102	344	740	–	3,433	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	443	26	–	–	430	Thames Haven.
	3,101	639	1,198	–	16,003	

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
27 Sept.	81	95	134	–	340	British and Foreign Wharf.
	410	–	270	–	1,810	Blackwall.
	10	2	190	–	215	London Bridge.
	150	60	110	–	1,437	Harwich.
	110	210	350	–	2,410	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	170	6	–	–	190	Thames Haven.
	931	373	2,254	–	6,402	
1 Oct.	385	70	224	–	3,213	British and Foreign Wharf.
	2,110	–	20	–	2,870	Blackwall.
	–	–	80	–	240	London Bridge.
	210	75	–	–	3,610	Harwich.
	140	250	308	10	2,910	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	390	16	–	–	610	Thames Haven.
	3,235	411	632	10	13,453	
4 Oct.	150	50	125	–	42	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,960	–	60	–	2,510	Blackwall.
	10	2	170	–	210	London Bridge.
	140	20	90	–	1,610	Harwich.
	72	190	410	–	2,315	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	110	–	–	–	240	Thames Haven
	642	262	855	–	6,927	
8 Oct.	308	–	103	–	2,530	British and Foreign Wharf.
	2,262	–	804	–	3,390	Blackwall.
	–	–	110	–	200	London Bridge.
	54	–	–	–	2,800	Harwich.
	104	112	140	–	2,440	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	337	–	–	–	190	Thames Haven.
	3,965	112	1,157	–	11,550	
11 Oct.	71	5	137	–	1,498	British and Foreign Wharf.
	262	–	710	–	3,398	Blackwall.
	–	–	40	–	110	London Bridge.
	71	25	200	–	1,600	Harwich.
	110	90	105	–	2,340	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	40	156	30	–	210	Thames Haven.
	554	276	1,222	–	9,156	
15 Oct.	402	7	86	–	3,757	British and Foreign Wharf.
	2,568	–	–	–	2,265	Blackwall.
	4	3	90	–	180	London Bridge.
	85	25	–	–	4,578	Harwich.
	214	104	250	–	3,100	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	804	32	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	4,077	171	426	–	14,500	
18 Oct.	–	–	–	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	201	–	296	–	1,295	Blackwall.
	15	–	170	–	415	London Bridge.
	80	73	10	–	965	Harwich,
	110	205	90	–	1,915	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	91	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	497	278	566	–	4,590	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865:						
22 Oct.-	560	76	108	–	4,500	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,694	–	–	–	3,263	Blackwall.
	–	–	210	–	170	London Bridge.
	130	89	70	–	300	Harwich.
	180	90	170	–	1,800	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	240	10	–	–	475	Thames Haven.
	2,804	265	558	–	10,508	
25 Oct.-	150	–	4	–	623	British and Foreign Wharf.
	696	–	–	–	1,560	Blackwall.
	15	8	80	–	190	London Bridge.
	–	51	5	–	348	Harwich.
	210	75	60	–	1,760	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	75	18	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	1,146	152	149	–	4,481	
29 Oct.-	560	49	70	–	4,642	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,410	–	–	–	2,710	Blackwall.
	–	–	70	–	35	London Bridge.
	210	70	180	–	1,710	Harwich.
	210	40	70	–	1,570	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	910	–	–	–	451	Thames Haven.
	3,300	159	390	–	11,118	
1 Nov.	222	261	161	–	215	British and Foreign Wharf.
	2,181	–	–	–	4,492	Blackwall.
	30	15	120	–	210	London Bridge.
	20	–	24	–	2,426	Harwich.
	30	–	–	–	1,712	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	135	14	–	–	100	Thames Haven.
	2,618	290	305	–	9,055	
5 Nov.	–	–	–	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	–	–	458	–	1,610	Blackwall.
	10	5	120	–	76	London Bridge.
	64	28	84	–	249	Harwich.
	72	15	90	–	911	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	42	18	–	–	120	Thames Haven.
	188	66	752	–	2,966	
8 Nov.	288	17	–	–	325	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,810	–	70	–	3,410	Blackwall.
	–	10	50	–	140	London Bridge.
	56	25	43	–	2,860	Harwich.
	113	31	25	–	818	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	75	15	–	–	120	Thames Haven.
	2,342	98	188	–	7,673	
12 Nov.	536	80	17	–	2,796	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,975	–	–	–	3,810	Blackwall.
	10	–	140	–	215	London Bridge.
	67	100	86	–	3,514	Harwich.
	158	48	40	–	1,220	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	94	–	–	–	238	Thames Haven.
	2,840	228	283	–	11,793	
15 Nov.	39	10	159	–	168	British and Foreign Wharf
	509	–	–	–	230	Blackwall.
	18	20	360	–	474	London Bridge.
	49	66	30	–	2,978	Harwich.
	92	48	40	–	222	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	81	–	–	–	198	Thames Haven.
	788	144	589	–	4,270	
19 Nov.	859	38	32	–	4,707	British and Foreign Wharf.
	1,898	22	30	–	3,144	Blackwall.
	87	106	54	–	3,710	Harwich.
	297	22	30	–	63	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	151	19	–	–	117	Thames Haven.
	–	–	–	–	–	London Bridge.
	3,292	207	146	–	11,741	
22 Nov.	86	–	80	–	162	British and Foreign Wharf.
	119	20	40	–	240	Blackwall.
	42	51	16	–	2,800	Harwich.
	317	367	100	–	160	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	226	–	–	–	376	Thames Haven.
	–	–	125	–	–	London Bridge.
	790	438	361	–	3,738	
26 Nov.	431	–	39	–	3,993	British and Foreign Wharf.
	12	–	–	–	2,400	Blackwall.
	24	–	–	–	–	London Bridge.
	138	59	4	–	731	Harwich.
	298	–	196	–	769	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	–	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	903	59	239	–	7,893	
29 Nov.	188	–	186	–	728	British and Foreign Wharf.
	110	30	98	–	2,173	Blackwall.
	–	–	74	–	–	London Bridge.
	–	–	–	–	1,510	Harwich.
	182	268	–	–	380	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	363	–	–	–	361	Thames Haven.
	843	298	358	–	5,152	
3 Dec.-	503	7	145	–	3,719	British and Foreign Wharf.
	290	–	196	–	2,480	Blackwall.
	–	–	116	–	–	London Bridge.
	62	80	140	–	2,642	Harwich.
	184	–	48	–	667	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	48	–	–	–	410	Thames Haven.
	1,087	87	645	–	9,918	
6 Dec.-	116	2	–	–	218	British and Foreign Wharf.
	80	–	–	–	2,312	Blackwall.
	56	–	–	–	88	London Bridge.
	118	–	–	–	3,717	Harwich.
	120	15	25	–	1,360	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	165	22	28	–	65	Thames Haven.
	655	39	53	–	7,760	

Account of Foreign Cattle brought in during the Year 1865, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Horses.	Sheep.	Places of Landing.
1865 :						
10 Dec.	418	–	–	–	708	British and Foreign Wharf.
	70	76	150	–	3,637	Blackwall.
	–	–	36	–	160	London Bridge.
	202	91	48	–	1,821	Harwich.
	184	–	50	–	1,940	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	116	–	–	–	897	Thames Haven.
	990	167	284	–	9,163	
13 Dec.	150	1	–	–	623	British and Foreign Wharf.
	68	–	90	–	2,200	Blackwall.
	–	–	76	–	160	London Bridge.
	119	–	–	–	3,717	Harwich.
	122	–	–	–	2,297	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	100	72	28	–	162	Thames Haven.
	559	73	194	–	9,159	
17 Dec.	469	3	210	–	2,539	British and Foreign Wharf.
	135	–	–	–	1,075	Blackwall.
	27	–	199	–	182	London Bridge.
	95	139	80	–	318	Harwich.
	135	317	59	–	1,877	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	182	–	–	–	120	Thames Haven.
	1,043	459	548	–	6,111	
1865 :						
20 Dec.	–	–	–	–	–	British and Foreign Wharf.
	84	–	–	–	1,015	Blackwall.
	8	–	–	–	228	London Bridge.
	54	118	97	–	1,125	Harwich.
	175	307	119	–	757	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	75	–	–	–	–	Thames Haven.
	396	425	216	–	3,125	
24 Dec.	61	2	22	–	12	British and Foreign Wharf.
	145	–	–	–	1,500	Blackwall.
	–	–	–	–	–	London Bridge.
	40	25	–	–	2,450	Harwich.
	–	–	101	–	66	St. Katherine's Wharf.
	37	40	–	–	160	Thames Haven.
	283	67	123	–	4,188	
27 Dec.	-	-	-	None.		

Appendix, No. 3.

APPENDIX to Dr. *Letheby's* Evidence, 31 May 1866.

EXTRACT from REPORT on the CATTLE PLAGUE in *England* in 1865, by Dr. *H. Letheby*, Medical Officer of Health for the City of *London*.

App. No. 3.

THE last point for consideration is, *whether the flesh of the diseased animal is unfit for human food.* In deciding this question we have first to look at the fact that the disease arises from a specific poison, and that this poison is largely reproduced in the bodies of infected animals, and that the chief manifestation of the disease is an acute fever. At first sight it would therefore seem that the flesh of animals in such a condition must be unwholesome, and that if it did not immediately prove injurious to health, it might do so after a continued use of it. As far back as the years 1514 and 1599, when the disease was in Italy, the Council of Venice forbad the use of beef and veal, on account of the danger from eating it; and last year, when the malady was at Coburg, some people died from the effects of the diseased flesh. It is said, too, that dogs have been made ill by it in Russia; and that pigs have refused to drink the milk from infected cows. But on the other hand, it is very positively declared by good authorities that the meat is not at any time injurious to health. Professor Brücke, of Vienna, has stated that two years ago, when the cattle plague was in Bohemia, the authorities, according to their practice, had the diseased animals slaughtered and buried; but as fast as they were thus disposed of, the populace dug them up and ate them, and no injury to health resulted from it. The writings of Parent du Châtelet, Michael Lévy, Tardieu, Chevallier, and others, abound with examples of the apparent innocuousness of such meat; and it is very probable that in the early stage of the disorder, before the more decided symptoms of fever have shown themselves, the flesh may not be unfit for human food; but I think it would be very dangerous to permit the unrestricted sale of such meat in all stages of the disease. In fact, notwithstanding all the experience and authority alluded to, it is still the practice on the Continent to forbid the use of such meat; and the most stringent measures are adopted to prevent the sale of it; indeed, the regulations which are in force for the sale of butchers' meat generally are far more severe and precise than with us. Here there are no special rules for the condemnation of bad meat, but merely a general provision that the medical officer of health, or the inspector of slaughter-houses, or the inspector of nuisances may at all reasonable times inspect and examine any animal, carcass, meat, poultry, game, flesh, fish, &c., exposed for sale, or deposited in any place for the purpose of sale, or in preparation for sale, or intended for the food of man; and in case it appears to the medical officer or inspector to be diseased, or unsound, or unwholesome, or unfit for the food of man, it shall be lawful for him to seize the same, and for a justice to order it to be destroyed. In this regulation there is no particular description of the kind of food which is unwholesome, or of the circumstances which render it so, and therefore much is left to the discretion of the officer who examines the food, as to whether it is unsound or not. The practice in the City of London is to condemn the flesh of animals infected with certain parasites, and of animals suffering from fever or other acute inflammatory affections, or from lingering disease, as well as of animals that have died from natural causes, and all meat in a high state of putrefaction, and meat tainted with physic.

Some such practice as this is followed all over the world; indeed, very early in the history of legislation it was found necessary to make rules for the preservation of the public health from the effects of unsound meat. The regulations of the Jews for the slaughtering of animals, and for the examination of the flesh, are of pre-historic date. They are partly founded on the written law of Moses, as set forth in the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, and partly on very ancient tradition. They refer, not only to the conditions which render the meat wholesome or unwholesome, but also to the mode of slaughter, the place of slaughter, and to the qualifications of the persons who perform it. The chief circumstance which indicates that the meat is unwholesome is the presence of disease in the lungs, as tubercles, abscesses, ulcers, consolidations, or adhesions; and no animal is permitted to be used as food that has died from accident or disease. The duty of examining the meat is confided to a responsible officer, who is called the searcher, and who is bound by religious obligations to see that all the rules and regulations of the Dinim or law are faithfully observed, and no meat is allowed to be for food which has not been marked with the proper seal.

In ancient Rome the practice of examining the meat in the public markets before it was sold was constantly observed, and the butchers were often fined for selling meat that had not been inspected by the overseers.

At the present time the regulations which are in force on the Continent are, for the most part, very stringent, and it may be interesting to review them.

App. No. 3.

Austria.

A system of cattle and meat inspection has long been in force in Austria, to insure that none but healthy cattle shall be slaughtered, and none but sound meat sold. Regulations on this subject, in modern times, were passed in Lower Austria in June 1838, and October 1850; in Upper Austria, June 1830, and October 1831; in Steiermark in December 1776; in Illyria in May 1820, and August 1822; in Corinthia in March 1841; in Bohemia in May 1770, and December 1810; in Moravia in November 1827; in Gallacia in June 1802; in the Lombardo-Venetian Provinces in August 1817, in March 1821, and in December 1832; in Dalmatia in March 1827; in Siebenbürgen in June 1851, &c.

According to these regulations, a sufficient number of cattle and meat inspectors are appointed in every place, and bound by oath to the faithful execution of their duties.

These persons have to examine into the state of the animal's health, as well as the good condition of the slaughtered beast. They must be present at the slaughtering, and at the taking off the skin, as well as at the opening of the carcass; and they must possess ample knowledge of the appearances of unsound and of healthy meat.

Any person trading in fresh meat, or selling meat in any way, prepared or cooked, who purchases cattle not duly inspected according to regulation, shall, for the first offence, in addition to forfeiting the meat or the money received for its sale, be fined from 25 to 200 florins; for the second offence the fine shall be doubled; and for the third offence he shall be deprived of his license, and be declared incapable of ever again exercising an occupation of the kind.

The meat of animals suffering from inflammation of the spleen, or from the cattle murrain, or which have been bitten by a mad dog, or any other mad animal, as well as the flesh of measly pigs, must not, on any account, be exposed for sale. Inspectors generally, indeed, must only permit the slaughter of healthy beasts. It will of course be understood, however, that fractured limbs, and other external injuries, form no obstacle to slaughtering.

It is also prohibited to sell the meat of animals near the time of bringing forth their young, as well as of all very young animals, especially of calves under three weeks old, or weighing less than 40 pounds.

The regulation of the 8th of January 1789, contains a detailed description of the various cattle diseases which either render meat entirely or partially unsound, or which offer no obstacle to its healthy use.

If the animal be suspected of an illness, the infallible tokens of which may reasonably be expected to appear on slaughtering, the owner may request to have it slaughtered in the presence of the inspector, on his own responsibility; and, provided the animal proves sound, the inspector has then to furnish the owner with the certificate.

If on inspection, at or before slaughtering, an animal shows evident unsoundness, or if the owner decline to take the slaughter of a doubtful beast on his own responsibility, the inspector has to give notice of the fact, to prevent its being slaughtered in secret, and the meat used as food.

The certificate received from the inspector authorises the sale of fresh meat only, within a certain period, consisting of three days after the certificate is issued, during the months of May, June, July, and August; and four days during other months.

If meat, or slaughtered cattle, be sent for sale from other places, the local tribunals and meat inspectors have to see that the seller can show the inspection certificate from the place of slaughtering, according to the above regulations.

Especial care is also taken that the flesh of animals dying from natural causes as well as putrid meat, shall not be sold for food.

The better to attain the object of cattle and meat inspection, all meat hawking and secret slaughtering, are entirely prohibited.

Public flayers are strictly forbidden to keep or feed pigs; they must neither deliver carrion to menageries, nor use it for pig feeding. They are likewise interdicted from smoking tongues.

Bavaria.

In every circuit there is to be elected by the local police officials for the inspection of cattle and meat; and, where veterinary surgeons are to be found, they are to be elected by preference, and they are to have the supervision of the sub-inspectors.

The inspectors have the examination of all animals before they are slaughtered, and of the carcasses when they are killed.

All animals destined for human food, as oxen, pigs, sheep, goats, and horses, whether in towns, boroughs, or villages, must be examined in a living state, and after they are slaughtered; and for this purpose notice must be given to the inspector 12 hours before the slaughtering of any animal.

The inspector not only decides whether the animal is sound, and the meat good for food, but he also determines the class to which it belongs, there being three classes of food, differing in value.

When the meat of a diseased animal is unfit for food, it rests with the inspector or veterinary surgeon to decide whether it shall be wholly destroyed, or whether certain parts of it, as the fat, skin, and bones, can be used for technical purposes.

In all cases of difficulty or dispute, the sub-inspectors refer the matter to the veterinary surgeon, who decides definitively.

The sub-inspectors have also the duty of looking after the condition of the markets and public slaughter-houses.

Prussia (Berlin).

In every market, whether for the sale of cattle or meat, there is a police official, charged with the direction of the market in all matters relating to the sale of sound meat or cattle. The stall where the officer is to be found is to be distinguished by a flag.

It is the duty of this official to examine everything in the market for sale as food, and to seize and confiscate all unsound food; and to report the offender to the police agents, who summon him before the magistrates to answer to the charge against him.

At every cattle market there is an experienced veterinary surgeon, who inspects the cattle sent there for sale.

In

In Berlin, as in the whole of Prussia, there exists what are called slaughterer's districts, where there is a slaughterer appointed to seize and destroy all animals in a diseased condition. The skin of these animals is the perquisite of the slaughterer, and the other parts are buried. If the owner of a diseased animal gives notice to the slaughterer that he wishes to have the animal slaughtered, and to keep the skin, he gives the slaughterer compensation.

All the results of inspection and slaughtering are properly entered in a book, and no meat can be sold except by persons who are licensed to deal in it.

Switzerland (Berne).

All slaughtering must take place in the public slaughter-houses or in licensed places.

Cases of urgency excepted, it is not allowed to kill an animal until the appointed inspector has examined it; and, in case of accident, when the animal must be immediately killed, and before the inspector can come to see it, the slaughtering must be in the presence of two respectable witnesses; but the animal must not be cut up until the inspector arrives.

No meat is to be sold until it has been examined by the inspector and certified to.

In case of dispute between the inspector and the owner of the meat, the latter can demand the assistance of two experts, taken, if possible, from among the licensed veterinary surgeons, who are to decide definitively whether the animal can be killed, and whether the meat can be sold, and in what condition.

It is forbidden to kill animals of less than 14 days' old. It is also forbidden to kill animals which have been overdriven, before they have time to rest themselves and recover.

It is forbidden to sell putrid meat.

The hawking of meat is forbidden, and so also is the sending of meat from one commune to another, except with the consent of the police.

The inspectors are to take care that the greatest cleanliness is observed in the slaughter-houses, in the butcher's shops, and in the scalding and pork shops.

They are to take care that no diseased meat is sold, salted, or smoked, or made into sausages.

They are to note the condition of the animal before slaughtering, and of the carcass after slaughtering; and rules are given for the principal matters to be noted.

The following are the diseases which render the meat of an animal more or less unfit for food:—

A.—*Among Epizootic and Contagious Diseases.*

Carbuncle.
The cattle plague.
Gangrenous pneumonia.
The hoof disease, among horned cattle, sheep, and pigs.
Erysipelatous fever among all species of animals.
Glanders among horses (horse flesh is eaten).
Dysentery.
Parasytic diseases of horned cattle.
Hydrophobia among all species of animals.

B.—*Among Sporadic Maladies.*

All species of dropsy.
All inflammations which result in gangrene.
All cancerous and foul ulcers.

All tubercular softenings of the lungs and liver.
False leprosy of horned cattle.
True leprosy of pigs, and cutaneous erysipelas.
Blennorrhœa of the vagina of cows.
Jaundice.
Poisoning of every kind.
Consumption in general.

Nevertheless, if, after having destroyed the parts affected by the disease, the other parts are sound and wholesome, they can be sold in the following cases, after having been examined and carefully considered by two licensed veterinary surgeons:—

Gangrenous peripneumonia.
Softening of the lungs and liver.
Slight inflammations.
False leprosy.
Blennorrhœa of cows.

In cases of extraordinary symptoms of disease the inspector, if he is not a licensed veterinary surgeon, is to take the opinion and advice of a licensed veterinary surgeon.

The execution of the ordinances relating to this matter rests with the Préfet of Police.

Italy (Florence).

It is forbidden to sell, to furnish, or to make any use whatever of meat prepared, raw or cooked, of animals, as the ox, sheep, goat, and pig, which have died, or have been killed, in a state of disease. They shall be buried immediately.

No animal can be killed for food without having been first examined by the municipal veterinary surgeon, who resides in the public slaughter-house; and his decision is to be in accordance with certain rules made for the purpose. Due notice must be given to the veterinary surgeon of an intention to slaughter an animal.

Meat is divided into three classes, namely:—

Class 1. Meat of the first quality, from animals in a perfectly healthy condition.

Class 2. Meat of animals not in a sound or normal condition, but fit for food.

Class 3. Meat not fit for food, as from animals in a high state of disease.

It is the duty of the inspector to mark each of the first two classes of meat with a particular seal; all putrid meat, as well as the meat of the third class, is confiscated and buried.

The milk of animals suffering from disease, especially from foot-and-mouth disease, is forbidden to be sold; and so also is milk showing signs of containing pus.

All slaughtering must be carried on in the public slaughter-houses; and it is forbidden to send a slaughtered animal into the city without the carcass being entire with the skin upon it and the viscera in it, and it must be conveyed to the public slaughter-house for inspection.

In all cases of infectious disease among cattle the animals must be killed, and their carcasses buried, and the waggons, utensils, &c. used in such cases must be thoroughly washed and disinfected.

Belgium (Brussels).

It is forbidden to slaughter anywhere but in the public slaughter-houses.

There is attached to every public slaughter-

App. No. 3.

house an inspector in chief, a veterinary surgeon, two expert or skilled inspectors, and a number of other free inspectors.

The inspector in chief has not only the general control and management of the slaughter-houses, but he, as well as the expert inspectors, is charged with the examination of the animals entering the slaughter-houses, and also with the examination of the meat before it goes out.

The veterinary surgeon is required to attend at the slaughter-houses on market days, and to assist the inspectors in the examination of the cattle; he is also especially appealed to whenever there is any doubt or difference of opinion among the inspectors as regards the condition of the cattle or of the meat. The veterinary surgeon reports to the college of bourgomasters and sheriffs whenever there is epizootic disease, and also on any facts relating to the public health.

All beasts destined to be killed are first visited by the expert inspectors; and those animals which are known or suspected to be tainted with disease, and to be unfit for food, are put into the pound, in order that they may be disposed of in accordance with the rules relating thereto.

After slaughtering and skinning the animals, they are examined internally by the inspectors, so as to ensure the proper state of the meat; and the viscera removed from the bodies of the animals must be so preserved as not to leave a doubt to which animal it belongs.

All diseased meat, or meat suspected to be diseased, is provisionally seized, and placed in a special locality. It is dressed by the inspectors, and a report is drawn up stating the reason for its seizure, and its condition and quantity. This report is immediately sent to the Commissary of Police.

The meat sent from the slaughter-houses must not be cut up in less than quarters.

All meat seized by the inspectors is buried if it is not claimed in 24 hours; and when it is claimed it is again examined by one of the expert inspectors of the abattoir and two free inspectors, and the meat is either given up or buried according to the decision of the majority of the three experts.

The charges of this examination are paid by the owner if the meat is unfit for food, and by the city if it is not unfit.

When the slaughterer, or his assistants, finds during the killing or dressing of an animal, any signs of disease, he must give immediate information to one of the inspectors; and whenever he finds a fœtus in the animal, he is also to give notice to the inspector, who buries it; for it is forbidden to sell or appropriate a fœtus for food, the skin only being given up to the owner.

There are also regulations as to the time of killing, the mode of scalding pigs, of dressing the tripe, melting the fat, removing the offal, &c., &c.

And, with regard to the management of the cattle market, it is ordered that before the opening of the market the animals shall be examined by the veterinary surgeon attached to the abattoir.

In those cases where the veterinary surgeon considers the animal so diseased that it should be killed, and there is no opposition on the part of the owner, it is killed immediately; but where the owner contests the opinion of the surgeon, he can claim the intervention of the veterinary surgeon of his own selection. If the two surgeons are of a different opinion, a third is called in—the inspector in chief, who decides definitively. The cost of these examinations is to be borne by the party in the wrong.

France (Paris).

By a decree of the 9th of February, 1810, it was resolved to remove all the private slaughter-houses from Paris, and to conduct the business of slaughtering animals in five public slaughter-houses; namely, three on the right bank of the Seine, and two on the left, but they were not opened to the butchers of Paris until the month of September, 1818. From that time to the present there have been many regulations concerning this matter, and all these have been co-ordinated in the grand ordonnance of the 25th of March, 1830. This ordonnance is composed of 301 articles, and it embraces the discipline and commerce of the abattoirs and boucheries of Paris; it is, indeed, a complete code of laws relating to this subject, and is always adopted as the regulations to be applied to new abattoirs in any part of France. These regulations are so nearly like the regulations already described as in force at Brussels, that they need not be reproduced.

The summary of the regulations in force in the chief towns and cities of the Continent is—

1. That all markets are under strict supervision.

2. That cattle sent to the public markets, and to the public slaughter-houses, are carefully examined by the inspectors or officers appointed for that purpose.

3. That diseased cattle are carefully kept from healthy cattle, and are either destroyed or disposed of in such a way as to prevent their communicating disease to other cattle, or their being sold for human food.

4. That in all large cities the slaughtering of animals is either conducted in public slaughter-houses, or is so regulated as to ensure the condemnation of diseased meat.

5. That to guard the public against the mischief which arises from the use or consumption of unwholesome meat, the animals destined for food are examined, not only before they are killed, but also afterwards.

America.

In the city of New York there are very stringent regulations for the inspection and management of slaughter-houses, butchers' shops, and public markets. In the first place, no one is permitted to carry on the business of a butcher, or to slaughter animals, or to deal in meat, without being licensed; and not only are the public markets under the control of the city inspectors, but every place for the sale of meat is appointed by the sanitary authorities. Among the regulations which are in force for the government of these affairs are the following:—

It is not lawful to kill or dress any fresh meat of any description in any market or place licensed as aforesaid or occupied for the sale of meat; but all killing and dressing must be done in the licensed slaughter-houses.

No butcher or other person shall sell, or offer, or expose for sale in any of the public markets, or

or in any part of the city of New York, any unwholesome or stale articles of provisions, or any flesh of any animal dead by accident or disease, or known or suspected to be diseased at the killing of the same.

No person shall bring into any market, or the limits thereof, or offer or expose for sale, any blown, plaited, raised, or stuffed meat, or any meagre or back shad, within the city of New York.

The general supervision of these matters is under the direction of the city inspector (as health officer), and the superintendent of sanitary inspection, and the superintendent of markets, whose officers regularly visit and inspect all slaughter-houses, meat shops, butchers' shops, poultry and fish stands, stores, or other places kept for the sale, or exposure for sale, of any kind of meat, poultry, fish, or any articles of provision or food, in any place in the city; and they seize and remove any and all unsound, unhealthy, putrid, or unwholesome veal, beef, pork, fish, poultry, or other article of food; and take all measures for the detection and prevention of the sale of all such unsound, unwholesome articles of food, and secure a strict enforcement of the laws and ordinances relative thereto; and they make full reports of the same to the superintendent

There are also regulations for the cleansing of the markets and slaughter-houses, and for the removal of blood, offal, and garbage from the latter directly after slaughtering, and for the disposal of all such matters, as well as diseased and unwholesome food by the city contractor. The violation of any of these regulations is punished by heavy penalties.

It would seem, therefore, that in almost every part of the world, the regulations for the sale of meat, the inspection of cattle, and the management of markets and slaughter-houses, are far more stringent and precise than in this metropolis; and it is to be hoped that the experience gained by the present outbreak of disease will lead to reformation in most of these particulars. As far as the City of London is concerned, there is a pressing necessity for the removal of all the slaughter-houses; for, as I have recently reported to you, they are situated in crowded localities, where they are not only in themselves a nuisance, but where they also encourage offensive trades—as bone boiling, fat melting, and gut spinning. There are 58 of these slaughter-houses in the City,* and they receive about 5,400 sheep, 1,800 beasts, 420 pigs, and 400 calves every week. All these animals must be driven through the crowded streets, and the dung, and blood, and offal must afterwards be carried away. The annoyance from this is a frequent subject of complaint, but you have little or no power to deal with it. Outside the walls of the City, the annoyance is still greater, for there the slaughter-houses are but rarely inspected. Often, indeed, they are filthy in the extreme, and no restriction is put on the slaughter and sale of diseased animals; in fact, most of the unwholesome meat that is sold in London, is furnished from those places. Within the City, there is a daily inspection of all the markets and slaughter-houses, and much improper meat is in this manner discovered and condemned; but it in no way represents the amount of diseased and unwholesome meat that finds its way into the other markets. Within the last five years, your officers have condemned 946,944 lbs., or rather more than 420 tons of diseased and putrid meat. It consisted of 4,289 sheep, 1,445 pigs, 272 calves, 6,074 quarters of beef, and 11,424 joints of meat, besides 1,917 head of game, and 13,748 head of poultry. Last year, the amount of meat condemned in the City markets, was 247,827 lbs., and of this 124,614 lbs. were diseased, and 27,393 lbs. were from animals that had died from natural causes. A large proportion of this was condemned during the last quarter, and it consisted for the most part of meat from animals affected with the plague. The appearance of the meat is so remarkable that it is easily distinguished by the inspectors—it is not only wet and sodden, but it is also dark coloured, and looks like the flesh of an animal that has died with the blood in it. The characters by which unsound meat is recognised, are the following:—

Good meat is neither of a pale pinkish colour nor of a deep purple tint. The former is indicative of disease, and the latter is a sign that the animal has died from natural causes.

Good meat has also a marbled appearance from the ramifications of little veins of intercellular fat; and the fat, especially of the internal organs, is hard and suety, and is never wet; whereas that of

---

* LIST of Slaughter-houses in the City of *London*.

East District.

No. 44, Aldgate High-street.	No. 56, Aldgate High-street.	No. 68, Aldgate High-street.	No. 75, Aldgate High-street.
„ 45, „ „	„ 57, „ „	„ 68, „ „	Harrow Alley.
„ 46, „ „	„ 58, „ „	„ 68, „ „	No. 53, Minories.
„ 48, „ „	„ 59, „ „	„ 68, „ „	„ 63, „
„ 51, „ „	„ 60, „ „	„ 69, „ „	„ 57, Great Tower-street.
„ 52, „ „	„ 62, „ „	„ 70, „ „	Beehive Passage, Lime-street.
„ 53, „ „	„ 66, „ „	„ 73, „ „	No. 5, Sun-street.
„ 55, „ „	„ 67, „ „	„ 74, „ „	154, Bishopsgate-street.
			Gun Yard, Norton Folgate.

West District.

No. 28, Bread-street Hill.	No. 27, Newgate Market.	No. 3, Fore-street.	No. 10, Warwick-lane.
„ 70, Fetter-lane.	„ 28, „	„ 117, „	„ 11, „
„ 11, Bear Alley, Farringdon-street.	„ 30, „	Paved Passage.	„ 12, „
„ 25, Newgate Market.	„ 10, Rose-street.	No. 4, Hosier-lane.	„ 6, Newgate Market.
„ 26, „	„ 169, Aldersgate-street.	„ 4, Warwick-lane.	„ 9, „
	„ 82, „	„ 6, „	„ 10, „
		„ 34, „	„ 11, „

Total - - - - 58.

App. No. 3.

of diseased meat is soft and watery, often like jelly or sodden parchment.

Again, the touch or feel of healthy meat is firm and elastic, and it hardly moistens the fingers; whereas that of diseased meat is soft and wet—in fact, it is often so wet that serum runs from it, and then it is technically called wet.

Good meat has but little odour, and this is not disagreeable; whereas diseased meat smells faint and cadaverous, and it often has the odour of medicine. This is best observed by cutting it, and smelling the knife, or by pouring a little warm water upon it.

Good meat will bear cooking without shrinking, and without losing very much in weight; but bad meat shrivels up, and it often boils to pieces.

All these effects are due to the presence of a large proportion of serum in the meat, and to the relatively large amount of intercellular or gelatinous tissue; for the fat and true muscular substance are to a greater or less extent deficient.

If, therefore, a hundred grains of the lean or muscular part of good meat are cut up and dried at a temperature of boiling salt and water (224 degrees Fahrenheit), they lose only from 69 to 74 grains of their weight; but if diseased meat is thus treated, it loses from 75 to 80 per cent. of its weight. I find that the average loss of weight with sound and good beef is 72·3 per cent., and of mutton 71·5 per cent., whereas the average loss of diseased beef is 76·1 per cent., and of diseased mutton 78·2 per cent. Even if it be dried at a higher temperature, as at 266 degrees Fahrenheit, when all the moisture is expelled, and when good meat loses from 74 to 80 per cent. of its weight, the proportions of loss in bad meat is equally great.

Other characters of a more refined nature will also serve to distinguish good from bad meat. The juice or serosity of sound flesh is slightly acid, and it contains an excess of potash salts, chiefly the phosphate; whereas diseased meat, from being infiltrated with the serum of blood, is often alkaline, and the salts of soda, especially chloride and phosphate abound in it.

Lastly, when good meat is examined under the microscope, the fibre is clean and well defined, and free from infusorial creatures; but that of diseased meat is sodden, as if it had been soaked in water, and the transverse markings are indistinct and far apart; besides which, there are often minute organisms like infusorial bodies. These are very perceptible in the flesh of animals affected with the cattle plague, and Dr. Beale has described them as entozoa-like objects. They differ altogether from the parasites which constitute the trichina disease, and the measles of pork.

How far the use of diseased meat affects the human constitution is unknown. In those cases where certain parasitic diseases exist in animals, there is no doubt of its injurious nature; for the tape-worm, the trichina, and certain hydated or encysted growths are unquestionably produced by it. Experience also points to the fact, that carbuncle and common boils are, in some degree, referable to the use of the flesh of animals affected with pleuro-pneumonia; and occasionally we witness the most serious diarrhœa and prostration of the vital powers after eating diseased meat. It is, therefore, safest to forbid its use; and it is at all times best to guard against the possibility of injury by having meat well cooked. It should be so cooked that the very centre of the joint should be exposed for some time to the temperature of 212 degrees Fahrenheit. The instructions of Liebig, in this particular, are hardly safe; for, although a temperature below that of boiling water may coagulate albumen, and develop the flavours of cooked meat, it may not ensure the destruction of dangerous parasites. It is, therefore, better to have the meat a little over-cooked than otherwise.

ACCOUNT of the MEAT, GAME, and POULTRY Condemned in the City Market, as unfit for Human Food, during the last Five Years (1861 to 1865.)

WHY CONDEMNED AND WHERE CONDEMNED.

YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER	NEWGATE MARKET.				ALDGATE MARKET.				LEADENHALL MARKET.				TOTAL.			
	Dead.	Diseased.	Putrid.	TOTAL.	Dead.	Diseased.	Putrid.	TOTAL.	Dead.	Diseased.	Putrid.	TOTAL.	Dead.	Diseased.	Putrid.	TOTAL.
	Lbs.	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*
1861	25,843	65,467	12,056	103,366	2,323	7,115	1,885	11,323	5,453	18,516	2,800	26,769	33,619	91,098	16,741	141,458
1862	9,513	57,544	13,579	80,636	2,424	9,032	879	12,335	2,007	12,103	2,965	17,075	13,944	78,679	17,423	110,046
1863	15,780	86,280	52,493	154,553	1,458	6,446	2,851	10,755	3,086	21,394	20,717	45,197	20,324	114,120	76,061	210,505
1864	33,846	77,327	73,686	184,859	4,054	8,919	828	13,801	5,597	10,533	14,390	30,520	43,497	96,779	88,904	229,180
1865	19,669	91,444	77,981	189,094	5,547	22,384	3,517	31,448	2,177	10,786	14,322	27,285	27,393	124,614	95,820	247,827
TOTAL in Five Years	104,651	378,062	229,795	712,508	15,806	53,896	9,960	79,662	18,320	73,332	55,194	146,846	48,777	505,290	384,949	939,016

KIND OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

YEARS.	NEWGATE MARKET.					ALDGATE MARKET.					LEADENHALL MARKET.					TOTAL.				
	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Quarters Beef.	Joints.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Quarters Beef.	Joints.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Quarters Beef.	Joints.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Quarters Beef.	Joints.
1861	728	27	73	718	373	46	5	22	78	68	315	10	45	101	203	1,089	42	140	897	644
1862	402	31	97	539	592	48	—	10	86	46	92	3	42	98	128	542	34	149	723	766
1863	591	50	198	971	1,735	37	3	24	53	318	242	28	57	124	390	870	81	279	1,148	2,943
1864	776	42	322	1,097	1,888	34	3	49	83	52	165	11	75	110	773	975	56	446	1,290	2,713
1865	637	44	308	1,628	3,052	53	10	40	264	70	101	5	79	96	944	791	59	427	1,988	4,066
TOTAL in Five Years	3,134	194	998	4,953	7,640	218	21	145	564	554	915	57	298	529	2,938	4,267	272	1,441	6,040	11,132

Besides which, there were 7,028 lbs. of meat seized in the shops and slaughter-houses. It consisted of 22 sheep, 5 pigs, 34 quarters of beef, and 291 joints and pieces of meat:—1,431 lbs. were diseased, 2,513 lbs. were putrid, and 3,984 lbs. were from animals that had died from natural causes. There have also been condemned on account of putridity, 202 quarters and haunches of venison, 1,917 head of game, and 13,748 head of poultry and rabbits.

Appendix, No. 4.

App. No. 4.

LETTER from the Board of Trade to the Chairman of the Committee.

Office of Committee of
Privy Council for Trade, Whitehall,
Sir, 6 June 1866.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, to transmit, for the consideration of the Committee on Trade in Animals, the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Mackie, on the subject, which has been forwarded to this Board by Mr. G. Traill, M. P.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. Emerson Tennent.*

The Chairman of the Committee
on Trade in Animals.

(Enclosure.)

Sir, Wick, 5 April 1866.

HAVING observed that it is the intention of the President of the Board of Trade, to move for the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry into the treatment of cattle in transmission by sea, to the markets of this country, I am desirous of bringing under your notice, to be used, in connection with that inquiry, as you may judge expedient, the very objectionable manner in which cattle from these northern districts are treated while on their passage to the southern markets.

You are aware, first, that all the cattle and sheep from Caithness, Orkney, and Shetland, intended for the markets of Aberdeen, Edinburgh &c., are conveyed by steamers, the nearest railway station being 80 miles from Wick, and 100 from Thurso; and secondly, that the number of animals so conveyed is very large, and is greatly on the increase, giving employment to two steamers a week; the exports in sheep from Caithness alone being upwards of 40,000 head in a season, and in cattle, from these three northern counties, to the value of fully more than 200,000 *l.* a year.

Shipments from Shetland are made on Mondays, and the animals so shipped are generally on sea for 40 to 48 hours: from Orkney on Tuesdays, the beasts from that county being from 28 to 40 hours at sea; and from Scrabster and Wick, on Tuesdays and Fridays, the animals shipped at these places being from 15 to 30 hours on board; at times they are longer at sea, and occasionally the animals intended for the Aberdeen market are, in consequence of stress of weather, taken on to Granton.

Previous to shipment, the animals are driven distances of from two to twenty miles. At Wick they are first put on board boats, and by them taken to the bay, where they are shipped on board of the steamers, seldom receiving any food after leaving the farms, and not a drink of water from the time of shipment till they reach the market towns or port of landing.

Here it often happens that the animals have to stand in the quays and harbour approaches for eight or ten hours, waiting the arrival of the steamers, and thus, wearied with the travel, hungry, thirsty, and thoroughly exhausted, they are crowded into a steamer's hold, or cooped on deck, and are left all but totally uncared for until handed over to the consignee at Aberdeen or Granton, in a state which can hardly be imagined.

You will see by the following letter, which I have cut out of an Edinburgh paper of this week, that the poor animals receive treatment which loudly calls for inquiry.

"CATTLE at GRANTON.

"Sir, "2 April 1866.

"I HAVE just been at Granton, and I write to say that the state of the cattle brought there by the North of Scotland boats, on Saturday evening, is so disgraceful as to induce me to request you to bring it before the public.

"If dirt, hunger, and exposure are in any way conducive toward perpetuating rinderpest in the county, our authorities have taken the most effectual method for that end. All the stock at Granton is penned up in open pens, and must have stood out all Saturday night and Sunday's rains. The pens, having no pavement, are worked up into a state of mire, no pretence of bedding is ever made, and the cattle stand deep in mud, and in a most pitiful state from cold. I am certain that the Inspector for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would have taken proceedings against the owners of the stock if he had witnessed this abuse. And yet the owners are not to blame; the county authorities have refused to allow cattle to proceed to Edinburgh from either ports of Leith or Granton, a measure characteristic of the times, and therefore certainly a blunder; for what possible contact stock could have with either sheep or cattle on their way from either place to this city, and so what possible harm they could do when they are on their way to be consumed there, no man of sense can tell, and all damage possible during such a short transit exists only in the minds of our sapient authorities.

"I don't speak of the absurdity of this arrangement, nor of the confusion it has caused in the cattle traffic; but I do request all men who have at heart the good of the brute creation, to satisfy themselves whether cattle brought out of warm byres, and courts, should be exposed to the chill and cold of two or more days and nights of storm and

and rain, and shut up in a few square yards of well-pounded mud, while ample accommodation for ten times the number so exposed is at hand, though not available for use because our authorities have decreed so.

"I am, &c.
(signed) *Eye Witness.*"

Agriculturists, and every one of humane feelings in the north, are heartily glad that the Government appears alive to the importance of inquiry into the subject, and will be glad indeed, if—

1. Every company having steamers carrying cattle be compelled to have on board, when leaving the last port of shipment, under heavy penalties, a quantity of water, for the use of the stock on board, proportionate to the length of the voyage.

2. Every such steamer shall have for every 50 cattle, one cattle man, whose sole duty shall be to attend to the animals, and give them water once every four hours after being put on board.

3. On landing, and until taken charge of by the consignees, due attention shall be paid to the animals, by supplying them with fresh food and water.

No doubt there will be difficulties thrown in the way of an improvement in the present unsatisfactory and inhuman mode of treating such animals; but I should hope there is influence and spirit enough in the kingdom to carry through some practical scheme for remedying a state of matters which, I greatly fear, has not a little to do with the present alarming decimation of our flocks and herds in various parts of the kingdom.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Jno. Mackie,*
Editor of "Northern Ensign."

George Traill, Esq., M. P.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have seen one of the principal farmers of the county, Mr. Donald Mackay, who says, that last year he lost 12 fine cattle on the passage from Scrabster to Granton, and that the only explanation that could be given was, that the animals were placed too near the engine, the heat from which and the want of water killed them.

J. M.

Appendix, No. 5.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Charles Hicks*, 8 June 1866.

App. No. 5. FORM of CATTLE PASS alluded to by Mr. *Charles Hicks*, in his Evidence (translated from the German).

Town Commune and District.—Caslan, in Bohemia.

CATTLE PASS.

MR. THOMAS BECZWAR has sold from his stock at the Caslan sugar manufactory 24 head of fattening oxen to Mr. Sponnholz, of Berlin, and they have been this day delivered to his herdsman to be driven away. They are of Bohemian breed, 18 head red, three red and white, three black and white, without marks, and are going to Berlin.

This is to certify that the above cattle were healthy when they left here, and that there is no pestilence among the horned cattle either here or in the neighbourhood.

Burgomaster's Office, Caslan,
9 May 1866.

(Seal) *Jos. Patzelt.*

Stamp of Boundary, Police,
Bodenbach.

CERTIFICATE.

MR. SPONNHOLZ, of Berlin, bought from the farms belonging to the Welten domain healthy fattening oxen of Bohemian breed, viz.:—

Dark brown - - - -	7 head
Red and white - - -	7 „
Yellow - - - - -	5 „
Red - - - - -	12 „
Black and white - - -	1 „
	32 head

These cattle are going to Dresden by way of Bodenbach.

(Seal) *R. Bobek.*
Fr. Kraupner.

Domain Office, Kozomm,
11 May 1866.

At the examination made this day the above-named 32 head of fattening oxen of Bohemian breed, belonging to Mr. Sponnholz, of Berlin, were found quite healthy.
Bodenbach, 12 May 1866.

(Seal) *R. Moy*, Veterinary Surgeon,
Examining Commissioner.

Stamp of the Boundary, Police,
Bodenbach.

LETTER to Messrs. *C. Hicks* & Co., London.

"Poissy, 24 May 1866.

I HASTEN to reply to your letter of the 19th instant, and will answer all your questions consecutively.

I hope the information will be useful to you.

1. From 6,500 to 7,000 head of cattle are sold weekly in the markets of Sleaux, Poissy, and La Chapelle, of which number cows form barely a fourth part.

2. The market of Sleaux is about five miles distant from Paris, that of Poissy about 16 miles; the market of La Chapelle is held actually in Paris itself, and does not average more than 600 to 700 cows weekly; no oxen are sold there.

3, 4, and 5. It is difficult to specify the number of buyers; it is very considerable, for many butchers come from the country and counties around Paris; they come even from Rouen, Havre, Lille, and all parts of Picardy.

There are in Paris about 1,500 butchers, including those who sell in the meat markets; of this number barely a third part attends the markets, the others buy their meat of the wholesale butchers in the abattoirs. Of the 500 Paris butchers who purchase in the markets, there are not more than from 60 to 80 who deal wholesale.

6. It would be more beneficial to us if all the butchers of Paris attended the markets; there would be more competition, which would be more advantageous to the interests of the senders who supply the markets than transacting business with wholesale butchers. You must know that business transactions are easier where buyers are plentiful; we prefer selling to retail rather than to wholesale butchers; we get better prices for the goods that are entrusted to us, and consequently we are not amateurs of the wholesale trade.

The wholesale dealers alone take more cattle than all the other butchers of Paris together.

7. As I have said above, we have customers from all counties; the cattle that they purchase they convey to their homes and slaughter there if there are no abattoirs in the neighbourhood.

8. There are seven abattoirs in Paris, Montmartre, and Popincourt, where the wholesale trade is transacted. Villeguif, La Villette, Gronelb, les Balignolles Bellarlb, but at present a large central abattoir is being constructed at La Villette, for the purpose of superseding the above-mentioned seven abattoirs; there are numerous protests against this central abattoir, and the trade of butchers hopes that the administration of Paris will consider their complaint with fairness, and preserve the abattoirs of Villeguif and Gronelb.

9. The

9. The butchers of Paris can only slaughter at the abattoirs, but the country butchers slaughter at their homes if there are no abattoirs in the neighbourhood.

10. The inspection of the abattoirs is under the administration of the Prefect of the Police, who appoints officers for the purpose of examining whether the meat is wholesome, and further to maintain order in the abattoirs; if a journeyman butcher is known to be dishonest or to rob his employer, he would be dismissed, and not allowed to work there again; indeed, no butcher would employ him. There is, however, among the journeymen, a want of refinement; they are in general rough men, foul tongued, and apt to be saucy when in bad temper; still they are honest. There are many foremen who represent the wholesale butchers at the abattoirs, and who earn from 70 to 80 francs per week.

To sum up, I am of opinion that in trade like that in cattle, the more competition there is in a market the better it is for the senders.

The wholesale butcher's trade has its utility, but it would be better if it did not exist. In our markets we prefer selling retail to selling wholesale; we obtain better prices thereby, of which our clients are well aware, and they, therefore, always press us to retail as much as possible. App. No. 5.

The administration of the city of Paris endeavours by every possible means to have meat cheap, but until now it has adopted a wrong course; it will not take advice of competent persons, and this occasions it to commit errors in every attempt. (Practice is better than theory).

Remain, &c.
Portout ainé.

P.S.—Large quantities of dead meat arrive daily from all parts of France, and are sold by auction, under inspection of the administration of the Prefect of the Police; unwholesome meat is seized, and sent to the wild beasts in the Jardin des Plantes."

STATEMENT of the NUMBER of CATTLE sold by Mr. *Hicks* in Three Months, and the Number sold to each Class of Men.

1865.	Wholesale Butchers.	Retail Butchers.	Country Buyers.	Contractors.	TOTAL.	Died on Board or killed in Wharf.
4 September - -	151	19	39	10	219	—
7 „ - - -	58	19	- -	30	107	—
11 „ - - -	183	67	23	34	307	2
18 „ - - -	237	72	30	50	389	—
21 „ - - -	- -	- -	10	- -	10	—
25 „ - - -	270	98	80	9	457	—
28 „ - - -	19	- -	- -	22	41	—
2 October - -	262	124	15	58	459	3
5 „ - - -	10	- -	- -	- -	10	—
9 „ - - -	213	60	41	67	381	1
12 „ - - -	6	- -	- -	- -	6	—
16 „ - - -	370	114	26	127	637	—
23 „ - - -	248	98	34	88	468	20
26 „ - - -	19	7	- -	8	34	—
30 „ - - -	194	94	27	50	365	2
2 November - -	48	21	- -	8	77	3
6 „ - - -	180	74	7	35	296	1
9 „ - - -	56	11	5	25	97	—
13 „ - - -	164	72	53	66	355	1
16 „ - - -	97	21	33	34	185	—
20 „ - - -	113	62	18	33	236	1
23 „ - - -	19	9	- -	- -	28	—
27 „ - - -	16	- -	12	35	63	—
TOTAL - -	2,943	1,042	453	789	5,227	
	4/7	1/5	1/11	1/7	- -	1/134

Appendix, No. 6.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Thomas Rudkin*, 18 June 1866.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington.

Return showing the Numbers of Animals in the Market for Eight Weeks, commencing from 16th April and ending 10th June 1866, and corresponding Weeks for 1865.

1866.				1865.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
4,118	34,935	143	1,230	4,332	19,960	291	505
4,615	27,125	178	530	5,787	28,170	813	506
4,318	27,965	107	555	6,479	32,365	788	599
4,599	35,020	99	620	5,733	32,565	794	667
4,417	33,985	208	615	5,259	32,925	944	436
4,616	34,645	325	555	6,109	37,155	988	457
4,883	36,205	394	600	5,714	40,905	1,142	604
4,506	33,585	502	425	5,845	37,620	1,072	471
36,072	263,465	1,956	5,130	45,258	261,665	6,832	4,245

12 June 1866. *Robt. Baldry*, Clerk of the Market.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington.

Return showing the Numbers of Animals in the Lairs for Eight Weeks, commencing from 16th April and ending 10th June 1866, and corresponding Weeks of the Year 1865.

1866.				1865.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
3,042	15,445	8	123	2,075	4,435	70	49
4,222	9,817	12	302	2,658	4,340	162	1
3,044	9,857	10	56	3,295	5,625	120	19
4,157	9,630	3	74	2,824	6,025	74	7
3,461	9,231	8	77	2,498	3,697	95	8
3,728	8,940	-	37	3,218	6,394	57	23
3,365	8,064	1	49	2,804	6,176	60	—
4,131	6,388	71	18	3,269	4,623	62	31
29,160	77,372	113	436	22,641	41,315	700	138

12 June 1866. *Robt. Baldry*, Clerk of the Market.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington.

Return showing the Prices of Meat at the Metropolitan Market, from 17th April to 10th June 1865.

Date.	Beef.				Mutton.				Veal.				Pork.				Lamb.			
	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.
17 April	3	4	to	5 2	3	8	to	5 10	4	–	to	5 6	3	4	to	4 8	6	8	to	7 6
20 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	8	„	6 –	4	–	„	6 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	8 –
24 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 2	4	–	„	6 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	6	„	8 6
27 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	8 –
1 May	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	5 10	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	8 –
4 „	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	5 10	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	8 –
8 „	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	5 8	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	8 –
11 „	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	5 8	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 8
15 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10
18 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 6	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10
22 „	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 2	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10
25 „	3	4	„	4 10	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 4	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10
29 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 8
1 June	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 8
5 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 –	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10
8 „	3	4	„	5 –	3	10	„	6 –	3	8	„	5 6	3	–	„	4 8	6	–	„	7 10

Robert Baldry, Clerk of the Market.

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington.

Return showing the Prices of Meat at the Metropolitan Market, from 16th April to 9th June 1866.

Date.	Beef.				Mutton.				Veal.				Pork.				Lamb.			
	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.		s. d.
16 April	3	6	to	5 2	3	–	to	5 8	5	–	to	6 2	3	–	to	4 10	6	–	to	8 –
19 „	3	6	„	5 –	3	–	„	5 6	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
23 „	3	6	„	5 –	3	–	„	5 6	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
26 „	3	6	„	5 –	3	–	„	5 6	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
30 „	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	5 8	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
3 May	3	6	„	5 6	3	–	„	6 2	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 6
7 „	3	6	„	5 2	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
10 „	3	6	„	5 –	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
14 „	3	6	„	5 –	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
17 „	3	6	„	5 2	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
21 „	3	6	„	5 2	3	–	„	5 10	5	–	„	6 4	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	7 8
24 „	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	6 2	5	–	„	6 8	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
28 „	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	6 2	5	–	„	6 8	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
31 „	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	6 2	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	8 –
4 June	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	7 8
7 „	3	6	„	5 4	3	–	„	6 –	5	–	„	6 2	3	–	„	4 10	6	–	„	7 8

Robert Baldry, Clerk of the Market.

Appendix, No. 7.

App. No. 7.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Rudkin*.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.

RETURN showing the Number of Animals in the Market for Nine Weeks, commencing 12th February and ending 14th April 1866, and corresponding Weeks of 1865.

1866.				1865.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
6,332	25,460	196	530	5,434	20,675	246	525
5,845	23,255	381	650	5,276	16,785	192	390
2,753	25,465	255	621	5,222	18,225	485	605
2,702	27,960	307	560	5,449	24,375	416	751
3,926	31,380	273	470	5,647	20,585	335	702
5,612	32,905	334	445	6,320	24,270	384	652
2,902	28,390	105	485	6,107	25,155	392	621
1,341	25,720	28	630	5,280	23,415	420	601
1,718	35,075	31	1,100	4,369	25,640	497	561
33,131	255,610	1,910	5,491	49,104	199,125	3,367	5,408

Islington, 20 June 1866. *Robt. Baldry*, Clerk of the Market.

Tolls.—Newgate and Leadenhall Markets.

Newgate Market. Tolls.	s.	d.	Leadenhall Market. Tolls.	s.	d.
Bushel of fruit	–	–½	Basket, if pitched under cover	–	1½
Maund of do.	–	1	Ditto not under cover	–	1
Sieve of do.	–	–½	Pack of meat above 40 stone	–	6
Man's load of fruit	–	1	Ditto under do.	–	3
Cart with two horses	–	6	Score of sheep or lambs	1	–
Cart with one horse	–	4	Calf	–	2
Waggon	1	–	Quarter of beef	–	1½
Sack of potatoes	–	3	Hamper of meat	–	1½
Hamper of meat	–	1	Tray of beef	–	1
Bundle of do.	–	2	Pig	–	1
Pack of do.	–	6			
Hamper or coup of poultry	–	1			
Flat of butter, eggs, or poultry	–	1			

These Tolls are for the most part commuted by an increased rental of the shops and stalls in the markets.

The Produce during the last Three Years has been as follows:—

Newgate Market.	£.	s.	d.	Leadenhall Market.	£.	s.	d.
1863	85	19	2	1863	212	9	1
1864	87	10	7	1864	213	4	6
1865	85	13	8	1865	212	15	–

Appendix, No. 8.

PAPER handed in by Captain *William O'Brien*. App. No. 8.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

RETURN of the Quantity of MEAT sent by the NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY from *Hull* to *Leeds*, in each of the Five Weeks ending the 16th of June 1866.

Week ending	Beef. Weight.				Mutton. Weight.				Total Weight.				Number of Waggons used.
	Tons.	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons.*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons.*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	
May 19 - -	22	11	3	0	-	-	-		22	11	3	0	14
May 26 - -	42	4	0	10	-	-	-		42	4	0	10	24
June 2 - -	35	4	0	10	0	4	1	0	35	8	1	10	24
June 9 - -	31	13	0	10	0	11	0	0	32	4	0	10	25
June 16 - -	37	17	1	0	1	2	2	0	38	19	3	0	28
TOTAL - - -	169	10	1	2	1	17	3	0	171	8	0	2	115

General Manager's Office, York, 19 June 1866. *W. O'Brien.*

Appendix, No. 9.

LETTER from Mr. *Gebhardt*, to Mr. *Milner Gibson*, M.P. App. No. 9.

Stamford House,
Sir, 344, Camden-road.

As I understand the Committee in the House of Commons does not intend taking any more evidence of cattle salesmen on the Cattle Disease, I shall consider it a great favour if you will lay this letter before the Committee, as I represent a large interest in the foreign cattle trade, and not being able to attend when the other witnesses were examined, I consider it my duty towards my friends abroad to make my views known about this matter to the Committee.

1st. It is my firm opinion that this rinderpest is not introduced in this country from abroad, for the importation of cattle has continued all the time the plague has been here, and still we cannot trace one single instance where cattle have arrived here with this disease, for the simple reason, that the disease does not exist abroad in any part wherefrom cattle are exported to this country, with the exception of Holland, where the disease was introduced from this country, and of course importation is prohibited now from there.

I keep a herd of valuable short-horn stock, some of the best blood in England, all pedigree about 50 head. I have been in the habit for

years of sending young bulls and heifers abroad for improving the breed, and since this disease broke out I have not been able to send a single head, as the people abroad are afraid to introduce a pest in their country which they never had.

My farm lays about four miles from the Metropolitan Market in Hornsey. I have, during all the time the rinderpest has been raging in this country, sent foreign beast and sheep to this farm (beast only, till such time when an Order in Council prohibited the removal of any beast). This foreign stock laid in adjoining fields and yards with my own stock, and I have never had one single attack of the rinderpest, which I consider gives a great proof that foreign cattle is wrongly accused of bringing this disease into this country, and would be unjust to put restrictions on the importation of foreign cattle.

2d. Quarantine for foreign cattle is impossible, in fact, if it were enforced, nobody would send their stock here, because the cattle are liable on the journey to get the foot and mouth disease; when this is the case they cannot feed, and would naturally waste away to a frightful extent in a very short time.

3d. To kill cattle at the wharves would be almost

App. No. 9.

almost as injurious as quarantine, for the extra expense of killing there, and the muddled state the beast arrive at the butchers' shops is considered on good authority to be at least 2 *l.* per ox, and often 3 *l.* to 4 *l.* Here is a loss whereby nobody gets the benefit, neither the producer nor the consumer; but if the loss already so great, considering the small number of beast now killed at the wharves, on account of the foot and mouth disease, what would be the loss if all foreign cattle had to be killed there? Supposing the importation of cattle to be as large as at present, there would not be customers enough to buy half the beast; at present a great number of foreign stock are sold to supply the country butchers and government contractors, particularly in the grass season, foreign beast sent all over the country alive; I believe every seaport to the south is supplied from London; a very large number go north, to Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and other manufacturing places.

If the beast were killed at the wharves the meat would be useless for such purposes, because in hot weather it would spoil; the result would be, meat would be very dear in some parts of the country, particularly in the manufacturing districts, where the great consuming part of the population live, and would be worth very little at the wharves where it is killed, and tons would be spoiled; consequently, the importation would diminish to a great extent, and the price of meat made artificially dearer, and the poor man would have to suffer.

4th. To have all the cattle killed at the market is just as bad as killing at the wharves; the same objections would be there as at the wharves; and in one point even worse, for if cattle had to be sent after arrival directly to the market, they would be placed in layers, where there is not one-tenth part of room, and even if they covered the whole vacant space with layers there would not be room enough; the charge is very high, and cattle begin to suffer the moment they enter, particularly grass-fed cattle.

Cattle which arrive now by rail or steamer are put in fields as near the market as any salesman can get land. There the beast get over their journey, rest, and get refreshed till they go to market, which is generally two days after their arrival.

If the cattle are driven to the layers in the market, they lay on bare stones. Straw is not given, a great many put in one pen, and are overcrowded. The cattle keep fighting, riding, falling down, the little hay they get is partly spoiled by being pulled out and trampled on, and when the cattle are shown in the market they look bad, are stiff, lame, and bruised, whilst those which come from the fields look full, well, and healthy.

Another great objection to lay the cattle in the market layers, is the cattle get the foot and mouth complaint; the layers are never free from this disease: it is a notorious fact that English or foreign stock get this disease either on the journey, or for a certainty if they have been in the market or layers; so the moment fresh cattle are put in those market layers, they are liable to catch the foot and mouth complaint; and nine cases out of ten, when cattle arrive on Saturday, and we put in the market layers, they show this disease on Monday, which would not be the case if the cattle were allowed as before to go to grass fields, for every salesman would take care, for his own interest, not to bring any cattle back from the market to his own fields, or stalls; at least I never do so myself.

5th. My opinion, to prevent any disease brought into this country, and to do away with the pretence, and to make it impossible for anybody to assume it might be brought in, is as follows:

1st. The Government to be informed, by their agents abroad, immediately any contagious disease breaks out in any country (except foot and mouth disease), and of course to prohibit the importation of live stock from such country.

2d. To make a law that no store cattle or milch cows should be imported. Every animal should be killed within one week after arrival, under heavy penalty. It is my firm opinion the importation of milch cows and young beast one year or two years old, have done the foreign trade more harm than anything else. I believe such young beast are more liable to diseases, on account of the change of atmosphere; and cows are sent just before or after calving, are in a feverish state put in the hold of the steamer, they suffer from heat, and afterwards, when landed, exposed to cold: to make them show good milkers they are not milked sometimes for some days, and consequently are more liable to disease, particularly lung disease.

3d. All cattle should be compelled to be sold at the market (I of course only refer to London, not being acquainted with other sea-ports), in order that a second inspection may take place in the market, and to pacify the public mind, that in case the inspectors at the wharf had not detected any disease, the market inspector might find it out.

Finally, I believe, if such suggestions are adopted, it would be impossible to ship a diseased animal; it would be further impossible to land one or to show it in a public market for sale; but still, as it is the opinion of some of the professors of veterinary science, who have enlightened the public so much on this disease, and have done so much to stop it (?), the germ of the disease might still remain in the animal undetected, then by adopting the plan to have every animal killed within a week, the disease would not spread, and there would be no danger of allowing foreign cattle to be sold in the market, and to be sent alive to various parts of the country where they may be wanted, and to be killed at the place of their destination.

If such measures were adopted, I believe the interest of the producer and consumer of meat would be equally protected; if any one of the other schemes were attempted, the foreign trade would be crippled, meat would be frightfully dear, particularly in hot weather, in the country where it would be most wanted, in manufacturing districts, and almost valueless sometimes in London.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. Gebhardt.*

Appendix, No. 10.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *H. E. Wilkinson*, 2 July 1866. App. No. 10.

RETURN of the Number of CATTLE Landed at the Port of *Tyne* in each Week from 5 July 1864 to 26 June 1866.

Weeks ending	Number Landed.			Weeks ending	Number Landed.		
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.		Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
5 July 1864	27	203	—	4 July 1865	226	795	37
12 „ „	80	255	—	11 „ „	153	594	26
19 „ „	67	302	—	18 „ „	119	336	53
26 „ „	10	300	—	25 „ „	154	314	50
2 August „	82	200	25	1 August „	252	548	4
9 „ „	37	202	37	8 „ „	143	327	—
16 „ „	102	207	89	15 „ „	304	494	16
23 „ „	125	59	62	22 „ „	202	429	—
30 „ „	95	67	93	29 „ „	428	436	—
6 Sept. „	92	84	165	5 Sept. „	258	167	—
13 „ „	108	7	149	12 „ „	305	204	28
20 „ „	82	10	117	19 „ „	246	368	8
27 „ „	61	—	—	26 „ „	10	—	—
4 Oct. „	66	8	215	3 Oct. „	169	969	30
11 „ „	78	2	157	10 „ „	164	895	—
18 „ „	96	—	105	17 „ „	194	844	17
25 „ „	99	4	126	24 „ „	83	325	—
1 Nov. „	122	3	117	31 „ „	83	—	—
8 „ „	138	—	53	7 Nov. „	175	429	7
15 „ „	102	1	28	14 „ „	76	211	—
22 „ „	56	3	25	21 „ „	192	596	23
29 „ „	81	4	27	28 „ „	148	362	—
6 Dec. „	107	1	—	5 Dec. „	—	—	2
13 „ „	36	1	19	12 „ „	149	243	28
20 „ „	85	2	18	19 „ „	79	193	—
27 „ „	—	—	—	26 „ „	—	—	—
3 Jan. 1865	—	—	—	2 Jan. 1866	48	6	4
10 „ „	—	—	—	9 „ „	—	—	—
17 „ „	10	—	25	16 „ „	153	60	—
24 „ „	10	—	58	23 „ „	—	163	—
31 „ „	—	—	—	30 „ „	3	358	—
7 Feb. „	21	—	10	6 Feb. „	—	144	—
14 „ „	14	—	—	13 „ „	91	248	57
21 „ „	—	—	—	20 „ „	—	718	6
28 „ „	—	—	—	27 „ „	1	368	—
7 March „	10	7	—	6 March „	35	599	23
14 „ „	5	265	11	13 „ „	244	944	24
21 „ „	52	348	—	20 „ „	106	426	4
28 „ „	47	305	20	27 „ „	34	750	—
4 April „	49	333	—	3 April „	68	377	—
11 „ „	38	208	—	10 „ „	201	654	—
18 „ „	72	616	—	17 „ „	59	557	—
25 „ „	28	411	—	24 „ „	205	668	25
2 May „	103	443	59	1 May „	54	485	—
9 „ „	103	508	10	8 „ „	162	691	—
15 „ „	95	476	—	15 „ „	28	437	—
23 „ „	97	422	—	22 „ „	68	718	—
30 „ „	131	904	—	29 „ „	207	911	—
6 June „	120	545	—	5 June „	273	963	—
13 „ „	85	50	—	12 „ „	142	51	—
20 „ „	265	261	15	19 „ „	265	465	12
27 „ „	254	637	12	26 „ „	260	515	—
TOTAL	3,625	10,564	1,847	TOTAL	7,019	22,355	484

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Total Number of Cattle for the Year ending 30 June 1865	3,625	10,564	1,847
„ „ „ „ „ 30 June 1866	7,019	22,355	484
Total Number Landed in Two Years	10,644	32,919	2,331

DAILY RETURNS of the Arrivals of FOREIGN CATTLE to the Port of *Tyne*, and WEEKLY RETURNS of FOREIGN CATTLE, computed to each Market Day.

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.					Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day.			REMARKS.
—	Name of Vessel.	Oxen.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Oxen.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
1 July 1864	Chevy Chase - H.	11	104	–				
4 July „	Lord Raglan - H.	16	99	–				
					27	203	–	
8 July „	Earl Percy - - H.	33	107	–				
9 July „	Chevy Chase - H.	38	148	–				
10 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	9	–	–				
					80	255	–	
15 July „	Chevy Chase - H.	30	200	–				
18 July „	Earl Percy - - H.	37	102	–				
					67	302	–	
25 July „	Otter - - - H.	10	300	–				
					10	300	–	
29 July „	Earl Percy - - H.	58	200	–				
31 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	24	–	25				
					8	200	25	
5 Aug. „	Otter - - - H.	15	200	–				
7 Aug. „	Lord Raglan - R.	22	2	37				
					37	202	37	
13 Aug. „	Otter - - - H.	58	200	–				
14 Aug. „	Lord Raglan - R.	34	7	89				
15 Aug. „	Earl Percy - - H.	10	–	–				
					102	207	89	
19 Aug. „	Chevy Chase - R.	42	–	–				
19 Aug. „	Otter - - - H.	28	–	–				
22 Aug. „	Earl Percy - - H.	32	58	–				
22 Aug. „	Lord Raglan - R.	23	1	62				
					125	59	62	
27 Aug. „	Otter - - - H.	26	65	–				
29 Aug. „	Lord Raglan - R.	24	2	93				
29 Aug. „	Earl Percy - - H.	45	–	–				
					95	67	93	
2 Sept. „	Chevy Chase - R.	3	2	14				
3 Sept. „	Pollox - - H.	35	–	65				
4 Sept. „	Lord Raglan - R.	9	7	86				
5 Sept. „	Otter - - - H.	45	75	–				
					92	84	165	
9 Sept. „	Chevy Chase - R.	12	–	–				
10 Sept. „	Earl Percy - - H.	31	–	–				
11 Sept. „	Lord Raglan - R.	13	7	149				
12 Sept. „	Otter - - - H.	52	–	–				
					108	7	149	
16 Sept. „	Earl Percy - - H.	46	–	–				
18 Sept. „	Lord Raglan - R.	6	10	117				
19 Sept. „	Otter - - - H.	30	–	–				
					82	10	117	
23 Sept. „	Earl Percy - - H.	33	–	–				
26 Sept. „	Otter - - - H.	28	–	–				
					61	–	–	
30 Sept. „	Earl Percy - - H.	33	–	–				
30 Sept. „	Chevy Chase - R.	–	8	215				
3 Oct. „	Otter - - - H.	33	–	–				
					66	8	215	
7 Oct. „	Earl Percy - - H.	41	–	–				
10 Oct. „	Chevy Chase - R.	6	2	157				
10 Oct. „	Otter - - - H.	31	–	–				
					78	2	157	
15 Oct. „	Earl Percy - - H.	34	–	–				
17 Oct. „	Chevy Chase - R.	16	–	105				
17 Oct. „	Otter - - - H.	46	–	–				
					96	–	105	
22 Oct. „	Taurus - - H.	38	–	–				
24 Oct. „	Earl Percy - - H.	52	–	–				
24 Oct. „	Chevy Chase - R.	9	4	126				
					99	4	126	

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.					Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day.			REMARKS.
——	Name of Vessel.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
28 Oct. 1864	Otter - - - H.	52	–	–				
31 Oct. „	Chevy Chase - R.	15	3	117				
31 Oct. „	Earl Percy - - H.	55	–	–				
					122	3	117	
4 Nov. „	Otter - - - H.	54	–	–				
7 Nov. „	Chevy Chase - R.	31	–	53				
8 Nov. „	Earl Percy - - H.	53	–	–				
					138	–	53	
12 Nov. „	Otter - - - H.	38	–	–				
14 Nov. „	Chevy Chase - R.	30	1	28				
15 Nov. „	Earl Percy - - H.	24	–	–				
					102	1	28	
21 Nov. „	Chevy Chase - R.	20	3	25				
21 Nov. „	Otter - - - H.	36	–	–				
					56	3	25	
25 Nov. „	Earl Percy - - H.	60	–	–				
28 Nov. „	Chevy Chase - R.	21	4	27				
					81	4	27	
2 Dec. „	Otter - - - H.	57	–	–				
3 Dec. „	Sentinel - - R.	50	1	–				
					107	1	–	
9 Dec. „	Chevy Chase - R.	16	1	19				
12 Dec. „	Amicilia - - R.	20	–	–				
					36	1	19	
16 Dec. „	Chevy Chase - R.	20	1	11				
16 Dec. „	Earl Percy - - H.	46	–	–				
19 Dec. „	Lord Raglan - R.	19	1	7				
					85	2	18	
17 Jan. 1865	Chevy Chase - R.	10	–	25				
					10	–	25	
24 Jan. „	Chevy Chase - R.	10	–	58				
					10	–	58	
3 Feb. „	Lord Raglan - R.	21	–	10				
					21	–	10	
12 Feb. „	Lord Raglan - R.	14	–	–				
					14	–	–	
2 March „	Lord Raglan - R.	10	7	–				
					10	7	–	
12 March „	Lord Raglan - R.	5	25	11				
14 March „	Brigadier - - H.	–	240	–				
					5	265	11	
17 March „	Chevy Chase - H.	52	348	–				
					52	348	–	
24 March „	Brigadier - - H.	47	305	–				
26 March „	Lord Raglan - R.	–	–	20				
					47	305	20	
30 March „	Otter - - - H.	31	173	–				
2 April „	Brigadier - - H.	18	160	–				
					49	333	–	
7 April „	Otter - - - H.	25	100	–				
9 April „	Lord Raglan - R.	6	–	–				
10 April „	Brigadier - - H.	7	108	–				
					38	208	–	
12 April „	Mercury - - H.	–	175	–				
14 April „	Otter - - - H.	45	323	–				
17 April „	Chevy Chase - R.	12	–	–				
17 April „	Brigadier - - H.	15	118	–				
					72	616	–	
21 April „	Otter - - - H.	–	265	–				
23 April „	Lord Raglan - R.	8	–	–				
24 April „	Brigadier - - H.	20	136	–				
					28	411	–	
28 April „	Otter - - - H.	53	196	–				
30 April „	Lord Raglan - R.	20	–	–				
1 May „	Brigadier - - H.	30	247	59				
					103	443	59	

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.					Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day.			REMARKS.
——	Name of Vessel.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
5 May 1865	Otter - - - H.	53	149	–				
7 May „	Lord Raglan - R.	15	–	10				
8 May „	Brigadier - - H.	36	359	–				
					103	508	10	
12 May „	Otter - - - H.	14	270	–				
14 May „	Lord Raglan - R.	19	–	–				
15 May „	Brigadier - - H.	62	206	–				
					95	476	–	
19 May „	Otter - - - H.	10	248	–				
21 May „	Lord Raglan - R.	54	–	–				
22 May „	Brigadier - - H.	15	174	–				
					79	422	–	
25 May „	Otter - - - H.	59	292	–				
28 May „	Lord Baglan - R.	40	1	–				
29 May „	Brigadier - - H.	32	602	–				
					131	904	–	One cow severely injured in removal from the hold of vessel. Slaughtered in consequence.
2 June „	Otter - - - H.	67	398	–				
4 June „	Lord Raglan - R.	46	–	–				
5 June „	Brigadier - - H.	7	147	–				
					120	545	–	
9 June „	Otter - - - H.	22	7	–				
11 June „	Lord Raglan - R.	63	–	–				
12 June „	Brigadier - - H.	–	43	–				
					85	50	–	
15 June „	Otter - - - H.	49	178	–				
19 June „	Lord Raglan - R.	131	–	–				
19 June „	Brigadier - - H.	23	80	–				
19 June „	Storm Queen - C.	62	3	15				
					265	261	15	
23 June „	Chevy Chase - R.	70	280	–				
26 June „	Lord Raglan - R.	102	–	12				
26 June „	Otter - - - H.	82	357	–				
					254	637	12	
30 June „	Brigadier - - H.	60	386	–				
3 July „	Otter - - - H.	42	141	–				
3 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	39	–	24				
4 July „	Storm Queen - C.	85	168	13				
					226	795	37	
7 July „	Brigadier - - H.	58	200	–				
9 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	39	–	26				
10 July „	Otter - - - H.	56	186	–				
10 July „	Fusileer - - A.	–	208	–				
					153	594	26	
14 July „	Brigadier - - H.	40	307	–				
16 July „	Otter - - - H.	35	29	–				
17 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	44	–	53				
					119	336	53	
21 July „	Brigadier - - H.	78	314	–				
21 July „	Chevy Chase - R.	2	–	–				
23 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	38	–	50				
24 July „	Otter - - - H.	26	–	–				
24 July „	Fusileer - - A.	10	–	–				
					154	314	50	
26 July „	Storm Queen - C.	100	115	4				
27 July „	Sentinel - - H.	9	–	–				
28 July „	Brigadier - - H.	77	75	–				
30 July „	Lord Raglan - R.	53	–	–				
31 July „	Otter - - - H.	28	239	–				
31 July „	Chevy Chase - R.	75	119	–				
					252	548	4	
4 Aug. „	Brigadier - - H.	74	119	–				
6 Aug. „	Lord Raglan - R.	46	8	–				
7 Aug. „	Otter - - - H.	23	80	–				
7 Aug. „	Chevy Chase - R.	–	120	–				
					143	327	–	

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.						Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market day.			REMARKS,
——	Name of Vessel.		Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
10 Aug. 1865	Sentinel	H.	17	–	–				
10 Aug. „	Storm Queen	C.	94	109	16				
11 Aug. „	Brigadier	H.	80	285	–				
13 Aug. „	Lord Raglan	R.	79	–	–				
14 Aug. „	Chevy Chase	R.	10	–	–				
14 Aug. „	Otter	H.	20	100	–				
14 Aug. „	Vintage	–	4	–	–				
						304	494	16	
18 Aug. „	Brigadier	H.	60	13	–				
21 Aug. „	Otter	H.	58	200	–				
21 Aug. „	Lord Raglan	R.	74	16	–	–	–	–	Supposed to have had rinderpest.
21 Aug. „	Chevy Chase	R.	10	200	–				
						202	429	–	
24 Aug. „	Sentinel	H.	7	–	–				
25 Aug. „	Brigadier	H.	72	8	–				
25 Aug. „	Storm Queen	C.	72	158	–				
27 Aug. „	Lord Raglan	R.	116	–	–				
28 Aug. „	Otter	H.	152	270	–				
28 Aug. „	Chevy Chase	R.	9	–	–				
						428	436	–	
31 Aug. „	Sentinel	H.	8	–	–				
1 Sept. „	Brigadier	H.	67	153	–				
4 Sept. „	Lord Raglan	R.	121	–	–				
*4 Sept. „	Chevy Chase	R.	6	–	–				
						258	167	–	
8 Sept. „	Sentinel	H.	60	–	–				
9 Sept. „	Lord Raglan	R.	98	–	–				
12 Sept. „	Storm Queen	C.	115	204	28	–	–	–	Seven cows suffering severely from overheating and exhaustion; four ultimately recovered; three were slaughtered, and found unfit for food.
12 Sept. „	Chevy Chase	H.	32	–	–				
						305	204	28	
15 Sept. „	Sentinel	H.	61	–	–				
16 Sept. „	Vintage	–	–	–	8				
17 Sept. „	Lord Raglan	R.	135	–	–	–	–	–	Rinderpest cargo: 20 died or were destroyed; 115 slaughtered and passed for food.
18 Sept. „	Otter	H.	38	368	–				
18 Sept. „	Chevy Chase	H.	12	–	–				
						246	368	8	
25 Sept. „	Otter	H.	10	–	–				
						10	–	–	
29 Sept. „	Fairy Queen	C.	132	479	29				
29 Sept. „	Sentinel	H.	49	150	–				
*4 Sept. „	Otter	H.	56	14	–				
1 Oct. „	Lord Raglan	R.	24	–	–				
2 Oct. „	Otter	H.	26	326	–				
2 Oct. „	Tarset	H.	2	–	1				
						169	969	30	
6 Oct. „	Sentinel	H.	69	398	–				
8 Oct. „	Lord Raglan	R.	34	–	–	–	–	–	Rinderpest cargo.
9 Oct. „	Otter	H.	55	497	–				
9 Oct. „	Chevy Chase	A.	6	–	–				
						164	895	–	
11 Oct. „	Sentinel	H.	40	336	–				
16 Oct. „	Lord Raglan	R.	13	–	–				
16 Oct. „	Fairy Queen	C.	131	357	17				
17 Oct. „	Chevy Chase	A.	10	151	–				
						194	844	17	
17 Oct. „	Otter	H.	–	169	–				
22 Oct. „	Sentinel	H.	83	156	–				
						83	325	–	
30 Oct. „	Lord Raglan	R.	34	–	–				
31 Oct. „	Sentinel	H.	49	–	–				
						83	–	–	

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.					Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day.			REMARKS.
—	Name of Vessel.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
1 Nov. 1865	Sentinel - - -	–	212	–				
3 Nov. „	Storm Queen - C.	155	217	7				
6 Nov. „	Lord Raglan - R.	20	–	–				
					175	429	7	
10 Nov. „	Sentinel - - H.	38	211	–				
13 Nov. „	Lord Raglan - R.	38	–	–				
					76	211	–	
17 Nov. „	Sentinel - - H.	32	215	–	–	–	–	Three cows detained, suffering from severe passage and consequent exhaustion, recovered, and passed for food.
20 Nov. „	Fairy Queen - C.	92	381	23				
19 Nov. „	Lord Raglan - R.	68	–	–				
					192	596	23	
26 Nov. „	Brigadier - - H.	39	288	–				
28 Nov. „	Sentinel - - H.	13	54	–				
28 Nov. „	Lord Raglan - R.	96	–	–				
					148	362	–	
30 Nov. „	Charles - - -	–	–	2				
					–	–	2	
8 Dec. „	Sentinel - - H.	24	–	–				
10 Dec. „	Fairy Queen - C.	93	40	28				
10 Dec. „	Otter - - - H.	32	203	–				
					149	243	28	
17 Dec. „	Admiral - - H.	17	93	–				
18 Dec. „	Lord Raglan - R.	50	–	–				
19 Dec. „	Chevy Chase - A.	12	100	–				
					79	193	–	
28 Dec. „	Fairy Queen - C.	48	6	4				
					48	6	4	
14 Jan. 1866	Fingal - - - -	153	–	–				
16 Jan. „	Chevy Chase - A.	–	60	–				
					153	60	–	
22 Jan. „	Chevy Chase - A.	–	163	–				
					–	163	–	
26 Jan. „	Otter - - - H.	–	229	–				
29 Jan. „	Chevy Chase - A.	3	129	–				
					3	358	–	
6 Feb. „	Sentinel - - D.	–	6	–				
6 Feb. „	Chevy Chase - A.	–	138	–				
					–	144	–	
11 Feb. „	Otter - - - H.	24	247	–				
13 Feb. „	Fairy Queen - C.	67	1	57				
					91	248	57	
14 Feb. „	Chevy Chase - A.	–	267	6				
19 Feb. „	Brigadier - - A.	2	125	–				
20 Feb. „	Otter - - - H.	–	326	–				
					–	718	6	
24 Feb. „	Chevy Chase - D.	1	20	–				
26 Feb. „	Otter - - - H.	–	129	–				
27 Feb. „	Admiral - - H.	–	119	–				
					1	368	–	
2 Mar. „	Brigadier - - H.	35	98	–				
5 Mar. „	Sentinel - - H.	–	201	–				
6 Mar. „	Otter - - - A.	–	300	23				
					35	599	23	
9 Mar. „	Brigadier - - D.	–	25	–				
9 Mar. „	Admiral - - H.	49	412	–				
12 Mar. „	Lord Raglan - R.	19	–	–				
12 Mar. „	Sentinel - - H.	50	403	–				
12 Mar. „	Otter - - - H.	–	104	–				
13 Mar. „	Fairy Queen - C.	126	–	24				
					244	944	24	
17 Mar. „	Admiral - - H.	51	286	–				
19 Mar. „	Lord Raglan - R.	19	–	4				
19 Mar. „	Sentinel - - H.	36	140	–				
					106	426	4	
21 Mar. „	Otter - - - A.	–	245	–				
25 Mar. „	Lord Raglan - R.	9	–	–				
26 Mar. „	Admiral - - H.	25	250	–				
26 Mar. „	Brigadier - - A.	–	255	–				
					34	750	–	

Daily Returns of the Arrivals of Foreign Cattle to the Port of Tyne.					Weekly Returns of Foreign Cattle, computed to each Market Day.			REMARKS.
——	Name of Vessel.		Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
0 Mar. 1866	Sentinel - -	H.	41	204	–				
3 Mar. „	Fusilier - -	D.	–	30	–				
2 Apr. „	Brigadier - -	A.	–	143	–				
2 Apr. „	Admiral - -	H.	27	–	–				
						68	377	–	
7 Apr. „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	98	–	–				
7 Apr. „	Chevy Chase -	H.	56	253	–				
1 Apr. „	Brigadier - -	A.	–	111	–				
1 Apr. „	Admiral - -	H.	47	290	–				
						201	654	–	
1 Apr. „	Chevy Chase -	H.	59	434	–				
1 Apr. „	Fusilier - -	A.	–	123	–				
						59	557	–	
1 Apr. „	Admiral - -	H.	53	–	–				
2 Apr. „	Chevy Chase -	H.	67	493	–				
2 Apr. „	Fusilier - -	A.	–	152	15				
2 Apr. „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	85	23	10				
						205	668	25	
2 Apr. „	Admiral - -	H.	49	412	–				
30 Apr. „	Otter - - -	A.	5	73	–				
						54	485	–	
4 May „	Admiral - -	H.	41	361	–				
7 May „	Otter - - -	A.	–	180	–				
7 May „	Sentinel - -	H.	20	150	–				
8 May „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	101	–	–				
						162	691	–	
11 May „	Admiral - -	H.	28	437	–				
						28	437	–	
16 May „	Otter - - -	A.	–	348	–				
18 May „	Admiral - -	H.	57	370	–				
21 May „	Sentinel - -	H.	11	–	–				
						68	718	–	
23 May „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	116	6	–				
25 May „	Admiral - -	H.	26	372	–				
27 May „	Sentinel - -	H.	56	282	–				
28 May „	Otter - - -	A.	9	251	–				
						207	911	–	
1 June „	Admiral - -	H.	77	409	–				
2 June „	Brigadier - -	D.	–	30	–				
4 June „	Otter - - -	A.	–	83	–				
5 June „	Sentinel - -	H.	89	430	–				
5 June „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	107	11	–				
						273	963	–	
8 June „	Admiral - -	H.	87	–	–				
11 June „	Brigadier - -	H.	55	51	–				
						142	51	–	
15 June „	Admiral - -	H.	97	153	–				
18 June „	Fairy Queen - -	C.	18	34	12				
18 June „	Sentinel - -	H.	130	133	–				
19 June „	Chevy Chase -	A.	20	145	–				
						265	465	12	
22 June „	Admiral - -	H.	121	263	–				
22 June „	Fusilier - -	D.	–	12	–				
24 June „	Sentinel - -	H.	108	150	–				
25 June „	Chevy Chase -	A.	31	90	–				
						260	515	–	
29 June „	Admiral - -	H.	89	406	–				

App. No. 10.

BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE LIVE CATTLE MARKET.

RETURN of Stock Exhibited in the Twelve Months ended 26th June 1866, compiled by Mr. *John Bell,* Superintendent.

DATE.	Home-fed Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Irish Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Foreign Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
4 July 1865	655	6,979	204	31	–	–	129	521	
11 July „	498	5,629	423	88	–	–	198	821	
18 July „	636	6,942	384	75	–	–	119	338	
25 July „	506	7,621	411	118	–	–	143	314	
1 Aug. „	611	5,854	348	160	–	–	224	426	
8 Aug. „	626	7,058	260	189	–	–	233	602	
15 Aug. „	533	6,680	251	182	–	64	241	490	
22 Aug. „	630	7,095	300	166	–	74	240	575	
29 Aug. „	549	6,372	267	186	–	–	288	438	
5 Sept. „	696	8,240	375	181	–	130	338	260	
12 Sept. „	406	7,630	401	153	–	139	323	–	
19 Sept. „	861	6,874	360	118	–	–	99	–	
26 Sept. „	1,066	7,160	540	70	54	166	10	300	
3 Oct. „	789	8,370	612	132	–	254	195	900	
10 Oct. „	636	7,680	416	115	–	233	115	892	
17 Oct. „	1,015	7,000	563	68	–	306	162	500	
24 Oct. „	819	4,890	638	74	–	263	78	410	
31 Oct. „	1,053	6,389	299	94	–	261	44	–	
7 Nov. „	867	6,310	480	131	–	120	192	190	
14 Nov. „	782	5,019	499	153	–	331	89	211	
21 Nov. „	961	4,700	466	263	–	384	196	700	
28 Nov. „	992	4,713	304	209	–	446	29	287	
5 Dec. „	1,028	4,940	370	184	–	406	96	60	
12 Dec. „	1,206	4,940	475	213	–	425	126	60	
19 Dec. „	1,342	4,504	536	92	–	495	66	496	
26 Dec. „	865	2,800	251	101	–	435	–	–	
2 Jan. 1866	1,167	5,162	273	59	–	146	40	6	
9 Jan. „	906	4,480	291	12	–	409	–	–	
16 Jan. „	1,428	4,000	297	61	–	319	–	–	
23 Jan. „	1,537	4,400	365	22	–	377	38	163	
30 Jan. „	901	4,344	490	–	–	320	–	334	
6 Feb. „	1,470	2,966	507	34	–	129	–	130	
13 Feb. „	1,934	4,563	100	60	–	347	18	247	
20 Feb. „	1,649	3,600	218	22	–	129	56	600	
27 Feb. „	238	3,131	163	–	–	384	–	329	
6 Mar. „	485	4,610	282	–	–	286	35	500	
13 Mar. „	485	5,200	300	–	–	300	226	1,000	
20 Mar. „	246	3,690	250	–	–	270	115	450	
27 Mar. „	284	3,925	328	–	–	262	36	505	
3 April „	538	2,953	388	–	–	215	58	387	
10 April „	371	4,840	411	–	–	246	197	600	
17 April „	438	2,209	77	–	–	–	59	543	
24 April „	377	920	–	–	–	150	120	920	
1 May „	521	1,169	–	–	–	–	49	411	
8 May „	462	720	–	–	–	–	60	600	
15 May „	312	1,212	–	–	–	–	28	411	
22 May „	384	900	–	–	–	–	56	1,000	
29 May „	381	1,248	–	–	–	–	100	852	
5 June „	190	1,320	–	–	–	–	216	500	
12 June „	115	769	–	–	–	–	232	821	
19 June „	261	1,200	–	–	–	–	247	500	
26 June „	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	

Appendix, No. 11.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *Charles Hunt*. App. No. 11.

COPIES of ORDERS issued to the CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT by the LORDS of the PRIVY COUNCIL relative to the CATTLE PLAGUE.

Privy Council Office,
Sir, 30 June 1864.

THE Lords of the Council have been informed that an opinion has been expressed by a Committee of the House of Commons, that the regulations under the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856, now in force at the port of London, with respect to the examination and detention of foreign cattle, should in certain respects be relaxed; and that when foreign cattle are imported affected with pleuro-pneumonia, scab, or foot and mouth disease, only the animals actually at the time affected with those diseases should be detained, and that the remainder of the cargo should be allowed to pass without being detained.

Having satisfied themselves, after careful inquiry, that such a modification of the existing practice would not be likely to involve the risk of any injury to the public health, their Lordships are of opinion that the relaxation of the existing regulations recommended by a Committee of the House of Commons may be permitted; and I am instructed by their Lordships to request that you will move the Commissioners of Customs to give the necessary directions for effecting the above-mentioned modification of the regulations, under the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856, now in force at the port of London, taking, of course, especial care that, under the new regulations, the examination of animals arriving at that port shall be so complete as to ensure the detention of any animals actually suffering from either of the diseases specified.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary, Customs.

COPY of a MINUTE of the Board of Customs, dated 8 July 1864.

THE Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, having been pleased by Mr. Helps' letter of the 30th ultimo, to signify their opinion that the regulations now in force at this port, under the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856, with respect to the examination and detention of foreign cattle, may be relaxed, and requested that when foreign cattle are imported affected with pleuro-pneumonia, scab, or foot and mouth disease, directions may be given that only the animals actually at the time affected with those diseases should be detained, and that the remainder of the cargo should be allowed to pass without being detained.

Ordered, that the Comptroller of the Out-Door Department be apprised thereof, and directed to instruct the Veterinary Surgeons to govern themselves accordingly, taking special care that the examination of the animals be so complete as to ensure the detention of any actually suffering from either of the diseases specified.

(No. 66—1865.)

Council Office, Whitehall.
Sir, 25 July 1865.

I AM directed by the Lord President of the Council to forward to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, the enclosed copy of an Order of the Lords of the Council, dated 24th July 1865, which has been issued with the view to prevent the spread of an infectious disease now prevailing among cattle within the metropolis and its neighbourhood.

The Lords of the Council have reason to apprehend that cattle affected with this disease may be imported into this country; their Lordships therefore direct me to request that you will move the Commissioners of Customs to instruct their officers at the various out-ports to exercise the greatest care in the examination of all cattle which may be imported into this country; and, in the event of any disease being discovered, to adopt all necessary measures to prevent the introduction and spread of the disease.

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. Harrison.*

The Secretary, Customs.

Custom House, London,
28 July 1865.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Harrison, Deputy Clerk of the Council, dated 25th instant, is, with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, transmitted to the Collector at for his government.

By order of the Commissioners,
J. B. Hale.

App. No. 11.

COPY of ORDER in COUNCIL referred to.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 24th day of July 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Mr. Milner Gibson.	

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September, 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other part of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection; and also for the purpose of purifying any yard, stable, outhouse, or other place, or any waggons, carts, carriages, or other vehicles; and also for the purpose of directing how any animals dying in a diseased state, or any animals, parts of animals, or other things seized under the provisions of this Act, are to be disposed of; and also for the purpose of causing notices to be given of the appearance of any disorder among sheep, cattle, or other animals, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act, shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, of which the nature is at present uncertain, has lately appeared, and now prevails among cattle within the metropolis and in the neighbourhood thereof, and it is expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from spreading:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue and in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:

1. If at the date of the publication of this Order in the "London Gazette" there shall be any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, or ox labouring under any contagious or infectious disorder in the possession or custody of any cowkeeper, dairyman, or dairywoman, or of any milkman or milkwoman, or vendor or purveyor of milk, or of any dealer in cattle whatsoever within the City of London, or within the limits of the metropolitan police district, or if at any time hereafter, while this present Order shall continue in force and unrevoked, any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, or ox, being in the possession or custody of any such person as aforesaid within the said City of London, or within the metropolitan police district, shall be seized or attacked with, or be found labouring or suffering under, any such contagious or infectious disorder, notice of the existence of such disorder, or of the first appearance of such disorder, in or among the cattle belonging to or in the custody of any such person as aforesaid, shall immediately thereupon be given by the person in whose possession or custody such diseased animals or animal shall be, to the Clerk of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council in waiting at the Office of Her Majesty's Privy Council at Whitehall, in the county of Middlesex; and it shall be lawful for the said Clerk of Her Majesty's Privy Council, and for all such persons as he shall by writing under his hand authorise in that behalf, thereupon, and at all reasonable times thereafter, to inspect and examine all or any such diseased animals or animal, and to report to the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council all such information and particulars as to the nature or character of such disorder as may seem to him expedient for the purpose of enabling proper regulations to be made for preventing or checking the further propagation and increase of such disorder.

2. Every person offending against this Order, and omitting to give such notice, or to permit such inspection and examination as aforesaid, shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, which the Justices before whom he or she shall be convicted of such offence may think fit to impose.

(signed) *Edmund Harrison.*

Privy Council Office,
Whitehall, 11 August 1865.

Sir,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 9th August instant, suggesting the adoption of certain measures, with a view to prevent the importation into this country of diseased cattle, I am directed by the Lords of the Council to acquaint you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, that their Lordships are of opinion that it is desirable to suspend, for the present, the authority given in my letter of the 30th June 1864, in conformity with an opinion expressed by a Committee of the House of Commons, to relax some of the regulations relating to the examination and admission of foreign cattle, enforced by the Commissioners of Customs under the provisions of the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856.

I am, therefore, directed by the Lords of the Council to request that you will move the Commissioners of Customs to give the necessary directions to their officers in London and at the various out-ports in the United Kingdom, to ensure the rigid enforcement of the provisions against the admission of diseased cattle, contained in the above-mentioned Order in Council of the 28th July 1856.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary, Customs.

COPY

COPY of MINUTE of the Board of Customs, dated 12 August 1865.

THE Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, dated the 11th instant, adverting to his letter of the 9th August instant, in which the adoption of certain measures was suggested, with a view to prevent the importation into this country of diseased cattle, and acquainting the Board that their Lordships are of opinion that it is desirable to suspend, for the present, the authority given in their Lordships' letter of the 30th June 1864, in conformity with an opinion expressed by a Committee of the House of Commons, to relax some of the regulations relating to the examination and admission of foreign cattle, enforced by the Board under the provisions of the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856.

The Lords of the Council, therefore, request that the Board will give the necessary directions to their officers in London, and at the various out-ports in the United Kingdom, to ensure the rigid enforcement of the provisions against the admission of diseased cattle contained in the above-mentioned Order in Council of the 28th July 1856.

Ordered, That the officers in London be informed that the order contained in the letter from the Privy Council of the 30th June 1864, by which the regulations prescribed by the Order in Council of the 28th July 1856, relating to the examination and admission of cattle were relaxed, is suspended for the present, and that the former regulations are again in force; that in case, therefore, of any animal in a cargo being found to be suffering from any contagious or infectious disease, the whole of the animals are to be detained as directed by the Order in Council of 1856, above referred to, for such a time as the inspector employed shall, in the exercise of his discretion, consider to be necessary. And a General Order is to be forthwith issued to the out-ports in accordance with the latter part of Mr. Helps' letter.

(No 74—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 12 August 1865.

WITH reference to the Board's General Order 66—1865, respecting the examination of cattle imported into this country, I am now instructed to direct you, in consequence of a communication from the Lords of the Council dated the 11th instant, to take the necessary steps to insure the rigid enforcement of the provisions against the admission of diseased cattle contained in the Order in Council of the 28th July, 1856, a copy of which accompanied the Board's General Order 74—1856, to which your attention is especially called.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

The Collector at

(No. 79—1865.)

Custom House, London.
Sir, 26 August 1865.

HEREWITH you will receive a copy of an Order in Council of yesterday's date, prohibiting the removal of cattle, viz., of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf, into Ireland from Great Britain; and I am accordingly to direct you not to allow any such animals to be shipped for or removed to Ireland, at or within your port, and you are to make this Order at once generally known.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

The Collector at

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 25th day of August 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Sir George Grey, Bart.
Mr. Secretary Cardwell.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas it is expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue and in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and

App. No. 11.

and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:

1. That in this Order the word "cattle" shall be interpreted to mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf.

2. That after the date of the publication of this Order in the "London Gazette," it shall not be lawful for any person to remove any cattle from any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, to any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to ensure due obedience to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

No. 81—1865.

Council Office, Whitehall,
Sir, 26 August 1865.

I HAVE to acquaint you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, that Her Majesty's Government have received intelligence from the British Minister at the Hague, that a malady amongst cattle, having a striking resemblance to the disease which now exists in England, and which is called the "Cattle Plague," has broken out in the Netherlands.

I am directed by the Lords of the Council to request that the Commissioners of Customs will make known this fact to their officers at the outports, in order that they may be careful not to relax the vigilance which, as their Lordships are aware, these officers have shown, by strictly enforcing the regulations laid down by your Board in accordance with the letters addressed to the Commissioners by the Privy Council on the 25th of July, and the 11th and 12th August 1865, having for their object to prevent the importation of diseased cattle into this country from any foreign ports.

I am, &c.
The Secretary, (signed) *Arthur Helps.*
Customs.

Custom House, London,
26 August 1865.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, dated this day, is transmitted to the Collector at
for his information and government.

By Order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

No. 86—1865.

Custom House, London,
Sir, 11 September 1865.

WITH reference to the General Order, No. 79—1865, herewith you will receive a copy of a further Order in Council of the 7th instant, prohibiting the removal of any skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf, into Ireland from Great Britain; and I am accordingly to direct you not to allow any skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any such animals to be shipped for or removed to Ireland at or within your port, and you are to make this Order at once generally known.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*
The Collector at

ORDER in COUNCIL.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 7th day of September 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President. | Viscount Palmerston.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.* or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas it was expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and whereas, for such purpose, an Order was duly made in pursuance of the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, dated 25th August 1865; and whereas by such Order, the removal to any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, from any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf was prohibited:

And whereas it is apprehended that the said disease,

disease, termed "Cattle Plague," may be communicated otherwise than by the removal of the above-named animals:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:

That, after the date of the publication of this Order in the London Gazette, it shall not be lawful for any person to remove any skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any of the above-named animals, from any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, to any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to insure due obedience to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

No. 87—1865.

Custom House, London,
Sir, 14 September 1865.

I AM directed to transmit to you, for your information and government, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council, of yesterday's date, by which all hides and skins brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland, are excepted from the operation of the Order in Council of the 7th instant, transmitted to you with General Order, No. 86—1865.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector .

ORDER in COUNCIL.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 13th day of September 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President. | Duke of Somerset.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas it was expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and whereas for such purpose, Orders were duly made in pursuance of the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, dated the 25th of August 1865, and the 7th day of September 1865:

And whereas by the last-mentioned Order the removal to any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, from any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, of any skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf, was prohibited:

And whereas it has been represented to the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, that there is annually a large importation into Ireland of skins and hides brought from India, South America, and Australia, which countries are at present free from the disease designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:—

That, after the date of the publication of this Order in the London Gazette, all hides and skins brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland, are hereby excepted from the operation of the said Order of the 7th day of September 1865.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to give due effect to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 94—1865.)

Privy Council Office,
Sir, Whitehall, 26 September 1865.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, the accompanying copy of an Order of their Lordships, dated the 22d of September 1865, consolidating and amending the previous Orders relating to the Cattle Plague, and containing further provisions in regard to animals suffering from that disease.

I am further to transmit to you a copy of a letter addressed to me by Professor Simonds, containing the result of his inquiry relative to an

App. No. 11.

outbreak of the Cattle Plague in a remote part of the county of Norfolk, supposed to have arisen from cattle having been in contact with some diseased sheep recently brought to the premises.

From this letter it would appear that the fears entertained that the disease in question might be communicated through sheep were not unfounded; and it further shows that the officers of customs are fully justified in detaining the whole cargo where one or more of the animals on board are diseased.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary of Customs,
&c. &c. &c.

Custom House, London,
29 September 1865.

The aforegoing copy of a letter of Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, together with a copy of the Order in Council, and of the letter of Professor Simonds, therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information.

By Order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

Professor *Simonds* has presented the subjoined Report to the Council:

To the Clerk of the Council.

Veterinary Department,
23, New-street, Spring Gardens,
Sir, 25 September 1865.

I BEG to report that, acting on the instructions received from you, to investigate, without loss of time, the statement received at your office relative to an outbreak of the Cattle Plague in a remote part of the county of Norfolk, supposed to have arisen from cattle having been in contact with some diseased sheep recently brought to the premises, I have visited the district in question, and inquired into all the circumstances of the case.

It appears that as far back as the 17th of August, Mr. C. Temple, farmer and merchant, of Blakeney, received on his farm 120 lambs, which he had instructed a dealer to procure for him for feeding purposes. The lambs were bought at Thetford fair on the preceding day, and were immediately sent by rail to Fakenham, from which place they were driven to Blakeney, a distance of about 10 miles. On their arrival they appeared to be fatigued to a greater extent than ordinary, which was, however, attributed to the heat of the weather and the exertion the animals had undergone. In addition to this, the shepherd observed that several of them seemed unwell, and he remarked to his master that they did not appear to be "a very healthy lot," and that he thought it would be better to return them to the dealer. Within a day or two of this time the symptoms of illness were more marked in all the original cases, and many more of the animals had been attacked. On the 24th two of the worst cases were removed from the field to the farm premises, and were placed in a shed for treatment, in which afterwards a cow was put. On the 25th two of the lambs died; and, in consequence of this and of the large number which were now affected, the whole were brought on the morning of the 27th into the same yard where the shed previously alluded to is situated. There is also another shed, separated from this yard only by some old furze faggots, into which the cows were driven night and morning for being milked. The lambs remained in the yard till the morning of the 28th, when, having had some medicine administered to them, they were returned to the field, and never came again near the cows. While in the yard three died, two on the 27th and one on the 28th; and on the following day two others died in the field. From this time the disease went on, so that by Friday last, September 22nd, the day of my visit, 46 had either died or been killed, and 27 were in a very precarious condition. On September 7th, 10 days after the last exposure to the sheep, a cow gave evidence of being affected with the Cattle Plague, this animal being the one which had been put into the shed occupied by the diseased sheep on the 24th August. A second cow was attacked on September 11th, and a third shortly afterwards, which was followed by others, so that by the 16th all the cows—six in number—a heifer, and a calf, were all dead. My examination of the lambs showed that they were unmistakably the subjects of the Plague. The symptoms agreed in almost every particular with those observed in cattle affected with the malady, and the post-mortem appearances were also identical.

With a view to ascertain the true nature of the changes produced in the system prior to death, I had four of the lambs killed, and from these I took some diseased parts, and forwarded them to the Royal Veterinary College, without note or comment. These parts were examined by my colleague, Mr. Varnell, who at once recognised the special changes of structure which are caused by the Cattle Plague.

The whole facts of the case leave not the least doubt of sheep being liable to the disease termed the Cattle Plague, and that, when affected, they can easily communicate the malady to the ox tribe; and, moreover, that when so conveyed, it proves equally as destructive as when propagated from ox to ox in the ordinary manner. The case is also more important from having occurred in a place no less than 14 miles distant from any other where the Cattle Plague exists, thus placing beyond a doubt the fact of the malady being introduced among the cattle by the sheep alone.

I regret to add that this is not a solitary case of sheep being affected by the Cattle Plague. I learned that some sheep were supposed to be similarly affected belonging to Mr. R. J. H. Harvey, M.P., on his estate at Crown Point, near Norwich. This place I also visited, and found a large flock of upwards of 2,000 lambs, among which the malady was prevailing. A large number had been separated from the diseased, and gave no evidence of the malady. Very many, however, had died, and the disease was making rapid progress. I also examined many of the dead, and found the post-mortem appearances to be identical with those seen in the other cases spoken of in this report. In this instance the malady was brought into the estate by the purchase of some cattle which afterwards died from

from the disease, and which were unfortunately pastured with the sheep at the time the disease manifested itself.

The whole matter is one of the greatest importance, and which I lose no time submitting to you for the information of the Lords of the Council.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Jas. B. Simonds.*

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 22nd day of September 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.

Duke of Somerset.	Mr. Secretary Cardwell.
Earl of Clarendon.	Mr. H. A. Bruce.
Earl de Grey and Ripon.	

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders amongst Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th and 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such orders and regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other part of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection; and also for the purpose of purifying any yard, stable, outhouse, or other place, or any waggons, carts, carriages, or other vehicles; and also for the purpose of directing how any animals dying in a diseased state, or any animals, parts of animals, or other things seized under the provisions of the said Act, are to be disposed of; and also for the purpose of causing notices to be given of the appearance of any disorder among sheep, cattle, or other animals, and to make any other orders or regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such orders or regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as to the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder now prevails among the cattle of Great Britain, which is generally designated the "Cattle Plague," and may be recognised by the following symptoms:— App. No. 11.

"Great depression of the vital powers, frequent shivering, staggering gait, cold extremities, quick and short breathing, drooping head, reddened eyes, with a discharge from them, and also from the nostrils, of a mucous nature, raw looking places on the inner side of the lips and roof of the mouth, diarrhœa or dysenteric purging:"

And whereas several Orders, dated respectively the 24th of July, the 11th, 18th, and 26th of August 1865, have been made under the authority of the said Acts by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, with a view to check the spreading of the said disorder:

And whereas it is expedient to consolidate and amend the said Orders:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue of, and in exercise of the powers given by, the said Act, so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:—

1. This Order shall extend to all parts of Great Britain.

2. The said Orders dated respectively the 24th of July, the 11th, 18th, and 26th of August 1865, are revoked, with the exception of so much of the said Order of the 24th of July 1865, as empowers the Clerk of Her Majesty's Privy Council to appoint inspectors within the limits of the metropolitan police district, provided that such revocation shall not affect any appointment made, or any act done, or penalty recoverable, under any Order hereby revoked.

3. In this Order the word "animal" shall mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, lamb, goat, or swine; and the word "Inspector" shall include any inspector appointed under this Order, or under any of the said revoked Orders.

4. Whenever the local authority, as hereinafter defined, shall be satisfied of the existence of the said disorder in, or have reason to apprehend its approach to, the district over which his or their jurisdiction extends, it shall be lawful for such local authority, if he or they shall think fit, from time to time to appoint one or more veterinary surgeon or surgeons, or other duly qualified person or persons, to be an inspector or inspectors, for the purpose of carrying into effect the rules and regulations made by this Order, within the district for which he or they shall have been appointed. And the same authority may, from time to time, revoke such appointment.

5. Subject to the powers herein reserved to the Clerk of Her Majesty's Privy Council, the local authority within the City of London, and the liberties thereof, shall be the Lord Mayor; in any municipal borough in England or Wales, the mayor, in any petty sessional division in England or Wales (exclusive so far as relates to the jurisdiction of the inspector of so much of the said division as lies within the limits of a municipal borough for which an inspector has been appointed), the justices acting in and for such petty sessional division. The local authority in any burgh or town in Scotland which is subject to the jurisdiction of a provost or other

App. No. 11.

principal magistrate, shall be the provost or such principal magistrate; and in any other place in Scotland not within the jurisdiction of such provost or other principal magistrate, the justices of the county in sessions assembled.

6. Every inspector shall from time to time report to the local authority by which he is appointed, the steps taken by him for carrying into effect the regulations prescribed by this Order; and the local authority shall certify, in such manner as may be directed by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the number of days that such inspector has actually been engaged in the performance of his duty, and the number of miles travelled by him while thus engaged.

7. Every inspector shall furnish the Lords of the Council with such information in regard to the said disorder, as their Lordships may, from time to time, require.

8. Every person having in his possession, or under his custody, any animal labouring under the said disorder, shall forthwith give notice thereof to the inspector of the district within which such person resides, or if no inspector shall have been appointed for the district within which such person resides, then to the officers hereinafter named, according to the place of residence of the person obliged to give notice; that is to say: within the metropolitan police district, to the said Clerk of the Privy Council; within the City of London and the liberties thereof, to the Lord Mayor; within any other borough, burgh, or town subject to the jurisdiction of a mayor, provost, or other principal magistrate, to such mayor, provost, or other principal magistrate; elsewhere in England, to the Clerk of the Justices acting in and for the petty sessional division; and elsewhere in Scotland, to the Clerk of the Peace of the county.

9. Every inspector shall have power to enter upon and inspect any premises or place in which any animal or animals may be found within the district for which he is appointed, and to examine and inspect, whenever and wherever he may deem it necessary, any animal within such district.

10. Every inspector shall have power within his district to seize and slaughter, or cause to be seized and slaughtered, and to be buried, as hereinafter directed, in any convenient place, any animal labouring under the said disorder.

11. Every inspector shall have power within his district to cause to be cleansed and disinfected, in any manner which he may think proper, any premises in which animals labouring under the said disorder have been, or may be, and to cause to be disinfected, and if necessary destroyed, any fodder, manure, or refuse matter, which he may deem likely to propagate the said disorder. And every owner or occupier of such premises shall obey any order given by such inspector for that purpose.

12. Every inspector shall have power within his district to direct that any animal which he suspects to be labouring under the said disorder, shall be kept separate from animals free from the said disorder. And every person having in his possession, or under his custody, such animal, shall obey any order given by such inspector for that purpose.

13. Every person having in his possession, or under his custody, any animal labouring under the said disorder, shall, as far as practicable, keep such animal separate from all other animals, and shall not, if the animal be within a district for which an inspector has been appointed, remove the same from his land or premises, without the license of the inspector.

14. No person shall send or bring to any fair or market, or expose for sale, or send or carry by any railway, or by any ship or vessel coastwise, or place upon, or drive along, any highway or the sides thereof, any animal labouring under the said disorder.

15. No person in any district for which an inspector has been appointed shall, without the license of the inspector, send or bring to or from market, or remove from his land or premises, any animal which has been in the same shed or stable, or has been in the same herd or flock, or has been in contact, with any animal labouring under the said disorder.

16. No person shall place, or keep, any animal labouring under the said disorder in any common or uninclosed land, or, if the animal be in a district for which an inspector has been appointed, in any field or pasture, where, in the judgment of the inspector, such animal may be likely to propagate the said disorder.

17. All animals having died of the said disorder, or having been slaughtered on account thereof, shall be buried with their skins, and with a sufficient quantity of quick-lime, or other disinfectant, as soon as practicable, and shall be covered with at least five feet of earth, or shall, in districts for which an inspector has been appointed, with the consent of the owner, be otherwise disposed of, in manner directed by the inspector.

18. During the continuance of the "Cattle Plague" within the said City of London, or that part of the metropolitan police district which is under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of Works, no animal shall be brought or sent to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, or any other market within the said City or the said part of the metropolitan police district, except for the purpose of being there sold for immediate slaughtering; and every such animal, as soon as sold, shall be marked for slaughter, in the manner in which cattle are ordinarily marked for slaughter in the Metropolitan Cattle Market.

19. Whenever any local authority, as hereinbefore defined, declares, by notice published in any newspaper circulating within his or their jurisdiction, that it is expedient that animals, as hereinbefore defined, or some specified description thereof, shall be excluded from any specified market or fair within that jurisdiction, for a time to be specified in such notice, it is hereby ordered, that after the publication of such notice, it shall not be lawful for any person to bring or send such animals or description thereof into such market or fair; provided always, that this clause of this Order shall not, unless renewed by a further Order, be in force after the expiration of three calendar months from the date of this Order.

20. Every person offending against this Order shall,

shall, in pursuance of the said Act, for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, which the justices before whom he or she shall be convicted of such offence may think fit to impose.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 97—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 30 September 1865.

I AM desired to transmit to you, for your information and government, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council, dated the 29th instant, prohibiting the removal of any sheep or lamb, or the skin or any other part of any sheep or lamb, into Ireland from Great Britain, except skins brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 29th day of September 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Duke of Somerset.
Mr. Secretary Cardwell.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to prevent, until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid, in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails, among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague":

And whereas it was expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and whereas, for such purpose, Orders were duly made in pursuance of the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, dated 25th August and 7th and 13th September 1865; and whereas, by such Orders, the removal to any port or place, in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, from any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf, and, with certain exceptions, of the skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any of those animals, was prohibited:

And whereas there is reason to believe that the said disorder has made its appearance among sheep and lambs:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:—

That it shall not be lawful for any person to remove any sheep or lamb, or the skin, or any other part of any sheep or lamb, from any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, to any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland: provided, that this Order shall not extend to skins brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland:

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to insure due obedience to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 99—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 2 October 1865.

I AM desired by the Board to transmit to you, for the information and government of yourself and the officers under your survey, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council, dated the 29th ultimo, prohibiting the removal of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, or lamb to any port or place within that part of Great Britain called the Island and Barony of Lewis, in the county of Ross, from any other port or place in Great Britain.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 29th day of September 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Duke of Somerset.
Mr. Secretary Cardwell.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign,

App. No. 11.

reign, intituled, "An Act to prevent, until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid, in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas it is expedient to take measures for preventing the spreading to the Island and Barony of Lewis, in the county of Ross, of a contagious or infectious disorder generally designated "the cattle plague," now prevailing in many other parts of Great Britain:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue and in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:—

1. In this Order the word "cattle" shall be interpreted to mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, or lamb.

2. It shall not be lawful for any person to remove any cattle to any port or place within that part of Great Britain called the Island and Barony of Lewis, in the county of Ross, from any other port or place in Great Britain.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to ensure due obedience to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 105—1865.)

Council Office, Whitehall,
Sir, 21 October 1865.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, the accompanying copy of a despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Consul at Trebizond, relative to the cholera and cattle plague.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary, Customs.

Trebizond,
My Lord, 29 September 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that the cholera has ceased here, but I regret to state that it still exists in some of the districts belonging to Trebizond, and, moreover, that it has reached Erzerum. The cattle plague is raging throughout this province.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Fras. Stevens.*

The Right Honourable
Earl Russell, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Custom House, London,
26 October 1865.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, together with a copy of the letter therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information.

By order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

(No. 108—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 4 November 1865.

I AM directed by the Board to transmit to you, for your information and government, the accompanying copy of a Proclamation by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man, prohibiting the importation of cattle, sheep, &c., into that Isle, and also the exportation of the same from the Isle of Man to Ireland; and you are to make the Proclamation at once generally known.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector at .

PROCLAMATION by the Lieutenant Governor.

ISLE OF MAN TO WIT.

WHEREAS by certain Proclamations bearing date respectively the 1st, 4th, and 16th days of September 1865, and the 9th instant, certain Orders were issued for the purpose of preventing the introduction and spreading into or from this Island of a disease that now prevails among cattle and sheep in certain parts of the United Kingdom, commonly known as the Cattle Plague.

And whereas it is deemed expedient to extend and vary, and consolidate into one Order the various Orders contained in the above-mentioned Proclamations.

Now, therefore, it is hereby Ordered:

That the several Proclamations bearing date respectively the 1st, 4th, and 16th of September 1865, and 9th October 1865, shall be and the same are hereby revoked.

And whereas by an Act of Tynwald promulgated on the 18th day of October 1865, entitled "The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1865," it is

is amongst other things enacted that it shall be lawful for the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of any two Members of the Council, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations, and to take such measures as may appear to be necessary for preventing or regulating the importation of animals from parts beyond the seas where infectious or contagious diseases prevail, and also for the purpose of prohibiting the exportation from this Isle, or from any particular port or ports thereof, of cattle, horses, sheep, or other animals, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid, in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that if any animal be imported or introduced, or attempted to be imported or introduced into this Isle, contrary to the provisions of any Order or Orders made in pursuance of the said Act, the same shall be forfeited in like manner as goods prohibited to be imported by any Act relating to the Customs, and for the time being in force in this Isle; and all persons importing or introducing, or exporting or attempting to import or introduce or export, the same shall be liable to such penalties as are imposed on persons importing or exporting, or attempting to import or export, goods prohibited by Acts relating to the Customs, for the time being in force in this Isle; and that for all other offences against the said Act, every person offending shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the court may award.

Now, therefore, the Lieutenant Governor by and with the advice and consent of two Members of the Council, doth hereby, by virtue and in exercise of the powers given by the said Act,

Order as follows:

1. That from this date no animal, or the skins, hides, horns, or hoofs of any animal, shall be imported into this Isle, or into any particular port or ports thereof, provided that this Order shall not extend to skins and hides brought into Great Britain, from India, South America or Australia.

2. That from this date no animal, or the skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or parts of any animal, shall be exported from this Isle to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.

3. That in this Order the word "animal" shall be interpreted to mean any bull, cow, ox, heifer, steer, calf, tup, sheep, wether, or lamb.

Given under my hand at Government House, this 18th day of October 1865.

(signed) *Henry B. Loch,*
Lieut. Governor.

(No. 109—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 6 November 1865.

I AM desired by the Board to transmit to you, for the information and government of yourself and the officers under your survey, the enclosed Order in Council, dated the 3rd instant, regulating the removal of cattle to and from the "North Western District" of Scotland, and revoking the Order in Council of the 29th September last, which was transmitted in the Board's General Order, No. 99—1865; and you are to make the present Order in Council at once generally known. App. No. 11.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector at

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 3rd day of November 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Duke of Somerset.	Earl Russell.
Earl of Clarendon.	

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to prevent, until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," which Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders or Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the same shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas an Order, dated the 29th day of September 1865, has been made under the authority of the said Acts by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, with a view to prevent the spreading to the Island and Barony of Lewis, in the county of Ross, of a contagious or infectious disorder generally designated the "cattle plague," now prevailing in many other parts of Great Britain:

And whereas it is expedient to revoke the said Order, and to take measures for preventing the spreading of the said "cattle plague" to certain parts of Scotland:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue and in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, Order as follows:

1. The said Order, dated the 29th day of September 1865, is revoked, provided that such re-

App. No. 11. vocation shall not affect any act done or penalty recoverable under the said Order:

2. In this Order the word "cattle" shall be interpreted to mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, or lamb, and the expression "North Western District of Scotland" shall be interpreted to mean and embrace the whole of the county of Argyll, in Scotland, and the whole of Scotland lying to the north and west of the Caledonian Canal.

3. It shall not be lawful for any person to remove any cattle to any port or place within the "North Western District of Scotland," as defined and described in this Order, from any other port or place in Great Britain.

4. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to prohibit the removal of any cattle from any port or place within the said North Western District of Scotland to any port or place within the same, or within any other part of Great Britain.

5. Every person offending against this Order shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.* which the Justices before whom he or she shall be convicted of such offence may think fit to impose.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 115—1865.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 1 December 1865.

I AM directed to transmit to you, for your information and government, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council of the 27th ultimo, by which all horns brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland, are excepted from the operation of the Order in Council of the 7th September last, transmitted to you with General Order, No. 86—1865.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector .

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 27th day of November 1865.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Sir George Grey, Bart. | Mr. Bruce.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders amongst Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," which Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places, as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the same shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "cattle plague":

And whereas it was expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and whereas for such purpose Orders were duly made in pursuance of the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, dated the 25th day of August 1865, and the 7th and 29th of September 1865:

And whereas by the Order, dated the 7th day of September 1865, the removal to any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, from any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, of any skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf, was prohibited:

And whereas by an Order dated the 13th day of September 1865, all hides and skins brought into Great Britain, from India, South America and Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland, were excepted from the operation of the said Order of the 7th day of September 1865:

And whereas it has been represented to the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, that horns are imported into Ireland from India, South America, and Australia, which countries are at present free from the disease designated as the "cattle plague:"

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:

That, after the date of the publication of this Order in the "London Gazette," all horns brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland, are hereby excepted from the operation of the said Order of the 7th day of September 1865.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to give due effect to this Order.

(signed) *Edmund Harrison.*

(No. 4.—1866.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 16 January 1866.

THE Board having received information that the "Cattle Disease," or "Rinderpest," has broken out in a flock of sheep near Ostend, I am desired to direct you to apprise the veterinary surgeon employed at your port thereof, and to instruct him and the officers under your survey to exercise the utmost vigilance in the examination of all sheep arriving at your port from Belgium.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector.

(No. 8—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 26 January 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the accompanying Order of the Lords of the Council, dated the 20th of January 1866, altering and amending their Orders of the 23rd of November, and the 16th December 1865, relating to the Cattle Plague.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
31 January 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords of the Treasury, dated 26th instant, together with copy of the Order of the Lords of the Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information.

By Order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector at

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 20th day of January 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Earl Russell.	Mr. Bruce.
Lord Stanley of Alderley.	Mr. Göschen.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," which Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th and 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places, as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the same shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

App. No. 11.

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder now prevails among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which disorder is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas with a view to check the spreading of the said disorder, an Order, dated the 23rd of November 1865, has been made, under the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, consolidating and amending certain Orders previously made for that purpose; and the same has since been altered and amended by a subsequent Order, bearing date the 16th day of December 1865:

And whereas it is expedient to alter and amend the said Orders of the 23rd day of November 1865, and the 16th day of December 1865, respectively: Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:—

I. The power given by the said Orders to any local authority, as defined by the said Order of the 16th day of December, 1865, to declare by notice published in any newspaper circulating within its jurisdiction, and also by notice published in some newspaper or newspapers circulating within the county or counties bordering upon the county within which the jurisdiction of such local authority is situate, that it is expedient, for a time to be specified in such notice, that animals, as defined by the said Order of the 23rd day of November 1865, or some specified description thereof, shall not, either absolutely, or except under such conditions as such local authority shall think fit to impose with a view to prevent the spreading of the said disorder, be brought from any other part of Great Britain into any place within his or their jurisdiction, shall extend, from and after the day on which this present Order comes into operation, to all raw or untanned hides and skins, and all horns or hoofs of any animals as defined as aforesaid, or of any description thereof to be specified in any such notice,

App. No. 11.

notice, except such hides, skins, horns, or hoofs, as are directly imported into the United Kingdom from India, Australia, South Africa, or America, and to the offal of any such animals as aforesaid, and also to all dung, hay, straw, fodder, or litter likely to propagate infection; and it shall not be lawful for any person, in contravention of any such notice, to bring or send any hide, skin, horn, hoof, offal, or other article as aforesaid, except in accordance with such conditions as aforesaid, from any place in Great Britain beyond such jurisdiction into any place within such jurisdiction; and the copy of any such notice shall be sent forthwith by the local authority by which it is made, to the Clerk of Her Majesty's Privy Council, and shall be published by him in the London Gazette: Provided always that nothing contained in this clause of this Order shall make it unlawful for any person to send or carry any such hides, skins, horns, hoofs, offal, or other articles as aforesaid, by railway, through such jurisdiction; and provided also, that nothing contained in this clause of this Order shall make it unlawful for any person to bring or send, with the license of any two justices acting in and for the jurisdiction to which such notice applies, any such hides, skins, horns, hoofs, offal, or other articles as aforesaid, from any land and premises in his own occupation, and beyond such jurisdiction, to any other land or premises in his own occupation within such jurisdiction, during a time to be specified in such license.

II. The power given by the said Order of the 16th day of December 1865, to any local authority as thereby defined, to declare, by notice published in any newspaper circulating within its jurisdiction, that it is expedient, for a time to be specified in such notice, that no cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, or calf shall, except under such conditions as such local authority shall think fit to impose with a view to prevent the spreading of the said disorder, be removed from any particular part of the jurisdiction of such local authority to any other part of such jurisdiction; or from any place or places within such jurisdiction, to be specified in such notice, to any other such place or places, also to be so specified; or from place to place generally within such jurisdiction, or within any specified part thereof; shall extend, from and after the day on which this present Order comes into operation, to all animals, as defined by the said Order of the 23rd day of November 1865, or any specified description thereof; and also to all raw or untanned hides and skins, and all horns and hoofs of any animals as defined as aforesaid or of any description thereof to be specified in any such notice, except such hides, skins, horns, or hoofs as are directly imported into the United Kingdom from India, Australia, South Africa, or America, and to the offal of any such animals as aforesaid, and also to all dung, hay, straw, fodder, or litter likely to propagate infection; and it shall not be lawful for any person to remove any animal, or any hide, skin, horn, hoof, offal, or other article as aforesaid, in contravention of any such notice: Provided always, that nothing contained in this clause of this Order shall make it unlawful for any person to send or carry any such animals, or any such hides, skins, horns, hoofs, offal, or other articles as aforesaid, by railway, through such jurisdiction, or to send or carry any such animals, or any such hides, skins, horns, hoofs, offal, or other articles as aforesaid, if brought by sea from any place out of Great Britain into such jurisdiction, to the nearest convenient railway station for the purpose of carrying them through or out of such jurisdiction.

III. The aforesaid Order, bearing date the 16th day of December, is hereby amended by omitting the words "or out of" from the proviso at the end of the fourth clause of the said Order; and the said proviso is to be read as follows, "provided always that nothing contained in this clause of this Order shall make it unlawful to send or carry any such animal by railway through such jurisdiction, or to send or carry any such animal, if brought by sea from any place out of Great Britain into such jurisdiction to the nearest convenient railway station, for the purpose of carrying it through or out of such jurisdiction."

IV. Any notice given by virtue of this present Order may be renewed, revoked, altered, or varied, from time to time, in the manner provided by the said recited Orders, with respect to notices given under and by virtue thereof.

V. This Order shall come into operation on the 25th day of January 1866, and shall be in force thenceforth until the 1st day of March next, and no longer, unless continued by some further Order.

VI. Every person offending against this Order shall, in pursuance of the said Act, for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, which the justices before whom he or she shall be convicted of such offence, may think fit to impose.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 9—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 3 February 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed letter from the Council Office, dated 1st instant, with Order in Council, dated the 1st instant, excepting from the operation of the Order of 29th September last sheep and lamb pelts thoroughly limed and packed in the manner therein specified.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs,
&c., &c., &c.

Custom House, London,
6 February 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 3d instant, together with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government, with reference to General Order No. 97—1865.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

Order in Council.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 1st day of February 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Bruce.
Duke of Somerset.	Mr. Göschen.
Earl Russell.	
Lord Stanley of Alderley.	

Whereas by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then next Session of Parliament the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid, in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder has lately appeared, and now prevails, among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas it was expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and whereas, for such purpose, Orders were duly made in pursuance of the authority of the said Acts, by the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, dated 25th August and 7th, 13th, and 29th September, and 27th November 1865; and whereas, by such Orders, the removal to any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, from any port or place in that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, of any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, or lamb, and, with certain exceptions, of the skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any of those animals, was prohibited:

And whereas it has been represented to the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council that a considerable trade is carried on in Ireland by the manufacture of leather from sheep and lamb pelts brought from Great Britain, and that all risk of infection from such pelts is removed by the process of "liming:"

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said recited Act, and by the several Acts continuing the same as aforesaid, order as follows:—

That from and after the date of the publication of this Order in the "London Gazette," sheep and lamb pelts that have been thoroughly "limed" are hereby excepted from the operation of the said Order of the 29th day of September 1865, provided such pelts are packed in dry hogsheads (not coopered casks), and that the outsides of the hogsheads are whitewashed before being placed on board ship for conveyance to Ireland.

And the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give such directions herein as may be necessary to insure due obedience to this Order.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 10—1866.)

Treasury Chambers.

Gentlemen, 6 February 1866.

I am desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of a letter from the Under Secretary for Ireland, dated the 5th instant, relative to the suspected illegal importation of live stock into Ireland, and the means to be adopted for its suppression; and I am to desire that instructions may be forthwith issued to your officers in conformity with the wishes of the Irish Government. I am to state that my Lords have caused a copy of the Under Secretary's letter to be forwarded to the Board of Admiralty, with a like request so far as regards the Coastguard.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Dublin Castle,

Sir, 5 February 1866.

I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that a Resolution, dated the 31st ultimo, has been received from the Council of the Royal Dublin Society, stating that it is believed that the prohibition of the import of live stock into Ireland is evaded at different points of the coast through sailing vessels (especially sheep from Scotland), and therefore praying the Government to cause a vigilant guard to be established, in order to defeat such illegal and dangerous traffic, either through the Coastguard or any other means deemed more effectual; and I am to request that you will move their Lordships to direct that the attention of the Custom House Officers may be called to the statement in the Resolution in question.

I am, &c.
(signed) *T. A. Larcom.*

The Secretary, Treasury, London.

App. No. 11.

Custom House, London,
7 February 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 6th instant, together with copy of the letter therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at , for his information and government; and who will report whether, in his opinion, there is any ground for believing that the prohibition has been evaded.

By Order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

(No. 17—1866.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 15 February 1866.

I AM desired by the Board to transmit, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council, dated the 20th ultimo, making provisions with a view to check the spreading of the "Cattle Plague" or "Rinderpest" to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and I am to direct you to use your best endeavours to prevent an infraction of the 16th Section of the said Order.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

The Collector at

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 20th day of January 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Earl Russell.	Mr. Bruce.
Lord Stanley of Alderley.	Mr. Göschen.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," which Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly, by an Act passed in the session of the 28th and 29th years of Her present Majesty, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary, for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, and to make other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations, and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the same should for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder prevails among cattle within those parts of the United Kingdom called England and Scotland, which disorder is generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," or "Rinderpest," and may be recognised by the following symptoms:—"Great depression of the vital powers, frequent shivering, staggering gait, cold extremities, quick and short breathing, drooping head, reddened eyes, with a discharge from them, and also from the nostrils of a mucous nature, raw-looking places on the inner side of the lips and roof of the mouth, diarrhœa or dysenteric purging."

And whereas it is possible that the said disorder may extend to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and it is expedient to make provisions with a view to check the spreading of the said disorder, in case it should so extend:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue of, and in exercise of, the powers given by the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:—

1. This Order shall extend to all parts of that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.

2. In this Order the word "animal" shall mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, lamb, goat, or swine, and any horse kept in the same field, house, stable, or building with any cattle.

3. In all provisions of this Order to be enforced within the police district of Dublin metropolis, the words "county inspector of constabulary" shall signify one of the Commissioners of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, and "constable" shall signify a superintendent or inspector, or acting inspector of the Dublin Metropolitan Police; and the words "petty sessions court" shall signify any of the offices of the divisional justices of the said district.

4. Every person having in his possession or under his custody any animal labouring under or having symptoms of the said disorder, shall forthwith give notice thereof to the nearest constabulary station of the district within which such animal is, or, if within the Dublin Metropolitan Police District, to one of the superintendents of the Metropolitan Police.

5. Every constable shall have power within his district to enter upon and inspect any premises or place in which he has reason to believe that any animal is labouring under the said disorder, and to examine and inspect, whenever and wherever he may deem it necessary, any animal within such district which he has reason to suspect to be labouring under the disorder; and such constable shall report the fact of every such visit, with its results, to the petty sessions court of the district in which such visit has been made at the next sitting of such court.

6. Whenever

6. Whenever any constable shall receive or obtain information that any animal is labouring under the said disorder, he shall, by the next post, or if possible by telegram, communicate such information to the Chief Secretary or Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, who shall immediately order a competent person as inspector to proceed without delay to the place where the animal alleged to be so labouring is, and to inspect the same; and such inspector shall on the same day forward to the said Chief Secretary or Under Secretary, a report stating whether in his opinion the animal is or is not affected with the disorder.

7. Such constable shall communicate also to the nearest magistrate the report which he has transmitted to the Chief Secretary or Under Secretary; and if such magistrate shall satisfy himself that there are reasons for grave suspicion that the animal mentioned in the constable's report is labouring under the said disorder, he shall have power to issue an order (to be in operation for three days, or until such time as the inspector shall finally report that such animal is free from the said disorder, and subject to such conditions as he may think proper), prohibiting the removal of such animal from the land or premises where the said animal shall be, and requiring all other animals to be kept separate and apart from it.

8. On receipt of information to the effect that an animal is labouring under the said disorder, not being within a district already marked out as an infected district as hereinafter provided, the Lord Lieutenant shall send without delay to the place where such animal is, two or more competent persons, who shall mark out a certain line around such place, and lay down the same upon the Ordnance map. The limit of the district enclosed shall be shown by well-defined boundaries, and all the district within such boundaries shall be called "an infected district," and such competent persons shall forthwith forward to the county inspector of constabulary a description of such district, and marked as aforesaid on the Ordnance map.

9. On receipt of such information the county inspector of constabulary shall, without delay, cause to be posted in all public places within ten miles of the infected district, a notice describing the boundaries of the same; and, from the date of the posting of the first of such notices, it shall not be lawful for any person to hold any fair within such "infected district," or to move out of such "infected district" any animal whatsoever; but any animal, if certified by an inspector to be free from disease, may be slaughtered, and the carcase of such animal may be sent out of such infected district, provided that its skin and offal shall be left within the district; and no skin of any animal slaughtered or dying within such district shall be removed without being disinfected, and without the permission of the inspector, provided that this prohibition shall not extend to the carrying any animal through any such district by a railway train.

10. From the date of the posting of such notice, the county inspector of constabulary shall station at all necessary places constables and sub-constables, who shall prevent the egress of all animals from the "infected district," and shall prohibit the transit or passage of all animals by or through any part of the said district, except in railway trains, and shall as far as possible prevent any animal from approaching the boundaries of such district, and shall prevent the carrying out of any forage, litter, or manure therefrom.

11. The constables or sub-constables shall cause all fæcal matter discharged by any animal labouring under the said disorder to be collected, so far as it can be done, and all litter and other refuse, in any house or place in which any such animal may have been located, and all fodder placed before or brought into contact with such animal, to be collected and buried at least four feet under the surface, or to be destroyed by fire, and the ashes thereof buried.

12. From the date of the posting of the first of such notices, all dogs within the infected district at that date shall be kept shut up or chained, or by other sufficient means shall be prevented from passing out of such district.

13. Such "infected district" shall remain and be considered as an infected district, and subject to the regulations herein applicable to an infected district, so long as any case of disorder exists within it, and for a period of 21 days after the last case of death, or recovery, to be certified by the inspector, and until such inspector shall have certified that all proper precautions have been taken for the purposes of disinfection.

14. Every inspector shall have power to require and cause any animal declared and certified by him in writing to be labouring under the said disorder, to be slaughtered without delay and buried six feet deep in the ground and covered with lime, in such a spot as he may select, and in the case of burial being necessary at a distance from the place of death, he shall cause all practicable means to be taken for preventing the carcase from becoming the vehicle of infection before the removal thereof. The carcases of all diseased animals shall be buried unskinned, and the skins thereof shall be scored so as to prevent their being used.

15. No person who may be brought into contact with any diseased animal shall take with him out of such "infected district" any clothes or garment which such person may have worn while in contact with any such animal, either by wearing the same or otherwise, without taking all such precautions against propagating infection by means thereof, as the Lord Lieutenant by any order may direct.

16. No dog accompanying a drover or of the description ordinarily used by drovers or persons in charge of cattle, sheep, or swine, shall be brought into any part of Ireland by any person, if the last place on land from whence such dog shall have been brought shall be any part of Great Britain.

17. This Order shall come into operation on the 25th day of January 1866, and shall continue in force thenceforth until the same shall be revoked by any future Order.

18. Every person offending against this Order shall, in pursuance of the said Act, for every such offence, forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, which the justices before whom he or she shall be convicted of such offence may think fit to impose.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

App. No. 11.

(No. 32—1866.)

Custom House, London,
Sir, 20 March 1866.

I AM desired by the Board to transmit, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of an Order of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Council, dated the 15th instant, making provisions with a view to check the spreading of the "Cattle Plague" or "Rinderpest" to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; and I am to direct you to use your best endeavours to prevent an infraction of the regulations of the said Order.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The Collector at

Order by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland.

Wodehouse.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, certain powers were given to make Orders and Regulations to prevent the spreading of contagious and infectious disorders among sheep, cattle, and other animals; and the said Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent statutes:

And whereas by a further Act passed in this the 29th year of Her Majesty's reign, c. 4, it is amongst other things enacted, that the several powers and authorities by the said above mentioned Acts, being the Act of 11th and 12th of Her Majesty, c. 107, and the Acts continuing the same, vested in the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, shall and may be exercised by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, to whom also power is thereby given, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to him or them may seem necessary for the purposes aforesaid, and for the other purposes in the now stating statute mentioned.

Now, we, John Baron Wodehouse, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, do hereby, in exercise of the powers so given to us as aforesaid, order as follows:

That from and after the date of the publication of this Order in the "Dublin Gazette," it shall not be lawful to import into Ireland, from any port or place within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, any swine or goats, turnips, mangel wurzel, or any dung whatsoever, or any hay, straw, fodder, or litter likely to carry or communicate infection.

Given at the Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, this 15th day of March 1866.

(signed) *Maziere Brady*, C.
Frederick Shaw.
R. Keatinge.
John Hatchell.
Joseph Napier.
William Keogh.

God save the Queen.

(No. 34—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 23 March 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of an Order in Council of the 17th instant, directing the cleansing and disinfecting of all vehicles used in the carrying of animals as defined in that Order.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
26 March 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 23rd instant, together with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government.

By Order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

ORDER in COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 17th day of March 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Duke of Somerset.	Mr. Bruce.
Lord Stanley of Alderley.	Mr. Goschen.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders amongst Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and which Act has since been from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly, by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th and 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection; and also for the purpose of purifying any yard, stable, outhouse, or other place, or any waggons, carts, carriages, or other vehicles; and also for the purpose of directing

directing how any animals dying in a diseased state, or any animals, parts of animals, or other things seized under the provisions of the said Act, are to be disposed of; and also for the purpose of causing notices to be given of the appearance of any disorder among sheep, cattle, or other animals, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act; and that all persons offending against the said Act shall, for each and every offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, or such smaller sum as the said Lords or others of Her Majesty's Privy Council may in any such case by such Order direct:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder now prevails among the cattle of Great Britain, which is generally designated the "Cattle Plague:"

And whereas divers Orders have from time to time been made under the authority of the said Acts by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, with a view to check the spreading of the said disorder:

And whereas it is expedient to make further provisions with a view to check the spreading of the said disorder:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, by virtue of and in exercise of the powers given by the said Act, so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:

Every Railway or other Company or person carrying animals for hire within any part of Great Britain shall forthwith thoroughly cleanse and disinfect all pens, carriages, trucks, and boats used by such company or person for holding or carrying animals, by a washing of lime-water, or with the approval of the Board of Trade, by some other process; and until such pen, carriage, truck, or boat has been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected as aforesaid, no animal nor any article shall be placed or carried in any such pen, carriage, truck or boat; and when such pen, carriage, truck, or boat has been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected as aforesaid, such company or person, as aforesaid, using the same on every occasion, after any animal has been taken out of such pen, carriage, truck, or boat, and before any other animal or article is placed therein, shall thoroughly cleanse and disinfect every such pen, carriage, truck, or boat in such manner as the Board of Trade shall from time to time direct; and if any pen, carriage, truck, or boat shall at any time be used in contravention of this Order, the company or person by whom it is so used, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5*l.* for every time that such pen, carriage, truck, or boat is so used.

In this Order the expression "animal" shall mean bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, calf, sheep, goat, and swine; and the expression "truck" shall include any horse-box, or other vehicle used in the carrying of animals.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 35—1866.)

App. No. 11.

Custom House, London,
Sir, 26 March 1866.

I AM directed to acquaint you that an Order of Her Majesty in Council was issued on the 24th instant (a copy of which will be forwarded to you as soon as practicable), prohibiting the importation into this country of cattle from Holland on and after the 28th day of March instant, the term "cattle" to be interpreted as including sheep as well as bulls, oxen, cows, heifers, and calves. In the meantime I am desired to instruct you and the several officers under your survey to take the most stringent measures to prevent the introduction of diseased cattle into the country, and to exercise the utmost vigilance in the examination of cattle, sheep, &c., from Holland.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

The Collector .

(No. 36—1866.)

ORDER in COUNCIL,

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 24th day of March 1866.

PRESENT:

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS it has been represented to Her Majesty, that certain contagious or infectious disorders are now prevalent among cattle in the dominions and territories situated in Europe, belonging to his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and that there is danger of the said disorders being introduced into this country by means of cattle from such countries or places: Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that on and after the 28th day of March instant, no cattle shall be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom, which shall come from or shall have been at any place within the aforesaid territories and dominions, situate in Europe, belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and also that on and after the said 28th day of March instant, no cattle shall be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which shall be, or shall have been, on board any vessels at the same time with any cattle which shall have come from, or shall have been within, the aforesaid territories and dominions.

And Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth hereby further order, that, in the event of any cattle being landed in any portion of the United Kingdom, contrary to the provisions of this Order, all such cattle, the importation or introduction whereof is so hereby prohibited as aforesaid, shall, upon their arrival in this country, be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs may direct.

This Order shall continue in force until revoked by any further Order.

The word "cattle" shall include sheep as well as bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, and calves.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

App. No. 11.

Custom House, London,
27 March 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of the Order in Council, dated 24th instant is transmitted to the Collector at for his government, with reference to the secretary's letter of the 26th instant.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

(No. 38—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 27th March 1866.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you, for your information and guidance, the enclosed Order in Council, dated 24th March, continuing until the 16th of April 1866, the prohibition of the movement of cattle by railway.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
31st March 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 27th instant, together with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 24th day of March 1866.

PRESENT:

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, intituled "An Act to amend the Law relating to Contagious or Infectious Diseases in Cattle and other Animals," it is, amongst other things, enacted that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, from time to time to continue, or to renew if expired, all or any of the provisions, in the first part of that Act contained, for such time as shall be specified in such Order:

And whereas it is provided in the second paragraph of the 17th section of the said Act, which section is in the first part thereof, that "no cattle shall be moved on any railway before the 25th day of March 1866:"

And whereas it is expedient that the prohibition of the movement of cattle by railway should be continued beyond the said 25th day of March 1866.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the power vested in Her by the said Act, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the said recited provision, contained in the second paragraph of the 17th section of the said Act, be continued on and after the said 25th day of March 1866, and that "no cattle shall be moved on any railway" before the 16th day of April 1866.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 39—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 29th March 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you, for your information and guidance, the enclosed Order, dated 24th instant, on the subject of the Cattle Plague, which has been passed by the Lords of the Council, under the Act 11 & 12 Vict. c. 107.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
31st March 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 29th instant, together with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 24th day of March 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Duke of Somerset.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Lord Stanley of Alderley.	Mr. Bruce.
	Mr. Goschen.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, chapter 107, intituled, "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th and 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may

may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained, shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act.

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in England and Wales:

And whereas divers Orders have been made by the Lords of the said Council in relation to the cattle plague, and it is expedient to consolidate, amend, and add to the said Orders:

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given under the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:

Preliminary.

1. Part I. of this Order, with the first schedule hereto, and the Regulations 26 and 27 of Part II. which relate to the isolation of infected places, and the rules with respect to infected places, shall come into operation immediately. The residue of this Order shall not come into operation until the 16th day of April 1866. The whole of this Order shall remain in force from the time of its coming into operation until it is revoked or altered.

2. This Order shall apply to England and Wales only.

PART I.

Definitions.

3. In the construction of this Order the following terms shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them; that is to say,

"Person" shall include a body of persons, corporate or unincorporate:

"Cattle" shall mean bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, or calf:

"Animal" shall mean cattle as above defined, sheep, lambs, goats, and swine:

"Disease" shall mean the cattle plague:

"Diseased" shall mean affected by the cattle plague:

"England" shall include Wales:

"Privy Council" shall mean the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, or any two of them:

"Borough" shall mean any place for the time being subject to an Act passed in the Session holden in the 5th and 6th years of the reign of King William the Fourth, chapter 76, intituled, "An Act to provide for the regulation of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales:"

"County" shall not include a county of a city or county of a town, but shall include any riding, division, or parts of a county having a separate commission of the peace:

The liberty of St. Alban's, and the liberty of the Isle of Ely, and the soke of Peterborough, shall respectively be deemed to be separate counties, but all other liberties and franchises of counties shall be considered as forming part of the county by which they are surrounded, or if partly surrounded by two or more counties, then as forming part of that county with which they have the longest common boundary:

"The Metropolis" shall include all parishes and places in which the Metropolitan Board of Works have power to levy a main drainage rate, exclusive of the City of London and the liberties thereof.

Every place that is not, according to the foregoing definitions, a borough, a county, or a part of the metropolis, or is not separately mentioned in the first schedule hereunto annexed, shall be deemed to form part of the county, as hereinbefore defined, to the county rate of which it is assessed, or, if not so assessed, of the county within which it is situate.

Local Authority.

4. For the purposes of this Order, "District," "Local Authority," "Local Rate," and "Clerk of Local Authority" shall respectively mean the places, bodies of persons, rate and officer in the first schedule hereto annexed in that behalf mentioned.

5. Any local authority may from time to time form one or more committee or committees consisting wholly of its own members, or partly of its own members and partly of such other persons, being rated occupiers in the district and qualified in such other manner as the local authority may determine, and may delegate, with or without conditions or restrictions, to any committee so formed, all or any powers conferred on the local authority by this Order, and may from time to time revoke, add to, or alter any powers so given to a committee.

A committee may elect a chairman of its meetings. If no chairman is elected, or if the chairman elected is not present at the time appointed for holding a meeting, the members present shall choose one of their number to be chairman of such meeting. A committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper. The quorum of a committee shall consist of such number of members as may be prescribed by the local authority that appointed it, or, if no number be prescribed, of three members. Every question at a meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present, and voting on that question; and in case of an equal division of votes the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

The proceedings of a committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy or vacancies amongst its members, or, in case of a committee appointed by the General or Quarter Sessions of a county, by the termination of the Sessions by which it was appointed.

A local authority may from time to time add to or diminish the number of the members or otherwise alter the constitution of any committee formed by it under this Order, and may dissolve any such committee.

Any committee formed under the provisions of "The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act," 1866, shall be

App. No. 11.

be deemed to be a committee of a local authority for the purposes of this Order, within the district of such local authority as defined by this Order.

6. The local authority of any borough which is assessed to the county rate of any county may, with the consent of the local authority of such county, such consent being testified in writing, by a letter signed by the clerk of such last mentioned authority, declare, by notice published in any newspaper circulating within such county, that such borough is annexed to such county for the purposes of this Order, and from the date of the publication of such notice such borough shall, for the purposes of this Order, form part of the district of the local authority of such county.

7. Every local authority shall perform all such duties as are imposed upon it by this Order, and shall make such reports to the Privy Council as the Council may from time to time require.

Appointment of Officers, &c.

8. Every local authority shall from time to time appoint such inspectors or other officers as it thinks necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Order within its district; it shall assign them such duties and award them such salaries and allowances as it thinks expedient, and may revoke any appointment so made.

9. Every inspector or other officer appointed by a local authority previously to the date of this Order, for any purpose relating to the cattle plague, and holding office at such date, shall be deemed an inspector or officer for the purposes of this Order within the district of such local authority as defined by this Order, and be subject to the provisions thereof, in the same manner as if he had been appointed thereunder.

10. Every inspector shall furnish the Privy Council with such information in regard to the cattle plague as they may from time to time require.

11. Every local authority may provide and supply, without charge, printed copies of any documents or forms requisite for the purposes of this Order.

12. All expenses incurred by a local authority in carrying into effect this Order shall be defrayed out of the local rate.

13. Any person appointed or to be appointed by the Privy Council an inspector for the purposes of this Order shall, throughout the whole of England, have all the powers which an inspector appointed by a local authority has within his district, and any direction of the Privy Council shall, as respects such inspector, be of the same validity as a direction of a local authority in the case of an inspector appointed by it.

Part II.

Diseased Animals.

14. Every person having in his possession or under his charge any diseased animal shall forthwith give notice thereof to such officer as may have been appointed by the local authority of the district to receive such notices; or, if no such officer has been appointed, to a police constable, whose duty it shall be to report without delay to the local authority the fact of such notice having been given to him. Any person failing to comply with this Regulation as to giving notice shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

15. Every person having in his possession or under his charge any diseased animal shall, as far as practicable, keep such animal separate from animals not diseased. Any person failing to comply with this Regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

16. No diseased animal, and no animal which has, within the preceding 28 days, been in the same shed or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with a diseased animal, shall be removed alive from the premises where such animal may be, except with a license from the local authority of the district, which license shall only permit the removal of such animal to some place within the district of such local authority where it can be conveniently slaughtered, or kept apart from all other animals until such local authority is satisfied that there is no reasonable probability of such animal propagating disease; provided that no such license shall authorise such animal to be removed in contravention of the 17th Regulation of this Order.

If any animal is removed in contravention of this Regulation, the person causing, directing, or permitting the removal of such animal, and also the person removing the same, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

17. No diseased animal, and no animal that has within the preceding 28 days been in the same shed or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with a diseased animal, shall—

1. Be placed or kept in any common or unenclosed land, or in any field or other place insufficiently fenced:

2. Be sent or brought to any fair or market, or exposed for public sale:

3. Be driven along or allowed to stray upon any highway or the sides thereof:

4. Be sent or carried by any railway, canal, river, or other inland navigation, or by any coasting or sea-going vessel.

If any animal is dealt with in contravention of this Regulation, the owner of such animal, and also the company or person other than the owner dealing with the same in contravention of this regulation, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

18. Where any offence is committed with respect to any animal under the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th Regulations of this Order, or any of them, the local authority of the district, and any authority of a fair or market in which such animal may be, may, by themselves or their officers, cause such animal to be slaughtered and buried, and recover from the owner in a summary manner all expenses so incurred.

19. All diseased animals, whether they have been slaughtered or have died of the disease, shall be buried by the owner as soon as practicable in some proper place, with their skins slashed in such a manner as to prevent their being made of any use, and with a sufficient quantity

quantity of quicklime or other disinfectant, and shall be covered with at least five feet of earth, or shall be otherwise disposed of in such manner as may be directed by any regulations made by the local authority, and approved by the Privy Council.

If any diseased animal is not buried or otherwise disposed of in pursuance of this Regulation, the owner of such diseased animal shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order, and it shall be lawful for the local authority to bury or otherwise dispose of any such animal, and to use any convenient place on the premises of the owner for that purpose.

The local authority may recover from the owner in a summary manner any expenses incurred by it under this Regulation.

20. No person shall dig up any diseased animal, or part of a diseased animal. Any person acting in contravention of this Regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

21. Every local authority shall within its district, at its own expense, cause the premises in which diseased animals have been to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected; and the occupier of such premises shall give all facilities for such cleansing and disinfecting. Any occupier of premises failing to give such facilities shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

22. No fresh animal shall be admitted into any yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises in which a diseased animal has been kept while affected by disease, or has died, or been slaughtered, until the expiration of 30 days after the cleansing and disinfecting of such premises. If any fresh animal is admitted into any yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises, in contravention of this Regulation, the occupier of such yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

23. The dung of a diseased animal, and all hay, straw, or litter, or any other article that has been in contact with or used about a diseased animal, shall be destroyed, or, with the sanction of the local authority, shall be disinfected and dealt with to the satisfaction of the inspector. If such dung, hay, straw, litter, or any other article is not destroyed or disinfected and dealt with in pursuance of this Regulation, the local authority may cause the same to be destroyed or disinfected, and recover in a summary manner all expenses incurred by it from the occupier of the premises on which such articles were found, and in addition thereto such occupier shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

24. The dung of a diseased animal, and all hay, straw, or litter, or any other article that has been in contact with or used about a diseased animal, shall not be removed from the premises where such animal has been, except for the purpose of being destroyed or disinfected and dealt with in compliance with this Order, and with a license of an inspector, specifying the place at which it is to be destroyed or disinfected and dealt with, and shall not be removed beyond the limits of the district of the local authority in which the said premises are situated without the consent, in writing, of the local authority into whose district it is moved. If such dung, hay, straw, litter, or other article is removed, in contravention of this Regulation, the occupier of the premises from which it is removed, and also the person removing the same, shall be respectively deemed guilty of an offence against this Order; and it shall be lawful for the local authority to destroy or disinfect any such article, and to recover the expenses of such destruction or disinfection from the said occupier.

25. Every local authority shall direct the disinfecting of clothes of, and the use of due precautions by, inspectors and other officers brought into contact with diseased animals, with a view to prevent such inspectors or officers spreading contagion. Any inspector or officer disobeying the directions of any local authority as to such disinfection and use of due precautions shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Infected Places.

26. The authorities hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, any local authority as to any place within its district shall, and the Privy Council as to any place in England may, by Order made at any time after the passing of this Order, and published in manner hereinafter mentioned, declare any place in which disease amongst animals at that time exists, together with such an area, including such place, as to such authority may seem to be required, to be an "infected place," from and after a date to be specified in such Order; and the authority declaring a place to be infected may, at the expiration of one month after the disappearance of disease in that place, by Order published in like manner, declare such place to be free from disease, and after the publication of such last-mentioned Order such place shall cease to be an "infected place" within the meaning of this Order, unless again declared in manner aforesaid to be an "infected place."

Any local authority may include in the area of an "infected place" any adjoining part of the district of another local authority, with the consent of such last-mentioned authority, testified in writing by a letter signed by the clerk of such authority.

The area of an "infected place" may be described by reference to a map deposited at some specified place, or by reference to parishes, townships, farms, or otherwise, as the authority may think expedient.

An Order declaring a place to be an "infected place" shall be published by notice being posted up in or near the "infected place," and, so far as is possible, in all places where notices are usually posted up, within five miles of such "infected place," or in such other manner as the authority declaring the place to be infected may think expedient.

The local authority, on declaring any place infected, shall forthwith report by post to the Privy Council the fact of such declaration having been made.

No objection shall be taken in any legal proceeding in respect of an "infected place" on the ground that due notice has not been given of such place having been declared to be an "infected place."

Any Order made by the Privy Council under this Regulation shall supersede any Order inconsistent with it that may have been made by a local authority.

27. The following rules shall be observed with respect to "infected places," in addition to the

App. No. 11.

other Regulations of this Order with respect to diseased animals; that is to say:

1. No animal shall be moved out of an "infected place."

2. No hides, skins, horns, hoofs, or offal of animals shall be removed out of an "infected place," without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses, certifying that such articles have not formed part of a diseased animal, and, if necessary, have been properly disinfected:

3. No carcase of, or undressed meat that has formed part of, any bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, or calf, shall be moved out of an "infected place," without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses, certifying that such carcase is not that of a diseased animal, or that such meat has not formed part of a diseased animal:

4. No dung of animals, and no hay, straw, litter, or other articles forming the food of animals, or used for or about animals, shall be removed out of an "infected place" without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses, certifying that such articles have not been in contact with or used about a diseased animal:

5. A license for the purpose of this Regulation must be in writing, and shall not authorize the removal of any articles beyond the district of the local authority in which the "infected place" is situate without the license of the local authority into whose district it is proposed to move such articles.

If any animal, dung of animals, hide, skin, horn, hoof, offal, meat, hay, straw, litter, or other articles, is or are moved in contravention of this Regulation, the owner of such animal or articles, and also the person moving the same, or causing, directing, or permitting the same to be moved, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

All constables and police officers shall enforce the provisions of this Regulation, to the utmost of their power, and may apprehend all persons committing any offence against this Regulation, and may require all animals and articles being moved out of such place in contravention of this Regulation to be forthwith taken back within the limits of such place.

This Regulation shall not apply to any animal or article carried by railway through an "infected place."

Markets and Fairs.

28. No market, fair, auction, exhibition, or sale of cattle shall be held until the 1st day of June 1866, except as hereinafter mentioned; that is to say,

First. Cattle belonging to the owner or occupier of premises that are not situate within the limits of an "infected place," if the cattle are free from disease, and have been in the possession of the owner or occupier not less than 28 days immediately previous to the sale, may be sold on such premises;

Secondly. Markets may be held, with the license of the Privy Council, for the sale of cattle intended for immediate slaughter: Provided that no cattle shall be removed from such market until they have been marked in the manner in which cattle are ordinarily marked for slaughter, according to the custom of such market, or, if there is no such custom, by clipping the hair off the end of the tail; and all cattle required to be marked by this Regulation shall be slaughtered within four days from the date of the holding of such market (if sold) by or by the order of the purchaser, or (if not sold) by or by the order of the owner, and shall in no instance be taken, in the case of cattle brought to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, beyond the limits of the metropolis, including the City of London and the liberties thereof, and in the case of cattle brought to any other market, beyond such limits as may be described in the license of the Privy Council allowing such market, and under such conditions with respect to their movement within such limits as may be imposed by such license.

If any cattle are sold in contravention of this Regulation, both the seller and the purchaser of such cattle shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle required to be marked by this Regulation are not so marked, the persons for the time being in charge of such cattle shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle required to be slaughtered by this Regulation are not so slaughtered, the purchaser or owner of such cattle or his agent (as the case may be) shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle are removed in contravention of this Regulation, the person removing such cattle, and the person causing, directing, or permitting the removal of such cattle, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

29. No sheep, lambs, goats, or swine shall be brought into or exposed for sale in any market licensed for the sale of cattle under the last preceding Regulation, except for the purpose of immediate slaughter, and all such sheep, lambs, goats, and swine, when brought into or exposed for sale in any such market, shall be subject to the last preceding Regulation, in the same manner as if they were cattle, except that they shall be marked in such manner as the market authority may direct, instead of in the manner prescribed by the said Regulation.

Foreign Cattle.

30. Until the 1st of June 1866, all cattle brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom into any town or place in England shall be marked by clipping the hair off the end of the tail, and no such cattle shall be removed alive from such town or place except by sea.

"Town or place" in this Regulation shall, according to circumstances, mean as follows:

1. The area of the metropolis, including the City of London and the liberties thereof:

2. The area of any borough or such other limits

limits as may be defined by the Privy Council in respect of such borough:

3. In the case of any other town or place, such area as may be defined by the Privy Council to constitute such town or place.

Cattle brought by Sea from any part of the United Kingdom into England.

31. No cattle brought by sea from any place in the United Kingdom into any town or place in England shall be removed from such town or place alive, without a certificate from the local authority having jurisdiction in such town or place that such cattle have been examined by some officer, appointed for that purpose by such authority, and that such cattle are free from disease; but such certificate shall not exempt such cattle from any other regulation of this Order with respect to the movement of cattle or otherwise; provided, nevertheless, that, in the case of cattle landed in any place in England from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority, that such cattle are free from disease, shall be accepted, in the case of a fat stock license, by the person authorized to grant the same as sufficient for the purpose of granting such license, and, in the case of a store-stock license, such certificate shall be accepted by the justice as equivalent to the declaration of the owner or his agent and to the certificate of the occupiers required by the form of the said store-stock license.

"Town or place" shall in this regulation have the same meaning as in the preceding regulation.

Special Regulations within the Metropolis.

32. The following additional regulations shall be in force as respects the movement of cattle within the metropolis, inclusive of the City of London and the liberties thereof:

1. No cattle shall be removed from the metropolis, inclusive as aforesaid; provided that where any person occupies a farm situate partly within and partly without the metropolis, inclusive as aforesaid, or any other contiguous premises so situate, he may, with a license from the Commissioner of Police of the metropolis (which license such Commissioner is hereby empowered from time to time to grant, and, if he think fit, to revoke), and for a time not exceeding seven days from the date of such license, move from one part of such premises to another any animal not diseased which has been in his own possession for 28 days immediately previous to the date of such license, and has been marked in such manner as the said Commissioner of Police may direct.

If any cattle are removed from the metropolis, inclusive as aforesaid, in contravention of this regulation, the owner of such cattle, and also the person in charge of the same, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

2. No cattle shall be moved along any highway, thoroughfare, or public place within the metropolis, inclusive as aforesaid, except for a distance not exceeding 500 yards from part to part of the same farm or to water, without a license from the said Commissioner of Police; and every such license shall state the number and description of animals licensed to be removed, and the place of their destination, and shall be valid only for 24 hours from the date thereof; provided that this clause of this Order shall not apply to any animals intended for immediate slaughtering which are sent to or from the said Metropolitan Cattle Market.

If any cattle are moved along any highway, thoroughfare, or public place, in contravention of this regulation, the owner of such cattle, and also the person in charge of the same, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

General Regulations.

Movement of Cattle.

33. No cattle shall be moved on any highway between sunset and sunrise, except within the limits of the metropolis, inclusive of the City of London and the liberties thereof, or of any other city or town.

No cattle shall be moved by or upon any railway, canal, navigation, river, or highway, or by any vessel coastwise, without a license, except for a distance not exceeding 500 yards from one part of the same farm to the other.

Licenses shall be of two descriptions—

1. A license for cattle intended for immediate slaughter, hereinafter called a fat stock license;

2. A license for other cattle, hereinafter called a store-stock license.

A fat-stock license shall be in the form, and contain the particulars, and be signed in the manner appearing in the form marked A in the second schedule annexed hereto, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

A store-stock license shall be in the form, and contain the particulars, and be signed in the manner appearing in the form marked B in the said second schedule, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

No cattle shall be moved as aforesaid out of the district of the local authority in which they are without a license in one of the forms aforesaid, such form being applicable to the class of cattle moved; but where cattle are moved only within the district of a local authority, that local authority may make regulations for granting licenses in such form as it thinks fit, for the movement of such cattle, so that the conditions of such licenses be not more stringent than the conditions of the licenses in the said second schedule.

If any cattle are moved in contravention of this regulation, the owner of such cattle, and the person directing or permitting the removal of the same, and the company or person conveying the same, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Cattle brought by land from Scotland into England may be moved in England with the same licenses that in Scotland authorise their removal from the district of one local authority to another, in pursuance of any Order of the Privy Council in force for the time being.

34. No

App. No. 11.

34. No person shall drive or allow any cattle under his charge to be driven or to stray into any inclosed field, without the consent of the owner or occupier thereof, and any person acting in contravention of this regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Movement of Hides and Skins, &c.

35. No hide, skin, horn, or hoof of animals shall be moved by highway, railway, canal, river, or other mode of conveyance unless effectually covered.

If any hides, skins, horns, or hoofs are moved in contravention of this regulation, the person sending the same, and the person moving the same, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

36. No regulation of this Order, shall apply to the following hides, skins, horns, and hoofs (that is to say),

(1.) Hides, skins, horns, or hoofs imported into the United Kingdom from India, Australia, South Africa, or America:

(2.) Hides, skins, horns, hoofs, or glue pieces that have been effectually limed for manufacturing purposes.

But the burden of proving that any hides, skins, horns, or hoofs are such as are authorised by this regulation to be removed shall lie upon the person charged with moving the same in contravention of this Order.

Regulations as to Dogs.

37. A local anthority may make such orders as it thinks expedient for preventing the propagation of disease by means of dogs, and may order any stray dogs to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as it thinks fit.

Cleansing of Pens and Trucks.

38. Every railway or other company or person carrying animals for hire shall, on every occasion after any animal has been taken out of any pen, carriage, truck, or boat used by such company or person, and before any other animal or article is placed therein, thoroughly cleanse and disinfect every such pen, carriage, truck, or boat in such manner as the Board of Trade may from time to time direct.

The expression "truck" shall include any horse-box or other vehicle used in the carrying of animals.

If any pen, carriage, truck, or boat is at any time used in contravention of this regulation, the company or person by whom it is used shall, every time that such pen, truck, or boat is used, be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.*

Powers of Officers employed under this Order.

39. Any inspector or other officer empowered to carry this Order into effect, may, if authorised so to do by any general or special order in writing of the local authority, enter any field, stable, cow-shed, or other premises within his district, where he has reasonable grounds for supposing that cattle affected by disease are to be found, or have been, or have been buried, or otherwise disposed of, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Order, or enter into the station or premises of any railway or other company or person carrying animals for hire, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the pens, carriages, trucks, boats, or other vehicles used by such company or person have been duly cleansed and disinfected; and if any person refuses admission to, or obstructs, or impedes, or aids in obstructing or impeding any such inspector or other officer, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

40. It shall be lawful for any officer authorised by a local authority so to do, or for any constable or police officer, to inspect any railway truck, cart, boat, or other vehicle by land or by water, in which animals, hay, manure, litter, straw, and other articles used for or about animals, are carried, and to examine the person in charge of the same, with a view to ascertain whether any animals or articles are being moved in contravention of this Order; and such officer may, if he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that such animals or articles are being moved in contravention of this Order, apprehend without warrant the person in charge of the same, and bring him before a justice, who shall inquire into the case in a summary manner; and such justice, if satisfied that there are good grounds for suspecting that such animals or articles were moved in contravention of this Order, may direct, by writing under his hand, such animals or articles to be detained, and the person in charge thereof to be brought before two justices as soon as practicable, and such animals or articles may be detained and the person brought before the justices accordingly.

Upon such person being brought before the two justices, they shall adjudicate on the case in a summary manner, and, if satisfied that the animals or articles were moved in contravention of this Order, may direct the same to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, as they think most expedient for the prevention of the spreading of disease amongst animals.

The constable or other police officer detaining any animals in pursuance of this Regulation, shall cause them to be supplied with requisite food and water during their detention; and any expenses incurred by such officer in respect of such animals may be recovered in a summary manner from the person in charge, or from the owner of the animals.

41. It shall be lawful for any constable or police officer, or for any officer authorised by a local authority so to do, to stop and detain any animal moved, or which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting is being moved in contravention of this Order, and to apprehend without warrant the person in charge of such animal, and bring him before a justice, who shall inquire into the case in a summary manner; and such justice, if satisfied that such animal was being moved in contravention of this Order, may direct, by writing under his hand, the animal so moved to be detained, and the person in charge thereof to be brought before two justices as soon as practicable, and such animal may be detained and person brought before the justices accordingly.

Upon such person being brought before the two justices, they shall adjudicate on the case in a summary manner, and, if satisfied that the animal was being moved in contravention of this Order, may direct the same to be slaughtered and buried, or to be otherwise disposed of, as they

they think most expedient for the prevention of the spreading of disease amongst animals.

Any constable, police, or other officer detaining any animal, shall cause it to be supplied with requisite food and water during its detention; and any expenses incurred by such officer in respect of any animal may be recovered in a summary manner from the person in charge, or from the owner of the animal.

42. If any person having charge of any animal or thing being moved on a highway, railway, canal, navigation, or river, for the moving whereof a license is requisite under this Order, being required by any constable, police officer, or officer authorised by a local authority, to produce the license (if any) for the moving of that animal or thing, fails so to do, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

43. Every person guilty of an offence against this Order shall for each such offence incur a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*; and where any such offence is committed with respect to more than four animals, a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.* for each animal may be imposed instead of the penalty of 20 *l.* And where any such offence is committed with reference to any dung, offal, hay, litter, straw, or other thing, a further penalty not exceeding 10 *l.* may be imposed for every half ton in weight of such dung or other thing after the first half ton.

44. Any local authority may appear before any justices, or in any legal proceedings, by its clerk, or by any agent, authorised by it in writing under the hands of two of its members; and any railway company or other body corporate may appear before any justices or in any legal proceedings by their secretary, or by any member of their board of management, or by any agent authorised in writing under the hands of any two members of such board.

Part III.

Repeal of Orders.

45. On and after the 16th of April 1866 there shall be revoked, so far as respects England and Wales, the following Orders, or so much thereof as may be in force; that is to say,—

The Order of July 24th, 1865,
of November 23rd, 1865,
of December 16th, 1865,
of January 20th, 1866,
of February 6th, 1866,
of February 23rd, 1866.

And all notices published by any local authority in pursuance of such Orders shall cease to have any effect, without prejudice nevertheless to the prosecution of any offence that may have been committed against the said Orders or Notices, or any of them, or to the recovery of any penalty in respect of such offence.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

Districts of Local Authority.	Description of Local Authority of District set opposite its Name.	Local Rate.	Clerk of Local Authority.
Counties except the Metropolis.	The Justices in General or Quarter Sessions assembled.	The county rate or rate in the nature of a county rate.	Clerk of the Peace.
The Metropolis - - -	The Metropolitan Board of Works.	Rate or fund applicable to the payment of the general expenses of the Board.	The Clerk of the Metropolitan Board of Works.
City of London and the Liberties thereof.	The Court of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen.	Consolidated sewers rate -	Town Clerk.
Boroughs - - - - -	The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses acting by the Council.	The Borough fund or Borough rate.	Town Clerk.
District of Local Board of Oxford.	The Local Board - -	Rate leviable by the Local Board.	Clerk of the Local Board.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.

A.

Fat Stock License.

I, *A. B.*, of (*a*) hereby license the removal of the undermentioned fat cattle marked with the letter X (*b*), from the premises of of in the county of to (*c*) at in the county of such cattle to proceed as follows: (*d*)

And I grant this license after satisfying myself that the said premises are not within an infected place, and that no case of cattle plague has existed on the said premises, or within one mile of the outward boundary of such premises within 28 days immediately preceding the date of this license; and that the said animals have been on the said premises for the said period of 28 days (*e*). This license shall be in force for (*f*) days, and no longer.

Dated, &c. &c.

(*a*) This license may be granted by the local authority of the place from which the cattle are removed, or any person appointed by such local authority to grant such license.

(*b*) The cattle must be marked with the letter X on the hind quarter.

(*c*) Here insert licensed market or place of slaughter, &c.

(*d*) Describe route. The highway, if the animals proceed by highway, must not pass through, or within a mile of, the outward boundary of any "Infected Place."

(*e*) In the case of cattle landed in any place in England from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority, that such cattle are free from disease, shall be accepted by the person authorised to grant this license as sufficient for the purpose of granting such license.

(*f*) Not to exceed three days.

App. No. 11.

Description of Cattle.

Number of Cattle.	Breed.	Age.	Bull, Cow, Ox, or Calf.

(signed) "_____"

B.

Store Stock License.

I, of in the county of one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, having jurisdiction in the place from which it is proposed to move the under-mentioned animals, having satisfied myself of the correctness of the declaration annexed hereto, hereby license the person under-mentioned to move the said cattle by the undermentioned route, provided that the said cattle shall not be driven through any "infected place," or within one mile of the outward boundary of such place.

Number and Description of Animals.	Name and Address of Seller or Owner.	Route to be taken.	Name and Address of the Buyer, Owner, or Person to whose Premises the Animal is to be sent for Breeding Purposes.	Name of Drover, &c.

This license shall be available for six days, and no longer.

C.

Declaration of Owner or his Agent (a).

(*To be annexed to foregoing Declaration.*)

I, *A. B.*, of in the county of do hereby declare that the cattle marked (which I have sold) (*b*) to are free from cattle plague, and that no case of cattle plague has, within the two months immediately preceding my making this declaration, existed upon the premises from which I desire to move such cattle, or within two miles of the outward boundary of such premises: And I further declare that the said cattle have all of them been on the said premises for 28 days immediately preceding my making this declaration, and have not during that time been in contact with any newly-purchased animals.

Dated this day of .

Signed by (*Declarant*).

Certificate to accompany Declaration.

We, the undersigned, being each of us occupiers of upwards of 100 acres of land, and living within a distance of (*c*) miles of the premises of *A. B.*, have viewed the cattle described in this declaration, and to the best of our knowledge certify them to be free from cattle plague; and we believe that the statements contained in the declaration of the said *A. B.* are correct.

Dated

I. J. of *O.*
K. L. of *P.*

(No. 40.—1866.)

Council Office, Whitehall,
Sir, 2 April 1866.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Council to transmit to you for the information of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, the enclosed copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at the Hague, stating that the passage of cattle destined for England through the Netherlands has been forbidden, and calling attention to the facilities which the Hanoverian port of Emden offers for smuggling cattle from the northern provinces of Holland; and I am to request that you will move the Commissioners to instruct their officers at the various out-ports to exercise the utmost care and vigilance in the examination of all cattle arriving in this country from the Hanoverian port of Emden.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. V. Bayly*
(For the Clerk of the Council).

The Secretary, Customs.

Custom House, London,
2 April 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Bayly, for the Clerk of the Council, is transmitted to the collector at for his government.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

(*a*) This declaration must be made by the owner, or his agent, in the presence of the justice. In the case of cattle landed in any place in England from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority to the effect that the cattle are free from disease shall be accepted by the justice as equivalent to the declaration of the owner or his agent and the certificate of the two occupiers.

(*b*) If the cattle are being moved on change of tenancy or on change of pasture, or from premises in one place to premises in another in the occupation of the same person, insert instead of the words [which I have sold] the words [which I desire to move from to]

If the cattle are required to be moved for the purpose of breeding, insert instead of the words [which I have sold] the words [which I desire to send for breeding purposes to .]

(*c*) The occupiers must, if possible, be persons living within two miles distance from the premises of A. B.: if they live at a greater distance than two miles from those premises, the justice must satisfy himself that they have reasonable means of knowing the truth of the facts which they certify.

(No.

(No. 41—1866.)

Privy Council Office, Whitehall.
Sir, 29 March 1866.

I AM directed by the Lord President of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Brussels, reporting that two cases of cattle plague had occurred in the Province of Antwerp.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary, Customs.

Brussels, 25 March 1866.

My Lord,

Mr. Consul Grattan reports to me, under yesterday's date, that since the 13th instant, two cases of cattle plague have occurred in the Province of Antwerp, one at Deurne on the 20th, and the other at Borgeshout on the 21st.

In both cases all the animals kept in the establishment in which the malady broke out were at once slaughtered.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Howard de Walden & Seaford.*

The Lord Clarendon,
&c. &c. &c.

Custom House, London,
3 April 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter of Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, together with copy of the despatch therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information, and who is to instruct the officers to exercise the utmost vigilance in the examination of cattle imported from Belgium.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *Geo. Dickins.*

(No. 46—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 16 April 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith for your information and guidance, the enclosed Order of the Lords of the Council, dated the 14th instant, prohibiting the introduction of Cattle (except by sea for immediate slaughter at the port of debarkation) into South Wales and Monmouthshire.

I am, &c.
(signed) *G. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
18 April 1866.

App. No. 11.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords of the Treasury, is, with a copy of the Order referred to, transmitted to the collector at for his information.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 14th day of April 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President. | Mr. Bruce.
Sir George Grey, Bart. |

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th & 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, chapter 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the first day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th & 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles, likely to propagate infection, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations: and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act.

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in England and Wales:

And whereas divers Orders have been made by the Lords of the said Council in relation to the cattle plague, which were consolidated and amended, by an Order bearing date the 24th day of March last:

And whereas it is expedient to make a further Order applicable to certain parts of the Kingdom.

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given under the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:

1. The word "cattle," in this Order, shall mean bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, or calf.

2. No cattle shall be brought by land into the district

App. No. 11.

district bounded by the outer boundary of the counties of South Wales and Monmouth, by which that district is separated from the rest of Wales and England.

3. No cattle brought by sea into any part of that district shall leave the place at which they are landed alive, but all such cattle shall be slaughtered within 48 hours from the time that they are placed on shore.

4. South Wales, in this Order, shall signify the counties of Pembroke, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Brecon, Radnor, and Cardigan.

5. Nothing herein contained shall affect any of the provisions, conditions, and regulations which are contained in the said Order of the 24th ultimo, except so far as the same are inconsistent herewith.

6. This Order shall come into operation immediately, and shall remain in force until it is revoked or altered.

7. Every person guilty of an offence against this Order shall, for each such offence, incur a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*; and where any such offence is committed with respect to more than four animals, a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.*, for each animal, may be imposed, instead of the penalty of 20 *l.*

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 47—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
16 April 1866.

Gentlemen,

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of an Order by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland of the 7th instant, for the registration and regulation of drovers and dealers in cattle, and for the disinfection of their clothes.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
21 April 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the secretaries to the Lords of the Treasury, is, together with a copy of the Order therein referred to, transmitted to the collector at
for his information.

By order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

ORDER.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland.

Wodehouse.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, certain powers were given to make Orders and Regulations to prevent the spreading of contagious or infectious disorders among sheep, cattle, and other animals; and the said Act has since been, from time to time, continued by divers subsequent statutes:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder having lately appeared among cattle within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, which disorder is generally designated as "The Cattle Plague," it was deemed expedient to take measures for preventing such disorder from extending to that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland; for which purpose, the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council have heretofore made certain Orders and Regulations:

And whereas by a further Act passed in this the 29th year of Her said present Majesty's reign, c. 4, it is amongst other things enacted, that the several powers and authorities, by the said recited Acts vested in the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, shall and may be exercised by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, to whom also power is thereby given, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to him or them may seem necessary for the purposes in the said recited Acts mentioned; and amongst others for the purpose of regulating the embarkation and landing of persons in charge of cattle or sheep, or other animals, and of all other articles likely to carry or communicate infection; and that such Orders and Regulations, when made and published in the "Dublin Gazette," should have the same force as if they had been inserted in the said now stating Act:

Now we, John Baron Wodehouse, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, do hereby, in exercise of the powers so given to us as aforesaid, Order as follows:—

That from and after Monday the 23rd day of April 1866, there shall be established in every Port in Ireland, from which cattle are shipped for exportation, a registry office for registering and granting certificates of such registry to every person leaving Ireland in charge of cattle, or known to be a drover or dealer in cattle frequenting markets; such registry office to be under the direction and control of, in Dublin and Kingstown, the commissioners of Metropolitan Police; and in all other ports the principal officer of constabulary at such port.

Every person leaving Ireland in charge of cattle, or known to be a drover or dealer in cattle frequenting markets, shall, before leaving Ireland, be registered, and obtain a certificate of such registry. And every such person so registered, shall, upon his return, or on board ship before the completion of the journey, if required, produce his certificate to the proper officer appointed to receive or sign it, and shall submit to such disinfecting process as may be ordered, unless he shall satisfy the said officer that he is not wearing or bringing into Ireland clothes which have been worn by him in an infected district or locality while in Great Britain or elsewhere.

It shall not be lawful for any such person as aforesaid to bring on shore in Ireland, from any port or place in Great Britain any clothing, sheets, rugs, halters, or ropes which may have been used for covering or securing cattle, nor any articles of personal clothing which have been worn in an infected

fected district, place, or locality, and which have not been disinfected since they were so worn in manner aforesaid.

In this Order the word "cattle" shall mean any cow, heifer, bull, bullock, ox, calf, sheep, lamb, goat, or swine.

Given at the Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, the 7th day of April 1866.

Richd. C. Dublin.
Fred. Shaw.
John Hatchell.
J. D. Fitzgerald.
Thos. O'Hagan.
F. Blackburne.
Maziere Brady, C.
R. Keatinge.
A. Brewster.
R. Deasy.
James A. Lawson.
Fitzn. French.

God save the Queen.

(No. 54—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
3 May 1866.

Gentleman,

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of an Order issued by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland, removing the restrictions existing on the importation of wool brought into Great Britain from India, South America, and Austaalia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain into Ireland.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *Hugh C. E. Childers.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
5 May 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Childers, one of the secretaries to the Lords of the Treasury, with copy of the Order therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government with reference to General Order 97—1865.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

ORDER.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland.

Wodehouse.

WHEREAS, in pursuance of the authority of the Statute 11 and 12 of the Queen, and divers subsequent Acts continuing the same, certain Orders have been made by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council for preventing the spreading of contagious or infectious disorders among sheep, cattle, and other animals.

And whereas by one of said Orders, bearing date the 29th day of September 1865, the removal to any port or place in Ireland from any port or place in Great Britain of any sheep or lamb, or the skin or any other part of any sheep or lamb, was prohibited, excepting however out of such prohibition skins brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain to Ireland.

And whereas it is expedient that such exception as aforesaid should be further extended as hereinafter mentioned.

Now, we, John Baron Wodehouse, Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, under the powers given to us by the Cattle Disease Act (Ireland) 1866, and all other powers enabling, do hereby order as follows:

That from and after the date of the publication of this Order in the "Dublin Gazette," all wool brought into Great Britain from India, South America, or Australia, and afterwards removed from Great Britain into Ireland, is hereby and shall be excepted from the prohibition in said Order of the 29th day of September 1865, contained.

Given at the Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, this 27th day of April 1866.

Maziere Brady.
L. J. Frederick Shaw.
R. Keatinge.
John Hatchell.
C. F. Blackburne.
T. B. Cusack Smith.
James Henry Monahan.
J. D. Fitzgerald.
R. Deasy.

God Save the Queen.

(No. 62—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
14 May 1866.

Gentlemen,

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed Order of Her Majesty in Council, dated 9th instant, continuing, until the 30th June next, the provisions of the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act 1866, relating to the slaughter of cattle.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *Geo. A. Hamilton.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
17th May 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 14th instant, together with copy of the Order in Council therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

App. No. 11.

COPY of ORDER in COUNCIL referred to.

At the Court at Windsor, the 9th day of May 1866.

PRESENT:

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, intituled "An Act to amend the Law relating to Contagious or Infectious Diseases in Cattle and other Animals," it is, amongst other things, enacted, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, from time to time to continue, or to renew if expired, all or any of the provisions in the first part of that Act contained, for such time as shall be specified in such Order:

And whereas it is provided in the 11th section of the said Act, which section is in the first part thereof, that Part I. of the said Act shall continue in force until the 15th day of April 1866, and no longer, unless continued or renewed by Order of Her Majesty in Council:

And whereas it is provided in the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th sections of the first part of the said Act as follows:

"*Slaughter of Diseased Animals.*

"12. Every local authority shall cause all animals affected with the cattle plague within its district to be slaughtered, and shall, by way of compensation for every animal so slaughtered, pay to the owner thereof such sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, and not exceeding one half of the value of the animal immediately before it was affected with the cattle plague, as to such local authority may seem fit.

"13. Every local authority shall cause every animal that has died of cattle plague, or has been slaughtered in consequence of being affected with cattle plague, within its district, to be buried as soon as possible in its skin in some proper place, and to be covered with a sufficient quantity of quicklime or other disinfectant, and with not less than six feet of earth.

"14. Every local authority shall within its district cause the yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises in which any animal affected with cattle plague has been kept while affected by the disease, or has died or been slaughtered, to be thoroughly cleansed or disinfected, and all hay, straw, litter, dung, or other articles that have been used in or about any such animal to be burnt or otherwise destroyed; and no fresh animal shall be admitted into any yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises in which any animal affected with cattle plague has been kept while affected by the disease, or has died or been slaughtered, until the expiration of 30 days after the cleansing and disinfecting of such premises in pursuance of this Act; and every local authority shall direct the disinfecting the clothes of and the use of due precautions by inspectors, cattle overseers, and others in contact with animals affected by the cattle plague, with a view to prevent the spreading of contagion.

"15. A local authority may, if it thinks fit, cause to be slaughtered any animal that has been in the same shed or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with any animal affected with cattle plague within its district; and the owner of any animal so slaughtered may either dispose of the carcase on his own account, with a license from some officer appointed in that behalf by a local authority, or may require the local authority to dispose of the same, in which case such local authority shall pay to the owner thereof, by way of compensation, such sum, not exceeding 25 *l.*, as may equal three-fourths of the value of the animal slaughtered: Provided always, that the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, or any two or more of them, may reserve animals (ordered to be slaughtered as aforesaid) for the purpose of experimental treatment.

"16. The local authority may require the value of any animal slaughtered under this Act to be ascertained by officers of the local authority or by arbitration, and generally may impose conditions as to evidence of the slaughter and value of the animals slaughtered: Provided that no compensation shall in any case be paid in respect of any animal found affected with cattle plague in a market or on a highway, or in respect of any animal which has been moved or otherwise dealt with in contravention of this Act, or any Order of a local authority made in pursuance thereof."

And whereas by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, bearing date the 9th day of April 1866, the provisions of the above-recited sections of the first part of the said Act were continued in force beyond the said 15th day of April 1866, and until the 10th day of May 1866; and whereas it is considered expedient that the same be further continued:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the power vested in Her by the said Act, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the said recited provisions contained in the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th sections of the first part of the said Act shall continue in force on and after the said 10th day of May 1866, until the 30th day of June 1866.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 65—1866.)

Privy Council Office,
28 May 1866.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lord President of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, the two accompanying Orders of the Lords of the Council, viz.:—

1. For continuing in force until further order such of the regulations contained in the Orders of Council of the 24th March last and 11th and 14th April last, as would have ceased and determined on the 1st June next, and for making further regulations to prevent the spreading of the cattle plague.

2. For varying the provisions of the Order of Council of 24th March last, so far as relates to cattle brought by sea from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man into England.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

The Secretary, Customs.

Custom House, London,
31 May 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Helps, Clerk of the Council, with copies of the Orders therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at for his information and government.

By order of the Commissioners,

(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

COPY of ORDERS in COUNCIL referred to.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 26th day of May 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Bruce.
Sir George Grey, Bart.	

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th & 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders amongst Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly, by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th & 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of hay, straw, fodder or other articles likely to propagate infection; and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act:

And whereas the said Act has been amended and explained by an Act passed in the 29th year of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to amend the Act of the 11th & 12th years of Her present Majesty, c. 107, to prevent the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals."

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in England and Wales:

And whereas divers Orders in pursuance of the said recited Act have been made by the Lords of the said Council in relation to the said cattle plague, which were consolidated and amended by Orders bearing date the 24th day of March, and the 11th day of April 1866, and such last Orders have been since altered and extended by other Orders of the Council since duly issued, one of which, bearing date the 14th day of April 1866, relates to South Wales:

App. No. 11.

And whereas some of the Regulations contained in the said Orders will cease on the first day of June next following, and it is expedient that the same should be continued, and that farther regulations should be made in regard to the landing of foreign cattle, the movement of cattle, and the cleansing of pens and the movement of hay and straw as herein provided.

Now, therefore, the Lords of the said Council do hereby order as follows, that is to say:

Art. 1. All the regulations contained in the said Orders above referred to, which, if this Order had not been made, would have ceased and determined on the 1st day of June next shall be continued and be in force until the Lords of the said Council shall hereafter otherwise order.

Art. 2. All cattle brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom, except the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, and landed at any place in the United Kingdom, shall be taken forthwith to the market held and duly licensed by the Lords of the Council for the sale of cattle, for immediate slaughter, if any such there be within the said place, which shall be held within four days from the landing of such cattle; and if there be no such market duly licensed within such place, or if the market duly licensed shall not be held within four days from the landing of such cattle, such cattle shall be slaughtered at such place before the expiration of such four days.

Art. 3. All lambs, sheep, goats, and swine brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom into any town or place in the United Kingdom, in the same vessel with any foreign cattle, shall be dealt with in all respects as such foreign cattle, and shall be subject to all the regulations applicable to such foreign cattle brought by sea into any such town or place.

Art. 4. The local authority shall, with the view of preventing the spread of the said disorder, with all convenient speed after the issuing of this Order, make regulations with respect to the movement of commonable animals on, to, from and through the commons and wastes within its jurisdiction, whereon there shall exist any right of common, and the despasturing, or for the prohibition of the despasturing of such commonable animals thereon, and shall publish such regulations by notice in some newspaper circulating in the neighbourhood of the commons or wastes to which they relate, and after the lapse of four days from such publication no animal shall be moved on, to, from, or through, or be despastured on such common or waste in contravention of such regulation.

Art. 5. Notwithstanding anything in the said Orders otherwise provided, it shall be sufficient if the pen which shall be used for any animal shall be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected in the manner directed by the Board of Trade once in every 24 hours during the time when it shall be used for any such animal, and at such other times as the said Board of Trade shall require.

Art. 6. The regulations in the said Orders contained relating to the movement of hay and straw out of infected places, shall not apply to hay or straw used in the packing and storing of goods where the owner, seller, or purchaser of such

App. No. 11.

goods who shall pack or store the goods, or shall cause the same to be packed or stored, shall prove upon any inquiry to the satisfaction of the local authority of the district out of which and into which such goods shall be brought respectively, or of some person employed by them in this behalf, that such hay or straw is not infected, and has not been in contact with any diseased animal, or with any matter or thing which has been in such contact during the period of 28 days previous to the day when the same is so being used.

Art. 7. The local authority in the counties of Pembroke, Cardigan, and Carmarthen respectively, may grant licenses for the holding of fairs whereat cattle may be sold, so that a separate license be granted for every fair, and that the same may be made revocable at the discretion of the said local authority, which license shall be in writing and in such form as the local authority shall deem to be expedient.

Art. 8. This Order shall be construed in like manner as the said Orders of the 24th day of March and the 11th day of April, and all the provisions of such last-mentioned Orders now in force shall apply to this Order respectively, except so far as they may be inconsistent with anything herein contained.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 26th day of May 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Present:

Lord President.	Mr. Milner Gibson.
Lord Privy Seal.	Mr. Bruce.
Sir George Grey, Bart.	

Whereas by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament, holden in the 11th & 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of contagious or infectious disorders among sheep, cattle, and other animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th & 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act:

And whereas the said Act has been explained and amended by an Act passed in the 29th year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the Act of the 11th & 12th years of her present Majesty, c. 107, to prevent the spreading of contagious or infectious disorders among sheep, cattle, and other animals:"

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in England and Wales:

And whereas the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council, in exercise of the powers given by the said Act so continued as aforesaid, did, on the 24th day of March now last past, by an Order then made, amongst other things order and direct that, until the 1st day of June 1866, all cattle brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom into any town or place in England should be marked by clipping the hair of the end of the tail, and that no such cattle should be removed alive from such town or place except by sea:

And whereas it is expedient to vary the provisions of the said Order of the 24th day of March 1866, so far as relates to cattle brought by sea from the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark (hereinafter called the "Channel Islands"), and the Isle of Man, into any town or place in England:

Now therefore the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given by the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:

1. From and after the publication of this Order in the London Gazette, so much of the said Order of the 24th day of March 1866, as requires cattle brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom into any town or place in England to be marked by clipping the hair off the end of the tail, and prohibits the removal of such cattle alive from any such town or place, except by sea, shall cease to be applicable to such cows as hereinafter mentioned, but shall in all other respects remain in full force and effect.

2. This Order shall apply only to cows brought into any town or place in England from the Channel Islands or any of them, or from the Isle of Man, in vessels plying or sailing between those islands respectively, or one of them, and England, which shall not have touched since last leaving England at any port or place, except some port or place in the said islands, or one of them, or since last leaving the said islands, or one of them, at some port or place in England, and which shall not have any cattle on board, except cows certified in the manner hereinafter provided to be the produce of and to have been born in the said islands respectively, or one of them, and not to have been previously removed therefrom.

3. In order to entitle any cows or cow so brought into any town or place in England as aforesaid to the benefit of this Order, the master of the vessel in or on board of which the same shall be so brought shall, upon his arrival in such town or place, deliver to such person as shall be appointed by the local authority of such town or place for such purpose, or, (in default of any such appointment) to the officers of Her Majesty's Customs at such town or place, a clearance cocket under

under the hands or hand of the principal officer and controller of Her Majesty's Customs at the port or place in one of the said islands from which such cows or cow shall have been exported, describing such cows or cow as being *bonâ fide* the produce of and as having never previously been removed or exported out of the Channel Islands, or one of them, or the Isle of Man (as the case may be); together with a certificate in writing under the hand of the governor or lieutenant-governor of such island, certifying that the shipper of such cows or cow has made proof before a magistrate within such island, in the manner required by the laws relating to the Customs, that such cows or cow are or is actually the produce of, and were or was born within, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man (as the case may be), and have or has never previously been removed or exported therefrom; and also a certificate under the hand of some veterinary surgeon practising within such island, and countersigned by a magistrate having authority within the same to the effect that to the best of his knowledge and belief such cows or cow are or is free from the said disorder called the "cattle plague," and from every symptom commonly supposed to indicate the presence or approach of the said disorder, and from contagious disease of any kind, and that to the best of his knowledge and belief the said cattle plague never has existed, and does not, at the time of granting such certificate, exist in such island.

4. No cows or cow brought by sea from the Channel Islands, or any of them, or from the Isle of Man, into any town or place in England as defined by the 30th section of the said Order of the 24th day of March 1866, in such manner and so certified as aforesaid, shall be removed from such town or place alive without a certificate from the local authority having jurisdiction in such town or place that such cows or cow have or has been examined by some officer appointed for that purpose by such authority, and that such cows or cow are or is free from disease: such certificate shall not exempt such cows or cow from any other Regulation of the said Order of the 24th day of March with respect to the movement of cattle or otherwise: provided nevertheless, that in the case of any such cows or cow so certified as aforesaid the certificate of the local authority that such cows or cow are or is free from disease may be accepted in the case of a fat-stock license by the person authorised to grant the same as sufficient for the purpose of granting such license, and in the case of a store-stock license cuch certificate may be accepted by the justice as equivalent to the declaration of the owner or his agent and to the certificate of the occupiers required by the form of the said store-stock license under the said Order of the 24th day of March 1866.

5. Every person guilty of an offence against this Order shall for each such offence incur a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*; and where any such offence is committed with respect to more than four animals a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.* for each animal may be imposed instead of the penalty of 20 *l.*

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

(No. 71—1866.) App. No. 11.

Sir, Whitehall, 4 June 1866.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of your letter of the 1st instant, I am directed by the Lords of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of Customs, the enclosed copy of the Order in Council of the 11th April last, consolidating and amending previous Orders for preventing the spread of cattle plague in Scotland.

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. Harrison.*

The Secretary, Customs.

Custom House, London.
8 June 1866.

The aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Harrison, Deputy Clerk of the Council, with copy of the Order therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at
for his information, with reference to General Order 65—1866.

By Order of the Commissioners,

J. B. Hale.

Copy of Order in Council referred to.

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 11th day of April 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Present:

Lord President.	Sir George Grey, Bart.
Lord Privy Seal.	

Whereas by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th & 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, c. 107, intituled "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th & 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time, to make such Orders and Regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine, or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw, fodder, or other articles, likely to propagate infection, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and

App No. 11.

effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act:

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in Scotland:

And whereas divers Orders have been made by the Lords of the said Council in relation to the cattle plague, and it is expedient to consolidate, amend, and add to the said Orders.

Now, therefore, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council do hereby, in exercise of the powers given under the said Act so continued as aforesaid, order as follows:

Preliminary.

1. This Order shall come into force on the 16th of April 1866, and shall remain in force until it is revoked or altered.

2. This Order shall apply to Scotland only, subject to the limitation hereinafter expressed.

PART I.

Definitions.

3. In the construction of this Order the following terms shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them; that is to say,

"Person" shall include a body of persons, corporate or unincorporate:

"Cattle" shall mean bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, or calf:

"Animal" shall mean cattle as above defined, sheep, lambs, goats, and swine:

"Disease" shall mean the cattle plague:

"Diseased" shall mean affected by the cattle plague:

"Privy Council" shall mean the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, or any two of them:

"Burgh" shall mean any town which returns or contributes to return a Member or Members to Parliament:

"County" shall not include a county of a city or county of a town.

Detached parts of counties shall be considered as forming part of the county by which they are surrounded, or if partly surrounded by two or more counties, then as forming part of that county with which they have the longest common boundary.

Every place that is not, according to the foregoing definitions, a burgh or county, shall be deemed to form part of the county, as hereinbefore defined, to the county rate of which it is assessed, or, if not assessed, of the county within which it is situate.

Local Authority.

4. For the purposes of this Order, "District," "Local Authority," Local Rate," and "Clerk of Local Authority," shall respectively mean the places, bodies of persons, rate, and officer in the first schedule hereto annexed in that behalf mentioned.

5. Any local authority may from time to time form one or more committee or committees consisting wholly of its own members or partly of its own members and partly of such other persons, being rated occupiers in the district and qualified in such other manner as the local authority may determine, and may delegate, with or without conditions or restrictions, to any committee so formed, all or any powers conferred on the local authority by this Order, and may from time to time revoke, add to, or alter any powers so given to a committee.

A committee may elect a chairman of its meetings. If no chairman is elected, or if the chairman elected is not present at the time appointed for holding a meeting, the members present shall choose one of their number to be chairman of such meeting. A committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper. The quorum of a committee shall consist of such number of members as may be prescribed by the local authority that appointed it, or, if no number be prescribed, of three members. Every question at a meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present, and voting on that question; and in case of an equal division of votes the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

The proceedings of a committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy or vacancies amongst its members.

A local authority may from time to time add to or diminish the number of the members or otherwise alter the constitution of any committee formed by it under this Order, and may dissolve any such committee and form a new one in its place.

Any committee formed under the provisions of the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1866, shall be deemed to be a committee of a local authority for the purposes of this Order, within the district of such local authority as defined by this Order.

6. The local authority of any burgh which is assessed to the police rate of any county may, with the consent of the local authority of such county, such consent being testified in writing, by a letter signed by the clerk of such last-mentioned authority, declare, by notice published in any newspaper circulating within such county, that such burgh is annexed to such county for the purposes of this Order; and from the date of the publication of such notice such burgh shall, for the purposes of this Order, form part of the district of the local authority of such county.

7. Every local authority shall perform all such duties as are imposed upon it by this Order, and shall make such reports to the Privy Council as the Council may from time to time require.

Appointment of Officers, &c.

8. Every local authority shall from time to time appoint such inspectors or other officers as it thinks necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Order within its district; it shall assign them such duties and award them such salaries and allowances as it thinks expedient, and may revoke any appointment so made.

9. Every inspector or other officer appointed by a local authority previously to the date of this Order, for any purpose relating to the cattle plague, and holding office at such date, shall be deemed an inspector or officer for the purposes of this Order within the district of such local authority as defined by this Order, and be subject to

to the provisions thereof, in the same manner as if he had been appointed thereunder.

10. Every inspector shall furnish the Privy Council with such information, in regard to the cattle plague, as they may from time to time require.

11. Every local authority may provide and supply, without charge, printed copies of any documents or forms requisite for the purposes of this Order.

12. All expenses incurred by a local authority in carrying into effect this Order shall be defrayed out of the local rate.

13. Any person appointed or to be appointed by the Privy Council an inspector for the purposes of this Order shall, throughout the whole of Scotland, have all the powers which an inspector appointed by a local authority has within his district, and any direction of the Privy Council shall, as respects such inspector, be of the same validity as a direction of a local authority in the case of an inspector appointed by it.

Part II.

Diseased Animals.

14. Every person having in his possession or under his charge any diseased animal shall forthwith give notice thereof to such officer as may have been appointed by the local authority of the district to receive such notices; or, if no such officer has been appointed, to a police constable, whose duty it shall be to report without delay to the local authority the fact of such notice having been given to him. Any person failing to comply with this Regulation as to giving notice shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

15. Every person having in his possession or under his charge any diseased animal shall, as far as practicable, keep such animal separate from animals not diseased. Any person failing to comply with this Regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

16. No diseased animal, and no animal which has, within the preceeding 28 days, been in the same shed, or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with a diseased animal, shall be removed alive from the premises where such animal may be, except with a license from the local authority of the district, which license shall only permit the removal of such animal to some place within the district of such local authority where it can be conveniently slaughtered, or kept apart fram all other animals until such local authority is satisfied that there is no reasonable probability of such animal propagating disease; provided that no such license shall authorise such animal to be removed in contravention of the 17th Regulation of this Order.

If any animal is removed in contravention of this Regulation, the person causing, directing, or permitting the removal of such animal, and also the person removing the same, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

17. No diseased animal, and no animal that has within the preceding 28 days been in the same shed or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with a diseased animal, shall—

1. Be placed or kept in any common or uninclosed land, or in any field or other place insufficiently fenced:

2. Be sent or brought to any fair or market, or exposed for public sale:

3. Be driven along or allowed to stray upon any highway or the sides thereof:

4. Be sent or carried by any railway, canal, river, or other inland navigation, or by any coasting or sea-going vessel.

If any animal is dealt with in contravention of this Regulation, the owner of such animal, and also the company or person other than the owner dealing with the same in contravention of this Regulation, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

18. When any offence is committed with respect to any animal under the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th Regulations of this Order, or any of them, the local authority of the district, and any authority of a fair or market in which such animal may be, may, by themselves or their officers, cause such animal to be slaughtered and buried, and recover from the owner in a summary manner all expenses so incurred.

19. All diseased animals, whether they have been slaughtered or have died of the disease, shall be buried by the owner as soon as practicable in some proper place, with their skins slashed in such a manner as to prevent their being made of any use, and with a sufficient quantity of quicklime or other disinfectant, and shall be covered with at least five feet of earth, or shall be otherwise disposed of in such manner as may be directed by any regulations made by the local authority, and approved by the Privy Council.

If any diseased animal is not buried or otherwise disposed of in pursuance of this Regulation, the owner of such diseased animal shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order, and it shall be lawful for the local authority to bury or otherwise dispose of any such animal, and to use any convenient place on the premises of the owner for that purpose.

The local authority may recover from the owner in a summary manner any expenses incurred by it under this Regulation.

20. No person shall dig up any diseased animal, or part of a diseased animal. Any person acting in contravention of this Regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

21. Every local authority shall, within its district, at its own expense, cause the premises in which diseased animals have been to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected; and the occupier of such premises shall give all facilities for such cleansing and disinfecting. Any occupier of premises failing to give such facilities shall be deemed guily of an offence against this Order.

22. No fresh animal shall be admitted into any yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises in which a diseased animal has been kept while affected by disease, or has died, or been slaughtered, until the expiration of 30 days after the cleansing and disinfecting of such premises. If any fresh animal is admitted into any yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises, in contra-

App. No. 11.

vention of this Regulation, the occupier of such yard, shed, stable, field, or other premises shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

23. The dung of a diseased animal, and all hay, straw, or litter, or any other article that has been in contact with or used about a diseased animal, shall be destroyed, or, with the sanction of the local authority, shall be disinfected and dealt with to the satisfaction of the inspector. If such dung, hay, straw, litter, or any other article is not destroyed or disinfected and dealt with in pursuance of this Regulation, the local authority may cause the same to be destroyed or disinfected, and recover in a summary manner all expenses incurred by it from the occupier of the premises on which such articles were found; and, in addition thereto, such occupier shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

24. The dung of a diseased animal, and all hay, straw, or litter, or any other article that has been in contact with or used about a diseased animal, shall not be removed from the premises where such animal has been, except for the purpose of being destroyed or disinfected and dealt with in compliance with this Order and with a license of an inspector specifying the place at which it is to be destroyed or disinfected and dealt with, and shall not be removed beyond the limits of the district of the local authority in which the said premises are situated without the consent, in writing, of the local authority into whose district it is moved. If such dung, hay, straw, litter, or other article is removed in contravention of this Regulation, the occupier of the premises from which it is removed, and also the person removing the same, shall be respectively deemed guilty of an offence against this Order; and it shall be lawful for the local authority to destroy or disinfect any such article, and to recover the expenses of such destruction or disinfection from the said occupier.

25. Every local authority shall direct the disinfecting of clothes of, and the use of due precautions by, inspectors and other officers brought into contact with diseased animals, with a view to prevent such inspectors or officers spreading contagion. Any inspector or officer disobeying the directions of any local authority as to such disinfection and use of due precautions shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Infected Places.

26. The authorities hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, any local authority as to any place within its district shall, and the Privy Council as to any place in Scotland may, by Order made at any time after the passing of this Order, and published in manner hereinafter mentioned, declare any place in which disease amongst animals at that time exists, together with such an area, including such place, as to such authority may seem to be required, to be an "infected place," from and after a date to be specified in such Order; and the authority declaring the place to be infected may, at the expiration of one month after the disappearance of disease in that place, by Order published in like manner, declare such place to be free from disease, and after the publication of such last-mentioned Order such place shall cease to be an "infected place" within the meaning of this Order, unless again declared in manner aforesaid to be an "infected place."

Any local authority may include in the area of an "infected place" any adjoining part of the district of another local authority, with the consent of such last-mentioned authority, testified in writing by a letter signed by the clerk of such authority.

The area of an "infected place" may be described by reference to a map deposited at some specified place, or by reference to parishes, townships, farms, or otherwise, as the authority may think expedient.

An Order declaring a place to be an "infected place" shall be published by notice being posted up in or near the "infected place," and, so far as is possible, in all places where notices are usually posted up, within five miles of such "infected place," or in such other manner as the authority declaring the place to be infected may think expedient.

The local authority, on declaring any place infected, shall forthwith report by post to the Privy Council the fact of such declaration having been made.

No objection shall be taken in any legal proceeding in respect of an "infected place" on the ground that due notice has not been given of such place having been declared to be an "infected place."

Any Order made by the Privy Council under this Regulation shall supersede any Order inconsistent with it that may have been made by a local authority.

27. The following rules shall be observed with respect to "infected places," in addition to the other regulations of this Order with respect to diseased animals; that is to say:

1. No animal shall be moved out of an "infected place":

2. No hides, skins, horns, hoofs, or offal of animals, shall be moved out of an "infected place," without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses certifying that such articles have not formed part of a diseased animal, and, if necessary, have been properly disinfected.

3. No carcase of, or undressed meat that has formed part of, any bull, bullock, cow, ox, heifer, or calf, shall be moved out of an "infected place" without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses certifying that such carcase is not that of a diseased animal, or that such meat has not formed part of a diseased animal:

4. No dung of animals, and no hay, straw, litter, or other articles forming food of animals, or used for or about animals, shall be removed out of an "infected place" without the license of some officer of the local authority appointed to issue such licenses certifying that such articles have not been in contact with or used about a diseased animal:

5. A license for the purpose of this Regulation must be in writing, and shall not authorise the removal of any articles beyond the district of the local authority in which the "infected place" is situate without the

the license of the local authority into whose district it is proposed to move such articles.

If any animal, dung of animals, hide, skin, horn, hoof, offal, meat, hay, straw, litter, or other articles, is or are moved in contravention of this Regulation, the owner of such animal or articles, and also the person moving the same, or causing, directing, or permitting the same to be moved, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

All constables and police officers shall enforce the provisions of this Regulation, to the utmost of their power, and may apprehend all persons committing any offence against this Regulation, and may require all animals and articles being moved out of such place in contravention of this Regulation to be forthwith taken back within the limits of such place.

This Regulation shall not apply to any animal or article carried by railway through an "infected place."

Markets and Fairs.

28. No market, fair, auction, exhibition, or sale of cattle shall be held until the 1st day of June 1866, except as hereinafter mentioned; that is to say:

First. Cattle belonging to the owner or occupier of premises that are not situate within the limits of an infected place, if the cattle are free from disease, and have been in the possession of the owner or occupier not less than 28 days immediately previous to the sale, may be sold on such premises:

Secondly. Markets may be held, with the license of the Privy Council, for the sale of cattle intended for immediate slaughter: Provided that no cattle shall be removed from such market until they have been marked in the manner in which cattle are ordinarily marked for slaughter according to the custom of such market, or, if there is no such custom, by clipping the hair off the end of the tail; and all cattle required to be marked by this Regulation shall be slaughtered within four days from the date of the holding of such market (if sold) by or by the order of the purchaser, or (if not sold) by or by the order of the owner, and shall in no instance be taken beyond the limits described in the license of the Privy Council allowing such market, and under such conditions with respect to their movement within such limits as may be imposed by such license.

If any cattle are sold in contravention of this Regulation, both the seller and the purchaser of such cattle shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle required to be marked by this Regulation are not so marked, the persons for the time being in charge of such cattle shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle required to be slaughtered by this Regulation are not so slaughtered, the purchaser or owner of such cattle or his agent (as the case may be) shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

If any cattle are removed in contravention of this Regulation, the person removing such cattle, and the person causing, directing, or permitting the removal of such cattle, shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

29. No sheep, lambs, goats, or swine shall be brought into or exposed for sale in any market licensed for the sale of cattle under the last preceding Regulation, except for the purpose of immediate slaughter, and all such sheep, lambs, goats, and swine, when brought into or exposed for sale in any such market, shall be subject to the last preceding Regulation, in the same manner as if they were cattle, except that they shall be marked in such manner as the market authority may direct, instead of in the manner prescribed by the said Regulation.

Foreign Cattle.

30. Until the 1st of June 1866, all cattle brought by sea from any place out of the United Kingdom into any town or place in Scotland shall be marked by clipping the hair off the end of the tail, and no such cattle shall be removed alive from such town or place except by sea.

"Town or place" in this Regulation shall, according to circumstances, mean as follows:

1. The area of any burgh or such other limits as may be defined by the Privy Council in respect of such burgh:

2. In the case of any other town or place, such area as may be defined by the Privy Council to constitute such town or place.

Cattle brought by Sea from any part of the United Kingdom into Scotland.

31. No cattle brought by sea from any place in the United Kingdom into any town or place in Scotland shall be removed from such town or place alive, without a certificate from the local authority having jurisdiction in such town or place that such cattle have been examined by some officer appointed for that purpose by such authority, and that such cattle are free from disease; but such certificate shall not exempt such cattle from any other regulation of this Order with respect to the movement of cattle or otherwise: Provided, nevertheless, that, in the case of cattle landed in any place in Scotland from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority, that such cattle are free from disease, shall be accepted, in the case of a fat-stock license, by the person authorised to grant the same as sufficient for the purpose of granting such license, and in the case of a store-stock license such certificate shall be accepted by the local authority as equivalent to the declaration of the owner or his agent, and to the certificate of the occupiers required by the form of the said store-stock license.

"Town or place" shall in this Regulation have the same meaning as in the preceding Regulation.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Movement of Cattle.

32. No cattle shall be moved on any highway between sunset and sunrise, except within the limits of a burgh.

No cattle, except as hereinafter provided, shall be moved by or upon any railway, canal, navigation, river, or highway, or by any vessels coastwise, without a license, save for a distance not

App. No. 11.

exceeding 500 yards from one part of the same farm to another.

Licenses shall be of two descriptions—

1. A license for cattle intended for immediate slaughter, hereinafter called a fat-stock license:

2. A license for other cattle, hereinafter called a store stock-license.

A fat-stock license shall be in the form, and contain the particulars, and be signed in the manner appearing in the form marked A. in the second schedule annexed hereto, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

A store-stock license shall be in the form, and contain the particulars, and be signed in the manner appearing in the form marked B. in the said second schedule, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

No cattle shall be moved as aforesaid out of the district of the local authority in which they are, without a license in one of the forms aforesaid, such form being applicable to the class of cattle moved; but where cattle are moved only within the district of a local authority, or from one part of a farm beyond such district to another part within it, that local authority may make such regulations for their removal with or without license as it thinks fit, so that the conditions of such licenses when granted be not more stringent than the conditions of the licenses in the said second schedule.

If any cattle are moved in contravention of this regulation, the owner of such cattle, and the person directing or permitting the removal of the same, and the company or person conveying the same shall respectively be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Cattle brought by land from England into Scotland may be moved in Scotland with the same licenses that in England authorise their removal from the district of one local authority to another, in pursuance of any Order of the Privy Council in force for the time being.

33. No person shall drive or allow any cattle under his charge to be driven or to stray into any inclosed field, without the consent of the owner or occupier thereof, and any person acting in contravention of this regulation shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

Movement of Hides and Skins, &c.

34. No hide, skin, horn, or hoof of animals shall be moved by highway, railway, canal, river, or other mode of conveyance, unless effectually covered.

If any hides, skins, horns, or hoofs are moved in contravention of this regulation, the person sending the same, and the person moving the same, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

35. No regulation of this Order shall apply to the following hides, skins, horns, and hoofs (that is to say):

(1.) Hides, skins, horns, or hoofs imported into the United Kingdom from India, Australia, South Africa, or America:

(2.) Hides, skins, horns, hoofs, or glue-pieces that have been effectually limed for manufacturing purposes.

But the burden of proving that any hides, skins, horns, or hoofs are such as are authorised by this Regulation to be removed shall lie upon the person charged with moving the same in contravention of this Order.

Regulations as to Dogs.

36. A local authority may make such orders as it thinks expedient for preventing the propagation of disease by means of dogs, and may order any stray dogs to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as it thinks fit.

Cleansing of Pens and Trucks.

37. Every railway or other company or person carrying animals for hire shall, on every occasion after any animal has been taken out of any pen, carriage, truck, or boat used by such company or person, and before any other animal or article is placed therein, thoroughly cleanse and disinfect every such pen, carriage, truck, or boat in such manner as the Board of Trade may from time to time direct.

The expression "truck" shall include any horsebox or other vehicle used in the carrying of animals.

If any pen, carriage, truck, or boat is at any time used in contravention of this Regulation, the company or person by whom it is used shall, every time that such pen, truck, or boat is used, be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.*

Powers of Officers employed under this Order.

38. Any inspector or other officer empowered to carry this Order into effect may, if authorised so to do by any general or special order, in writing, of the local authority, enter any field, stable, cowshed, or other premises within his district, where he has reasonable grounds for supposing that cattle affected by disease are to be found, or have been, or have been buried, or otherwise disposed of, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Order, or enter into the station or premises of any railway or other company or person carrying animals for hire, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the pens, carriages, trucks, boats, or other vehicles used by such company or person have been duly cleansed and disinfected; and if any person refuses admission to, or obstructs or impedes, or aids in obstructing or impeding any such inspector or other officer, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

39. It shall be lawful for any officer authorised by a local authority so to do, or for any constable or police officer, to inspect any railway truck, cart, boat, or other vehicle by land or by water, in which animals, hay, manure, litter, straw, and other articles used for or about animals, are carried, and to examine the person in charge of the same, with a view to ascertain whether any animals or articles are being moved in contravention of this order; and such officer may, if he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that such animals or articles are being moved in contravention of this Order, apprehend without warrant the person in charge of the same, and bring him before a justice, who shall inquire into the case in a summary manner, and such justice, if satisfied that there are good grounds for suspecting that such animals or articles were moved in contravention

travention of this Order, may direct, by writing under his hand, such animals or articles to be detained, and the person in charge thereof to be brought before two justices as soon as practicable, and such animals or articles may be detained and the person brought before the justices accordingly.

Upon such person being brought before the two justices they shall adjudicate on the case in a summary manner, and if satisfied that the animals or articles were moved in contravention of this Order, may direct the same to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, as they think most expedient for the prevention of the spreading of disease amongst animals.

The constable or other police officer detaining any animals in pursuance of this regulation shall cause them to be supplied with requisite food and water during their detention; and any expenses incurred by such officer in respect of such animals may be recovered in a summary manner from the person in charge, or from the owner of the animals.

40. It shall be lawful for any constable or police officer, or for any officer authorised by a local authority so to do, to stop and detain any animal moved, or which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting is being moved in contravention of this Order, and to apprehend without warrant the person in charge of such animal, and bring him before a justice, who shall inquire into the case in a summary manner; and such justice, if satisfied that such animal was being moved in contravention of this Order, may direct, by writing under his hand, the animal so moved to be detained, and the person in charge thereof to be brought before two justices as soon as practicable, and such animal may be detained and person brought before the justices accordingly.

Upon such person being brought before the two justices they shall adjudicate on the case in a summary manner, and, if satisfied that the animal was being moved in contravention of this Order, may direct the same to be slaughtered and buried, or to be otherwise disposed of, as they think most expedient for the prevention of the spreading of disease amongst animals.

Any constable, police, or other officer detaining any animal shall cause it to be supplied with requisite food and water during its detention; and any expenses incurred by such officer in respect of any animal may be recovered in a summary manner from the person in charge, or from the owner of the animal.

41. If any person having charge of any animal or thing being moved on a highway, railway, canal, navigation, or river, for the moving whereof a license is requisite under this Order, being required by any constable, police officer, or officer authorised by a local authority, to produce the license (if any) for the moving of that animal or thing, fails so to do, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order.

42. Every person guilty of an offence against this Order shall for each such offence incur a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*; and where any such offence is committed with respect to more than four animals, a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.* for each animal may be imposed instead of the penalty of 20 *l.* And where any such offence is committed with reference to any dung, offal, hay, litter, straw, or other thing, a further penalty not exceeding 10 *l.* may be imposed for every half ton in weight of such dung or other thing after the first half ton.

43. Any local authority may appear before any justices, or in any legal proceedings, by its clerk or by any agent authorised by it in writing under the hands of two of its members, and any railway company or other body corporate may appear before any justices or in any legal proceedings by their secretary, or by any member of their board of management, or by any agent authorised in writing under the hands of any two members of such board.

Part III.

Repeal of Orders.

44. On and after the 16th of April 1866, there shall be revoked, so far as respects Scotland, the following Orders, or so much thereof as may be in force; that is to say,

The Order of July 24th, 1865,
of November 23rd, 1855,
of December 16th, 1855,
of January 20th, 1866,
of February 6th, 1866,
of February 23rd, 1866.

And all notices published by any local authority in pursuance of such Orders shall cease to have any effect, without prejudice nevertheless to the prosecution of any offence that may have been committed against the said Order or Notices, or any of them, or to the recovery of any penalty in respect of such offence.

45. The foregoing regulations shall not apply to the "North-Western District of Scotland," as defined and described in an Order in Council, dated 3rd November 1865; and in another Order in Council, dated 14th March 1866; and the said north-western district of Scotland shall remain subject to the provisions of the said Orders which, except to the extent hereinafter modified, shall continue in force until revoked or altered.

46. Section 3 of the Order of 14th March 1866, is hereby revoked.

47. Every license for moving sheep into the north-western district of Scotland, or from one district or county to another, shall contain a statement of the place in which such sheep have been wintering, and of the route by which they are to be moved, and no local authority shall sign, or authorise to be signed, any such license, until a certificate, signed by an inspector or other officer appointed for the purpose by the local authority of the county in which such sheep have been wintering, has been produced, certifying that such sheep are free from disease, and that the farm upon which such sheep have been wintering has been free from cattle plague for 28 days, and is not within 10 miles of an infected place, as defined by this Order; and no local authority shall sign, or authorise to be signed, any such license, if the route by which such sheep are to be moved passes through an "infected place," or within 10 miles thereof.

48. A local authority may make such orders as it thinks expedient for preventing the propagation of disease by means of dogs, or by the introduction of bones or artificial manures, dung, hay, straw, fodder, or litter, or any other articles which,

App. No. 11.

which, in the opinion of such local authority, are likely to propagate disease; and may order any stray dogs, and such of the said articles as are introduced in contravention of the said orders, to be destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, as it thinks fit.

49. No animal shall be removed into any county or district without the license in writing of the local authority of such county or district, or of a person appointed by the local authority to grant such license, and any person obtaining a license shall fulfil all the conditions contained therein.

50. It shall be competent for any local authority within the said north-western district of Scotland to adopt and enforce all or any of the foregoing regulations not at present made applicable to the said north-western district.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

District of Local Authority.	Description of Local Authority of District set opposite its Name.	Local Rate.	Clerk of Local Authority.
Counties including any town or place which does not return, or contribute to return, a Member to Parliament.	The Persons appointed in Section 5 of "The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1866."	Rate appointed to be levied in Section 21 of "The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1866."	Clerk of Supply.
Burghs which return or contribute to return a Member to Parliament.	The Magistrates and Town Council.	Ditto - - ditto.	Town Clerk.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.

A.

Fat Stock License.

I, *A. B.*, of (*a*) hereby license the removal of the undermentioned fat cattle marked with the letter X (*b*), from the premises of of in the county of to (*c*) at in the county of such cattle to proceed as follows: (*d*)
And I grant this license for satisfying myself that the said premises are not within an infected place, and that no case of cattle plague has existed on the said premises, or within one mile of the outward boundary of such premises within 28 days immediately preceding the date of this license; and that the said animals have been on the said premises for the said period of 28 days (*e*). This license shall be in force for (*f*) days, and no longer.

Dated, &c. &c.

Description of Cattle.

Number of Cattle.	Breed.	Age.	Bull, Cow, Ox, or Calf.

(signed) "_____"

(*a*) This license may be granted by the local authority of the place from which the cattle are removed, or any person appointed by such local authority to grant such license.
(*b*) The cattle must be marked with the letter X on the hind quarter.
(*c*) Here insert licensed market or place of slaughter, &c.
(*d*) Describe route. The highway, if the animals proceed by highway, must not pass through, or within a mile of, the outward boundary of any "Infected Place."
(*e*) In the case of cattle landed in any place in Scotland from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority of the town or place at which they are landed, given in pursuance of Regulation 31 of this Order, that such cattle are free from disease, shall be accepted by the person authorised to grant this license as sufficient for the purpose of granting such license.
(*f*) Not to exceed three days.

B.

Store Stock License.

I of in the county of having jurisdiction by virtue of appointment by the local authority in the place from which it is proposed to move the undermentioned animals, having satisfied myself of the correctness of the declaration annexed hereto, hereby license the person undermentioned to move the said animals by the undermentioned route, provided that the said animals shall not be driven through any "Infected Place," or within one mile of the outward boundary of such place.

Number and Description of Animals.	Name and Address of Seller or Owner.	Route to be taken.	Name and Address of the Buyer, Owner, or Person to whose Premises the Animal is to be sent for Breeding Purposes.	Name of Drover, &c.

This license shall be available for six days, and no longer.

C.

Declaration of Owner or his Agent (*a*).

(*To be annexed to foregoing License.*)

I, *A. B.*, of in the county of do hereby declare that the cattle marked (which I have sold) (*b*) to are free from cattle plague, and that no case of cattle plague has, within the two months immediately preceding my making this declaration, existed upon the premises from which I desire to move such cattle, or within two miles of the outward boundary of such premises: And I further declare, that the said cattle have all of them been on the said premises for 28 days immediately preceding my making this declaration and have not during that time been in contact with any newly purchased animals.

Dated this day of

Signed by [*Declarant*].

Certificate to accompany Declaration.

We, the undersigned, being each of us occupiers of upwards of 100 acres of land, and living within a distance of (*c*) miles of the premises of *A. B.*, have viewed the cattle described in his declaration, and to the best of our knowledge certify them to be free from cattle plague; and we believe that the statements contained in the declaration of the said *A. B.* are correct.

Dated

I. J. of *O.*
K. L. of *P.*

(*a*) This declaration must be made by the owner, or his agent, in the presence of the local authority, or person appointed by them for that purpose. In the case of cattle landed in any place in Scotland from Ireland, the certificate of the local authority to the effect that the cattle are free from disease, shall be accepted as equivalent to the declaration of the owner or his agent, and the certificate of the two occupiers.

(*b*) If the cattle are being removed on change of tenancy or on change of pasture, or from premises in one place to premises in another in the occupation of the same person, insert instead of the words [which I have sold] the words [which I desire to move from to].

If the cattle are required to be moved for the purpose of breeding, insert instead of the words [which I have sold] the words [which I desire to send for breeding purposes to].

(*c*) The occupiers must, if possible, be persons living within two miles distance from the premises of A. B.; if they live at a greater distance than two miles from those premises, the local authority, or person appointed by them for that purpose, must satisfy himself that they have reasonable means of knowing the truth of the facts which they certify.

App. No. 11.

(No. 77—1866.)

Treasury Chambers,
Gentlemen, 16 June 1866.

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for your information and guidance, the enclosed Order* of the Lords of the Council, with reference to the certificate to be required in respect of cattle brought to Great Britain from the province of Ulster.

*Dated 11th June 1866.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Hugh C. E. Childers.*

The Commissioners of Customs.

Custom House, London,
18 June 1866.

THE aforegoing copy of a letter from Mr. Childers, one of the Secretaries to the Lords of the Treasury, with copy of the Order therein referred to, is transmitted to the collector at , for his information and guidance.

By Order of the Commissioners,

J. B. Hale.

COPY of ORDER in COUNCIL referred to.

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 11th day of June 1866.

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

PRESENT:

Lord President.	Mr. Monsell.
Sir George Grey, Bart.	Mr. Bruce.
Mr. Chichester Fortescue.	

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty's reign, chapter 107, intituled, "An Act to prevent until the 1st day of September 1850, and to the end of the then Session of Parliament, the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals," and from time to time continued by divers subsequent Acts, and lastly by an Act passed in the Session of the 28th and 29th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 119, it is (amongst other things) enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Privy Council, or any two or more of them, from time to time to make such orders and regulations as to them may seem necessary for the purpose of prohibiting or regulating the removal to or from such parts or places as they may designate in such Order or Orders, of sheep, cattle, horses, swine or other animals, or of meat, skins, hides, horns, hoofs, or other parts of any animals, or of hay, straw,

App. No. 11.

fodder, or other articles likely to propagate infection, and to make any other Orders or Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the said Act, and again to revoke, alter, or vary any such Orders or Regulations; and that all provisions for any of the purposes aforesaid in any such Order or Orders contained shall have the like force and effect as if the same had been inserted in the said Act:

And whereas the said Act has been amended and explained by an Act passed in the 29th year of Her present Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to amend the Act of the 11th and 12th years of Her present Majesty, chapter 107, to prevent the spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals:"

And whereas a contagious or infectious disorder, generally designated as the "Cattle Plague," has lately appeared, and now prevails, amongst cattle in England and Wales:

And whereas divers Orders in pursuance of the said first-recited Act have been made by the Lords of the said Council in relation to the Cattle Plague, which were consolidated and amended by Orders bearing date the 24th day of March and 11th day of April 1866:

And whereas certain exceptions are made in such Orders respectively, in regard to cattle brought from Ireland into England or Scotland, and it is now advisable that such exceptions should be rescinded and annulled, in respect of the district hereinafter mentioned.

Now, therefore, the Lords of the Council do hereby rescind and annul, from the 15th day of June instant, so much of the said Orders, whether contained in the articles or in the schedules, as authorizes the acceptance of a certificate from a local authority in respect of cattle landed from Ireland in place of the declaration and certificates, or other evidence or testimony required in respect of cattle brought into or removed from any other place in England or Scotland, in every case where such cattle shall have been moved out of any part of the province of Ulster during a period of 21 days next preceding their being landed in England or Scotland respectively.

And the said Lords do order that any such cattle which may be moved out of the province of Ulster may be landed from Ireland at any place in England and Scotland respectively, and be removed from that place subject to such provisions and conditions as apply to other cattle removed from that place, if the person bringing such cattle from Ireland or seeking to move them produce to the local authority or its appointed officer at such place, a license purporting to be signed by a justice of the peace in Ireland, and dated six days before the landing of such cattle, in the form and accompanied with the certificate and declaration also in the forms following; and if any person shall move any cattle landed from Ireland in England or Scotland, in contravention of this Order, he shall be guilty of an offence, and be liable to the penalty imposed by such Orders respectively.

This Order shall be construed in like manner as the said Orders of the 24th day of March and the 11th day of April, and all the provisions of such last-mentioned Orders now in force shall apply to this Order, except so far as they may be inconsistent with anything herein contained.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

Form of License for the Removal of Cattle from the Province of Ulster, in Ireland.

LICENSE.

I of in the county of one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace having jurisdiction in the place from which it is proposed to move the undermentioned animals, having satisfied myself of the correctness of the declaration annexed hereto, hereby license the person undermentioned to move the said cattle by the undermentioned route, provided that the said cattle shall not be driven through any "Infected Place," or within one mile of the outward boundary of such place.

_____ Name.

_____ Date.

Number and Description of Cattle.	Name and Address of Seller or Owner.	Route to be taken.	Name and Address of Buyer or Consignee at Port of Debarkation.

This license shall be available for six days, and no longer.

Declaration of Owner or his Agent.

(*To be annexed to foregoing License.*)

I, *A.B.*, of in the county of in the Kingdom of Ireland, do hereby declare that the cattle marked (*which I have sold or consigned for sale*) to are free from cattle plague, and that no case of cattle plague has, within the two months immediately preceding my making this declaration, existed upon the premises from which I desire to move such cattle, or within two miles of the outward boundary of such premises; and I further declare, that the said cattle have all of them been on the said premises for 28 days immediately preceding my making this declaration, and have not during that time been in contact with any newly purchased animals.

Dated this day of

Signed by [*Declarant*].

Certificate to accompany Declaration.

To be given by the Inspector, Sub-Inspector, or Head Constable of Police, or, if within the Police District of Dublin Metropolis, by the Superintendent or Inspector, or Acting Inspector, of the Dublin Metropolitan Force.

I, the undersigned, being of police of the district which comprises the premises of the said *A.B.*, have viewed the cattle described in his declaration, and certify that to the

the best of my knowledge the same are free from cattle plague, and I believe that the statements contained in the declaration of the said *A.B.* are correct.

Dated this day of , at , in the county of

(signed) *C.D.*

(Inspector or other Officer as aforesaid.)

(No. 83—1866.)

Custom House, London,
29 June 1866.

Sir,

Herewith you will receive copies of two Orders of Her Majesty in Council, dated the 27th instant:

1st. Authorising cattle, the produce of the provinces of Friesland and Groningen, within the dominions of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, to be imported into Great Britain from the ports of Harlingen and Delfzyl.

2nd. Prohibiting the importation from the dominions of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, of any horns, hoofs, raw or wet hides or skins of cattle, other than the produce of the provinces of Friesland and Groningen.

And I am desired by the Board to instruct you, and the several officers under your superintendence, to take care that the directions contained in the above-mentioned Orders be strictly enforced.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *J. B. Hale.*

The collector at

Copy of Order in Council referred to.

At the Court at Windsor, the 27th day of June 1866.

PRESENT,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, by an Order reciting that, whereas it had been represented to Her Majesty, that certain contagious or infectious disorders were then prevalent among cattle in the dominions and territories situated in Europe, belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and that there was danger of the said disorders being introduced into this country by means of cattle from such countries or places, did order, that on and after the 28th day of March then instant, no cattle should be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom, which should come from or should have been at any place within the aforesaid territories and dominions, situate in Europe, belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and also that on and after the said 28th day of March then instant, no cattle should be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which should be, or should have been, on board any vessels at the same time with any cattle which should have come from, or should have been within, the aforesaid territories and dominions.

And Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, did thereby further order that, in the event of any cattle being landed in any portion of the United Kingdom, contrary to the provisions of that Order, all such cattle, the importation or introduction whereof was thereby prohibited as aforesaid, should, upon their arrival in this country, be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs might direct; and that that Order should continue in force until revoked by any further Order; and that the word "cattle" should include sheep as well as bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, and calves.

And whereas it is advisable that this Order should be revoked to the extent hereinafter set forth.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth hereby revoke so much of the said Order as would apply to cattle the produce of the provinces of Friesland and Groningen, parts of the said dominions belonging to His said Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and doth hereby authorize any such cattle to be imported into any port or place in Great Britain, from the ports of Harlingen, in the province of Friesland, and Delfzyl, in the province of Groningen, only, subject nevertheless to all the regulations heretofore or hereafter to be made by the Lords of the said Council, or by any local authority under the Order of such Lords, applicable to the importation of foreign cattle or sheep into any port or place in Great Britain.

This Order shall be construed as the said recited Order of the 24th day of March last, and shall continue in force until revoked.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

At the Court at Windsor, the 27th day of June 1866.

PRESENT,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas Her Majesty, at the Court held at Buckingham Palace, the 24th day of March last, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, by an Order reciting that whereas it had been represented to Her Majesty that certain contagious or infectious disorders were then prevalent among cattle in the dominions and territories situated in Europe belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and that there was danger of the said disorders being introduced into this country by means of cattle from such countries or places, did order that, on and after the 28th day of March then instant, no cattle should be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which should come from or should have been at any place within the aforesaid territories and dominions situate in Europe, belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and also that, on and after the said 28th day of March then instant, no cattle should be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which

App. No. 11.

should be or should have been on board any vessels at the same time with any cattle which should have come from or should have been within the aforesaid territories and dominions:

And whereas by an Order, bearing even date herewith, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, hath revoked so much of the said Order as would apply to cattle the produce of the provinces of Friesland and Groningen, parts of the said dominions belonging to His said Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and authorized any such cattle to be imported into any port or place in Great Britain from the ports of Harlingen, in the province of Friesland, and Delfzyl, in the province of Groningen, only, subject nevertheless to all the regulations heretofore or hereafter to be made by the Lords of the said Council, or by any local authority under the Order of such Lords, applicable to the importation of foreign cattle or sheep into any port or place in Great Britain:

And whereas it has been represented to Her Majesty that it is advisable that certain provisions should be made with reference to the horns, hoofs, and raw or wet hides and skins of cattle to be imported from the dominions and territories aforesaid into the United Kingdom:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that on and after the first day of July 1866, no horn, hoof, raw or wet hide or skin of any such cattle as aforesaid shall be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which shall come from, or shall have been at, any place within the aforesaid territories and dominions, situate in Europe, belonging to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, other than the said provinces of Friesland and Groningen; and also that on and after the said 1st day of July 1866, no horn, hoof, raw or wet hide or skin of any such cattle shall be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom which shall be, or shall have been, on board any vessels at the same time with any cattle which shall have come from, or shall have been within, the aforesaid territories and dominions, other than the said provinces of Friesland and Groningen.

And Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth hereby further order that, in the event of the horn, hoof, raw or wet hide or skin of any cattle being landed in any portion of the United Kingdom, contrary to the provisions of this Order, such horn, hoof, raw or wet hide or skin, the importation or introduction whereof is so hereby prohibited as aforesaid, shall, upon arrival in this country, be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs may direct.

This Order shall continue in force until revoked by any further Order.

The word "cattle" shall include sheep as well as bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, and calves.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Arthur Helps.*

Appendix No. 12.

LETTER from Mr. *Seymour Clarke* to Mr. *H. Waddington.* App. No. 12.

The Great Northern Railway,
General Manager's Office, King's Cross Station,
London, 11 December 1865.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 25th ult., enclosing copy of a letter received by the Under Secretary of State from the City Solicitor, dated 22d November 1865, relative to the carriage of cattle between Scotland and London, I have to state that the average time occupied by cattle, whether carried by ordinary trains or special trains, from Aberdeen to London, a distance of 554 miles, is 36 hours (about 16 miles per hour); but, of course, in a long journey like this, a cattle train is subject to occasional delays and detentions for the passing of other trains, &c.

Cattle, when once placed in the trucks, are not fed or watered until their arrival at their destination, for several reasons:—

First. That the cattle are unaccompanied (in most instances) by persons in charge of them, and therefore the feeding and watering would devolve upon the servants of the several railway companies.

Secondly. That no payment is made for the provender that would have to be given to them.

Thirdly. Because cattle will not feed or drink while in the trucks, and they would have to be unloaded, involving considerable delay, considerable expense, and the probability of mismatching cattle, they being unknown, except by the number of the trucks, to the railway servants; and if once the beasts in any two or more trucks were to get mixed, it would be impossible for them to be re-divided without the almost certainty of error; and any error would involve a loss, as the parties who got better beasts than those intended for them would make no allowance, and the parties getting less valuable animals would be sure to claim on the Railway Company.

Fourthly. There is at present no place throughout the journey where the operation of feeding and watering can be performed.

I readily, Sir, admit that the case is one that wants a remedy, but the remedy does not rest, as I hope you will see from this communication, in the hands of the Railway Companies. There would be no great difficulty, if the senders of the cattle were willing to pay something to remunerate the Companies for finding a place for unloading the beasts, and keeping the contents of the several trucks separate from each other, for finding service and provender; and if the senders were content that the journey should occupy several more hours than is now the case, and which would of course cost the Companies somewhat more for engine power, which would have to be paid by the sender. Further, there must be concurrence on the part of all the senders of cattle, as if the plan were adopted for any, it must be for all.

I am, &c.
Seymour Clarke,
General Manager.

H. Waddington, Esq., Office of Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whitehall.

App. No. 12.

Great Northern Railway.

To LONDON FROM	Miles.	Cattle Rates Average 7 Bullocks per Truck—Average sum.	Rate per Head.	Present Rate for Meat, including Hampers, Cartage, and Terminal Service.	Rate after deducting Terminals, and Cost of Hampers and Cloths, at 18 *s.* 6 *d.*	Average Weight per Bullock, dead, 7 cwt.—Cost, including Hampers, Cloths, Collection, and Delivery.	Deduct Cost of 11 *d.* per cwt. for Hampers, Cloths, Cartage and Terminal Services, leaves—	Rate per Carcass, not including Station Terminal Services, Cartage, or Hampers, Pitching, &c. (at 18 *s.* 4 *d.* per ton.)	Sheep.	
									Average Rate Alive.	Average Rate Dead.
		Per Head.	*Per Mile.*	*Per Ton Dead.*	*Per Mile per Ton.*	*Gross Rate per Carcass.*	*Per Carcass.*	*Per Mile.*	*Per Head.*	*Per Carcass.*
		s. d.	*d.*	*s. d.*	*d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Biggleswade -	41	3 5	1	26 8	2¼	9 4	2 11	·85	– 8	—
Peterboro' -	76¼	6 –	·94	38 4	3	13 5	7 –	1·1	1 –	—
Boston - -	107¼	6 11	·77	50 –	3⅓	17 6	11 1	1·2	1 3¾	—
Alford - -	130⅓	8 6	·78	56 8	3½	19 10	13 5	1·2	1 7½	—
Lincoln - -	138	8 –	.69	55 –	3	19 3	12 10	1·1	1 6	—
Grantham -	105¼	8 9	1·	50 –	3½	17 6	11 1	1·2	1 9	—
Retford - -	138½	11 6	1·	56 8	3¼	19 10	13 5	1·1	2 3½	—
Leeds - -	186¼	13 4	·85	55 –	2¼	19 3	12 10	·82	3 1	—

The empty hampers and cloths are carried back "free."

Great Northern Railway.

Live Stock carried to *London* through Goods Department, during 12 Months, July 1864 to June 1865, both inclusive.

——	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Horses.	Donkeys.	Goats.
1864:							
July - - -	3,479	14,962	314	39	431	2	—
August - -	2,348	16,698	410	37	566	—	—
September - -	1,304	12,934	323	32	370	—	—
October - -	1,234	11,666	553	38	437	- -	3
November - -	718	8,816	408	8	236	—	—
December - -	3,669	8,149	697	35	308	—	—
Total 6 Months	12,752	73,225	2,705	189	2,348	2	3
1865:							
January - -	2,563	10,669	334	31	117	—	—
February - -	1,917	9,864	422	66	986	—	—
March - -	2,009	12,276	206	35	391	—	—
April - - -	2,184	15,785	277	36	1,509	—	—
May - - -	3,931	23,059	195	52	586	—	—
June - - -	3,037	21,436	79	48	401	—	—
Total 6 Months	15,641	93,086	1,513	268	3,990	—	—
	12,752	73,225	2,705	189	2,348	2	3
Total 12 Months	28,393	166,311	4,218	457	6,338	2	3

The Irish traffic to London is carried *vid* the London and North Western Railway.

Great Eastern Railway.

STATEMENT showing the Cattle imported from the Continent *viâ Harwich*, from October 1863 to December 1865.

Cattle } Calves }	64,102
Sheep	215,344
Pigs	23,965

General Manager's Office,
7 May 1866.

R. Moseley.

Continental Live Stock and Meat to London.

Cost of Transit from *Rotterdam* to *London*, by Sea direct.

	£.	s.	d.
One ox, freight	–	15	–
Landing and wharfage, in London	–	2	6
Driving, carting, and lairage	–	1	9
Commission	–	4	6
Slaughtering	–	5	–
Drovers, charges on board, &c.	–	1	6
Total £.	1	10	3

Viâ Harwich.	£.	s.	d.
One ox, freight	–	7	6
Slaughtering and all other charges at Harwich	–	7	6
Conveyance when dead, from Harwich to London Meat Markets,—8 cwts. at 1 *s.* 7½ *d.* per cwt.	–	13	–
Total £.	1	8	–

Inasmuch as the total number of oxen and bulls imported into London was in the year 1864 115,219, and supposing one-half of that number had been carried *viâ* Harwich, the saving, at 2 *s.* 3 *d.* per head, would have been 6,480 *l.*

N.B.—The Orders in Council relative to the Cattle Plague, having been presented to The House, are not Printed in the Appendix.

I N D E X

TO THE

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TRADE IN ANIMALS.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
19 *July* 1866.

427—I.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

ALPHABETICAL and CLASSIFIED LIST of the PRINCIPAL HEADINGS in the following INDEX, with the Paging at which they will respectively be found.

PAGE

Austria - - - - - - - - - - 2
Bohemia - - - - - - - - - 3

Bristol - - - - - - - - - - 4

Cattle Plague - - - - - - - - - 5
Austria - - - - - - - - - 2
Cows - - - - - - - - - 8
Danish Cattle - - - - - - - - 10
Dutch Cattle - - - - - - - - 15
Foreign Cattle - - - - - - - - 19
Inspection, 1 - - - - - - - - 32
Ireland - - - - - - - - - 33
Lincolnshire - - - - - - - - 38
Metropolitan Cattle Market - - - - 42
Norfolk - - - - - - - - - 44
Northamptonshire - - - - - - - 44
Quarantine - - - - - - - - 49
Railways, 2 - - - - - - - - 51
Russian Cattle - - - - - - - - 55
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56
Steamers, 4 - - - - - - - - 63
Sussex - - - - - - - - - 65
Transit of Cattle - - - - - - - 67

Cows - - - - - - - - - - 8
Quarantine, 5 - - - - - - - - 49

Danish Cattle - - - - - - - - - 10
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56

Dead Meat:
1. *Generally as to the Quantity of Dead Meat now brought to London* - - - - 10
2. *As to the Supply from Scotland to London* 10
3. *As to the Supply from Hull to various Towns* - - - - - - - - 11
4. *As to the Supply from the West of England* 12
5. *As to the Supply from Ireland* - - - 12
6. *As to the Foreign Supply* - - - - 12
7. *Difficulties and Expense of Railway Conveyance* - - - - - - - - 12
8. *Advantage in the Animals being killed in the Country* - - - - - - - 13
9. *Modes of Packing the Meat for Conveyance by Railway and Steamer* - - - 13
10. *Evidence favourable on the whole to the Supply of London and other large Towns by means mainly of Dead Meat* - - 13
11. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition* - - - - - - - - 14
12. *Conclusions of the Committee* - - - 14

Aldershot - - - - - - - - - 1
Army Contracts - - - - - - - - 1
Bristol - - - - - - - - - 4
Farmers and Graziers - - - - - - 17
Fish - - - - - - - - - 18
Glasgow - - - - - - - - - 24
Great Northern Railway - - - - - 24
Harwich - - - - - - - - - 25
Inspection, 2 - - - - - - - - 32
Kent - - - - - - - - - 35
Leeds, 4 - - - - - - - - - 36

Dead Meat—continued. PAGE
Leith - - - - - - - - - 36
Liverpool, 7, 8 - - - - - - - - 39
Maidstone - - - - - - - - - 41
Manchester, &c. - - - - - - - - 41
Newgate Market - - - - - - - - 43
Offal - - - - - - - - - 44
Oldham - - - - - - - - - 45
Prices - - - - - - - - - 47
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56
Slaughter-houses - - - - - - - - 58
Smithfield Market - - - - - - - 61
Transit of Cattle - - - - - - - 67

Dutch Cattle - - - - - - - - - 15
Cows - - - - - - - - - - 8
Foreign Cattle - - - - - - - - 19
General Steam Navigation Company - - - 23
Harwich - - - - - - - - - 25
Pleuro-pneumonia - - - - - - - - 46
Rotterdam - - - - - - - - - 54
Steamers - - - - - - - - - 62

Edinburgh - - - - - - - - - 16
Leith - - - - - - - - - 36
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56

Fairs and Markets - - - - - - - - 17

Farmers and Graziers - - - - - - - 17
Lincolnshire - - - - - - - - - 38
Norfolk - - - - - - - - - 44
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56
Store Cattle - - - - - - - - 64

Foot and Mouth Disease:
1. *Character of this Disease* - - - - 18
2. *Its prevalence among Foreign and English Cattle respectively* - - - - - 18
3. *Restrictions now in force as to the Import of Animals or Cargoes having the Disease* - 18
4. *Suggestions as to the Restrictions and Regulations desirable in future* - - - 19

Foreign Cattle:
1. *As to the Extent and Importance of the Foreign Supply* - - - - - - 19
2. *Inspection abroad before Shipment for England* - - - - - - - - - 19
3. *Condition of the Cattle on Arrival in this Country* - - - - - - - - 20
4. *Relative quality of Foreign and Home-fed Meat* - - - - - - - - - 20
5. *Statements in favour of a Separate Market in London for Foreign Stock, near the River Side* - - - - - - - - 20
6. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition* - - - - - - - - - 20
7. *Suggested Division between Foreign and English Cattle in the same Market* - 21
8. *Question of Slaughtering Foreign Cattle at the Port of Arrival* - - - - - 21

Foreign Cattle—continued. PAGE

9. *Orders in Council regulating the Import and Slaughter of Foreign Cattle* - - 22
10. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - - - - - - 22

Austria - - - - - - - - - 2
Bremen - - - - - - - - - 4
Cattle Plague - - - - - - - - 5
Cows - - - - - - - - - 8
Danish Cattle - - - - - - - - 10
Dutch Cattle - - - - - - - - 15
Fairs and Markets - - - - - - - 17
Foot and Mouth Disease - - - - - - 18
French Cattle - - - - - - - - 22
Harwich - - - - - - - - - 25
Hull - - - - - - - - - - 30
Inspection, 1 - - - - - - - - 32
Leeds, 1, 2 - - - - - - - - 35
Metropolitan Cattle Market - - - - - 42
Newcastle-on-Tyne - - - - - - - 43
Ports of Landing - - - - - - - 46
Prices, 1 - - - - - - - - - 47
Quarantine - - - - - - - - - 49
Railways, 3 - - - - - - - - - 51
Russian Cattle - - - - - - - - 55
Scotland - - - - - - - - - 56
Spanish Cattle - - - - - - - - 61
Steamers - - - - - - - - - 62
Store Cattle - - - - - - - - - 64
Transit of Cattle - - - - - - - 67

General Steam Navigation Company - - - - 23

Harwich - - - - - - - - - - 25
Foreign Cattle - - - - - - - - 19

Hull - - - - - - - - - - - 30
Cattle Plague - - - - - - - - 5
Dead Meat, 3 - - - - - - - - 11
Foot and Mouth Disease, 3 - - - - - - 18
Leeds - - - - - - - - - - 35

Inspection:

1. *Foreign Cattle on arrival in London* - - 32
2. *Slaughter-houses and Dead Meat* - - 32

Foot and Mouth Disease, 3, 4 - - - - - 18
Foreign Cattle, 2 - - - - - - - 19
Harwich - - - - - - - - - 25
Hull - - - - - - - - - - 30
Liverpool, 1 - - - - - - - - 38
Steamers, 3 - - - - - - - - 63

Irish Cattle (*Export to England*):

1. *As to the Railway Arrangements in Ireland* 33
2. *Feeding and Watering of the Cattle before Shipment* - - - - - - - 33
3. *As to the Accommodation and Treatment in the Steamers* - - - - - - 33
4. *Condition on Arrival in England* - - 34
5. *Large Export to this Country: Effect hereon of the recent Restrictions upon Transit* - 34
6. *Other Details generally* - - - - 34

Bristol - - - - - - - - - 4
Cattle Plague - - - - - - - - 5
Dead Meat, 5 - - - - - - - - 12
Dublin Steam Packet Company - - - - - 15
Liverpool - - - - - - - - - 38
Pleuro-pneumonia - - - - - - - 46

Kent - - - - - - - - - - 35
Maidstone - - - - - - - - - 41
Sevenoaks - - - - - - - - - 56

Landing of Foreign Cattle - - - - - - 35
Isle of Grain - - - - - - - - 34
Ports - - - - - - - - - 46
Slinging - - - - - - - - - 61
Thames Haven - - - - - - - - 66

Leeds: PAGE

1. *Limited Supplies of Live Cattle in Leeds Market since the Restrictions on Transit from Hull* - - - - - - - 35
2. *Suggestions for the Removal of these Restrictions* - - - - - - - - 36
3. *Slaughter-house Accommodation* - - 36
4. *Dead Meat Supply* - - - - - - 36

Dead Meat, 3 - - - - - - - - - 11
Leith - - - - - - - - - - - 36

Liverpool:

1. *Inspection of Cattle on arrival at the Port* 38
2. *Facilities for Landing the Cattle* - - 38
3. *Want of increased Lairage Accommodation* 38
4. *Markets for Live Stock* - - - - - 39
5. *Slaughter-houses* - - - - - - 39
6. *Cow-houses* - - - - - - - 39
7. *Question of supplying Dead Meat to Manchester and other Towns* - - - 39
8. *Complaints as to the Restrictions upon the Movement of Live Stock to Manchester, &c.* 39
9. *Other Details generally* - - - - 40

Manchester and Manufacturing District - - - 41
Dead Meat, 3 - - - - - - - - 11
Leeds - - - - - - - - - 35
Liverpool, 7 - - - - - - - - 39

Markets (*Metropolis*) - - - - - - - 41
Foreign Cattle, 5, 7 - - - - - - 20
Metropolitan Cattle Market - - - - - 42
Newgate Market - - - - - - - 43
Public Health - - - - - - - - 49
Smithfield Market - - - - - - - 61

Metropolitan Cattle Market - - - - - 42
Foreign Cattle, 5, 7 - - - - - - 20
Prices, 2 - - - - - - - - - 48
Slaughter-houses, 1. - - - - - - 58

Newcastle-on-Tyne - - - - - - - - 43

Offal - - - - - - - - - - 44
Edinburgh - - - - - - - - 16

Paris - - - - - - - - - - 45

Pleuro-pneumonia - - - - - - - - 46

Prices:

1. *Actual Prices of Live Stock and of Dead Meat; Effect of recent legislative Restrictions* - - - - - - - - - 47
2. *Prices as publicly quoted, and Mode in which ascertained in the London Markets; Amendments suggested* - - - - - 48

Foreign Cattle - - - - - - - - 19
Lower Classes - - - - - - - - 40

Privy Council - - - - - - - - - 49

Quarantine:

1. *Suggestions for Quarantining Store Cattle from Abroad* - - - - - - - 49
2. *Question of Exemption of uninfected Countries* - - - - - - - - - 50
3. *Effect of Quarantine on the Foreign Supply* 50
4. *Increased Value and Price of Store Stock, if Quarantined* - - - - - - 50
5. *Suggested Quarantine for Milch Cows and Calves* - - - - - - - 50
6. *Evidence opposed to Quarantine, more especially of Fat Cattle* - - - - 50
7. *Conclusions of the Committee on the Subject* 50

Sheep - - - - - - - - - - 56

RAILWAYS: PAGE

1. *Watering and Feeding the Cattle during Railway Transit* - 51
2. *Cleansing and Disinfecting of the Railway Trucks* - 51
3. *Feeding and Watering on Foreign Railways* 51
4. *Loading and Overcrowding of the Trucks* 52
5. *Other Details generally* - 52

Austria - 1
Dead Meat - 10
Irish Cattle, 1 - 33
Rotterdam - 54
Dutch Cattle - 15
Harwich - 25
Russian Cattle - 55
Scotland - 56
Danish Cattle - 10
Dead Meat, 2 - 10
Glasgow - 24
Granton - 24
Leith - 36
Sheep - 56

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES:

I. *In the Metropolis:*

1. Evidence in Condemnation of Private Slaughter-houses - 58
2. Defence of the Private Slaughter-houses - 59
3. Evidence in favour of Public Slaughter-houses or Abattoirs exclusively - 59
4. Objections to the foregoing Proposition - 59
5. Suggested Regulations for Private Slaughter-houses - 60
6. Question of compelling Carcase Butchers to use Abattoirs - 60
7. Fees at the Islington Slaughter-houses; Extent to which these are used - 60
8. Discontinuance of Slaughtering at the Dead Meat Markets - 60

II. *In the Country and in Large Towns* - 60

III. *In Foreign Countries* - 61

IV. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee* - 61

Edinburgh - 16
Inspection, 2 - 32
Leeds, 3 - 36
Liverpool, 5 - 39
Paris - 45
Vienna - 69
Smithfield Market - 61
Spanish Cattle - 61

STEAMERS (SEA-PASSAGE): PAGE

1. *Accommodation in the Cattle Vessels to London, Harwich, Hull, &c.* - 62
2. *Question of Feeding and Watering the Cattle during the Passage* - 62
3. *Suggested Regulations as to the Number of Cattle in each Steamer, and the means of Ventilation* - 63
4. *Practice as to Cleansing the Vessels after each Voyage* - 63
5. *Condition of the Animals during the Passage and on Arrival* - 63

Bremen - 4
Dublin Steam Packet Company - 15
Foreign Cattle, 2 - 19
General Steam Navigation Company - 23
Irish Cattle, 3, 4 - 33
Tyne Steam Shipping Company - 68

Store Cattle - 64
Cheshire - 6
Fairs and Markets - 17
Farmers and Graziers - 17
Lincolnshire - 38
Quarantine - 49
Scotland - 56

Transit of Cattle - 67
Aldershot - 1
Butchers - 5
Cattle Plague - 5
Danish Cattle - 10
Dead Meat - 10
Dutch Cattle - 15
Foreign Cattle, 8, 10 - 21
Glasgow - 24
Ireland - 33
Irish Cattle, 5 - 34
Leeds Cattle, 1, 2 - 35
Leith - 36
Liverpool, 8 - 39
Manchester, &c. - 41
Metropolitan Cattle Market - 42
Newcastle-on-Tyne - 43
Prices, 1 - 47
Railways - 51
Scotland - 56
Spanish Cattle - 61
Steamers - 62
Wakefield - 69
West of England - 70

I N D E X.

[*N.B.*—In this Index the *Figures* following the Names of the Witnesses refer to the Questions in the Evidence; those following *App.* to the Pages in the Appendix; and the Numerals following *Rep.* to the Pages in the Report.]

A.

ABATTOIRS. See *Slaughterhouses.*

Aberdeen. Use by witness, who is a butcher at Aberdeen, of the Corporation slaughter-house, there being also six private slaughterhouses, *Stewart* 5848-5851——Difference of about 2 *d.* per pound between the retail price of meat in Aberdeen, and the wholesale price of the bullock, *ib.* 5852, 5853——Much more cattle available for killing in Aberdeenshire in the winter and spring than in the summer, *Hutcheson* 6241-6244; *Butler* 6327, 6328. 6332, 6333——Discontinuance of the import of foreign cattle to Aberdeen, *Butler* 6365-6371——Large trade of Aberdeen in preserved meats, *ib.* 6372-6376.

See also *Army Contracts.* *Dead Meat*, 2. 9.

Aldershot. Practice as to the slaughtering and conveyance of the animals supplied by witness to Aldershot under contract; inconvenience and loss from the prohibition upon sending the live animals to the camp, and having it slaughtered there, *Baker* 4366-4390. 4464, 4465——Liability of the meat supplied daily at Aldershot becoming bad when the atmosphere is in a certain state, *ib.* 4477-4482.

Aldgate Market. Particulars as to the quantity of diseased and putrid meat in the market in each of the years 1861-65, *App.* 320.

Antwerp. Prohibition some six months ago of the importation of cattle from Antwerp, *Moseley* 357——Since the prohibition upon German and Dutch cattle passing through Belgium, only sheep and pigs are now sent from Antwerp to Harwich, *Huger* 1295-1301 Export of 400 German beasts weekly from Antwerp to Harwich, previously to the present restrictions; prospect of the trade increasing when the restrictions are removed, *ib.* 1303. 1314-1321.

Arrangements as to inspection at Antwerp; effectual check upon the shipment of diseased animals, *Huger* 1304-1313. 1342-1348——The steamers began to run from Antwerp to Harwich in August 1864, *ib.* 1314——Accommodation of the cattle in lairs before shipment, *ib.* 1323.

Doubt whether the trade from Antwerp would be affected by a requirement that the animals must be killed at the port of arrival in England; that is, unless it be required that they must be killed immediately, *Huger* 1324-1333——Very good arrangements in the vessels from Antwerp, so that the cattle do not suffer, *ib.* 1334——Few cattle which used to be shipped from Antwerp to London, *ib.* 1361, 1362.

Army Contracts. Excellent meat obtained from Aberdeen in large quantities under contract for the army, *Torr* 7147, 7148.

Aungier, Mark. (Analysis of his Evidence)—Is largely engaged as cattle salesman at Liverpool, 2880-2882——Improved accommodation lately in the Irish cattle ships, further improvements being, however, still required, 2883-2892. 2924-2946——Better conveyance of the animals if the vessels were broader in the beam, and were built less for speed, 2886-2890——Bruised and injured state of the Irish cattle occasionally, 2886. 2891-2895——Better condition in which cattle arrive at Liverpool from Spain than from Ireland, 2896-2902——Very little dead meat traffic between Ireland and Liverpool, 2903-2906.

Very prejudicial effect on the restriction upon the removal of live cattle to any distance from Liverpool; application about to be made to Government on the subject, 2908. 2913-2923——Privilege recently granted to Manchester in regard to the removal of live cattle to towns within a certain distance, 2909-2912——Very bad ventilation and very crowded

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Aungier, Mark. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

crowded state, formerly, of the vessels conveying cattle between Ireland and England, some of the steamers still carrying an unduly large number of cattle, 2924–2943.

Protection now afforded on the decks of the vessels from Ireland, so that the cattle arrive in better condition, 2944–2946——Tendency to disease through exposure on deck, 2947–2949——Cleansing of the vessels after the discharge of each cargo, 2953, 2954——Way in which cattle with the lung disease, or the foot and mouth disease, are dealt with, 2956–2963——Increased accommodation required for the cattle before they are sent into the market, 2964–2966——Doubt as to any advantage in separating the market for foreign and English beasts, 2967–2970——Good class and good condition of the cattle from the eastern ports of Ireland, 2972–2976——Large majority of the cattle in the Liverpool market which come from Ireland, 2978–2981.

Austria. Practice in Austria of sending the lean cattle to be fattened at beet root sugar manufactories in Bohemia and Moravia, *Hirschler* 4130–4137. 4141——Export of the Austrian cattle to England by way of Bremen; particulars hereon as to the route taken, the time occupied, and the arrangements for feeding and watering the animals at Eisenbach and at Bremen, *ib.* 4131. 4142–4161. 4168–4177. 4242–4244——Information as to the quality and size of the cattle from Hungary and Austria, and the prices obtained for them in the London market, *ib.* 4136–4140, 4181–4183. 4252–4254.

Very strict regulations in Austria and on the German frontier for the prevention of the cattle plague, *Hirschler* 4151–4154. 4202–4215. 4239–4241——Total of about 5*l.* per head as the expense per head from Vienna to London, *ib.* 4165–4167——Loss of about one per cent of the animals from Vienna, *ib.* 4168–4170. 4180——Very little foot and mouth disease or lung disease in Austria or Hungary, *ib.* 4184. 4200, 4201——Various parts of the country whence the cattle are brought and exported to England, *ib.* 4185–4199. 4245–4251.

Impression that there has been no rinderpest in Austria for the last three years, *Hirschler* 4202. 4229–4233——Prohibition upon imports to England from Holland, so that cattle from Vienna are not now sent through Holland, but only through the Zollverein, *ib.* 4234–4239.

Extract from Report of Dr. Letheby as to the regulations in force in Austria for the inspection of cattle and dead meat, *App.* 316.

See also *Bohemia.*

B.

Baker, Benjamin Bloomfield. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Meat contractor; supplies victualling yards, the army and navy at different places, and several public institutions, 4255–4263——Purchase by witness chiefly of foreign cattle in the shape both of dead meat and live stock, 4264–4278. 4418——Average of about 60 beasts killed weekly by witness, mostly at the same slaughterhouse, 4266–4268.

Convenience of the present slaughterhouses in the metropolis, 4279. 4286–4289. 4414. 4499–4501——Evidence strongly opposed to public slaughterhouses at the Metropolitan Market, which it should be imperative upon contractors and butchers to use exclusively, 4280–4300. 4409–4415. 4472–4477. 4483–4490. 4502–4522. 4538–4558.

Considerable difficulty now experienced from the crowded traffic at Newgate Market, 4301–4305——Instances of mutton killed in Northamptonshire and Yorkshire being tainted when for sale in the London market, more especially in hot weather, 4306–4325——Importance of slaughtering the animals when not excited or feverish, and of letting the meat become properly set before removing it by railway or otherwise, 4326–4334——Increased price of foreign cattle when the transit of live cattle by railway was prevented in February, 4335–4340.

Inconvenience and expense by having separate market for foreign cattle, with slaughterhouses attached, near the river side; injury both to the foreign trade and to the buyer, 4341–4368. 4483–4497——Practice as to the slaughtering and conveyance of the animals supplied by witness to Aldershot under contract; inconvenience and loss through the prohibition upon sending the live animal to the camp and having it slaughtered there, 4366–4390. 4464, 4465——Way in which the offal, hides, &c., of animals slaughtered by witness are now disposed of as compared with the facilities of disposal if there were a public slaughterhouse in a less populous locality, 4394–4408.

Lower price of the foreign meat than of the English meat by about a halfpenny or three farthings a pound, 4416–4421——Decreased supply lately of foreign stock owing to the uncertainty of these being passed on landing, 4422–4424——Witness has not been able to trace the foot and mouth disease in dead meat, and has not lately rejected any animals on account of it, 4425–4429——Recent signature by witness of a memorial to Government for permission to remove live cattle from the Metropolitan Market by railway, 4430–4438.

Difficulty

Report, 1866—*continued*.

Baker, Benjamin Bloomfield. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Difficulty of London contractors supplying the Victualling-yard at Plymouth with dead meat through the restrictions upon railway transit; obstacle to sending the beasts coastwise, 4432. 4439-4446. 4451-4455. 4523-4530——Slaughter by witness at Deptford of all the beasts supplied by him under contract to the Victualling-yard there, 4456-4461——Very little disease found by witness in any foreign cattle, 4466-4471——Liability of the meat supplied daily to Aldershot becoming bad when the atmosphere is in a certain state, 4477-4482.

Importance of a central market for live cattle, whilst centralisation of slaughterhouses is very objectionable, 4489, 4490——Decreased supply of foreign cattle if it were compulsory to slaughter them near the port of landing, 4491-4498——System and number of abattoirs in Paris adverted to; much smaller consumption of meat than in London, 4510-4518. 4550-4553——Supply of the troops at Woolwich with cattle killed in the Government slaughterhouses, 4532-4537——Necessity of public slaughterhouses at several points of the metropolis, or of very extensive accommodation at the Cattle Market, in the event of the private slaughterhouses being abolished, 4538-4558.

Bannister, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Retail butcher in the City; purchases entirely in the dead meat markets, 5209-5214——Enhanced prices caused by the prohibition upon the movement of live stock, 5215-5222——Excellent condition of the country-killed meat sold by witness, except in the summer months, when it is not practicable to bring it from a distance, 5223-5227. 5230-5237. 5248, 5249——Effect upon prices when the supply of country-killed meat is stopped, 5227-5229——Suggestions as to the improvements required in the system of ascertaining the prices for quotation in the public newspapers, 5238-5247. 5261. 5296-5302.

Grounds for objecting to its being compulsory to slaughter in public slaughterhouses; inconvenience and injury to the butchers generally who now have private slaughterhouses, 5250-5255. 5268-5295. 5306——Great improvement in the beasts being imported from France; fine condition of some of these, and high prices fetched by them, 5256-5260. 5308-5318——Convenience of a large dead meat market to witness, 5264.

Conclusion as to the discontinuance of the supply from Scotland being owing to the state of the weather, 5265-5267——Satisfactory operation of the large slaughterhouses used by carcase butchers; large quantity of meat supplied thus to retail butchers, 5271-5286——Inspection now applied to slaughterhouses which are for the most part kept clean and wholesome, 5276, 5277. 5303-5307.

Bavaria. Regulations in force in Bavaria as to the inspection of cattle and dead meat, *App.* 316.——*See* also *Austria.*

Belgium. Prohibition now in force in Belgium, as well as in Holland, in regard to the transit of German cattle, *Peters* 1269-1272——Expected removal shortly of the prohibition upon the transit of German cattle through Belgium, *Huger* 1301. 1359.

Berlin. Regulations in force in Berlin as to the inspection of cattle and dead meat, *App.* 316, 317.

Betts, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher at Maidstone, 6077——Statement as to the supplies of cattle in Kent being almost exhausted, so that unless the restrictions upon the transit of live stock are removed, great difficulty will be experienced by the butcher, 6078-6119——Impracticability of any satisfactory supply of dead meat to Maidstone and other towns from London, more especially in hot weather, 6081. 6120-6140——Limited advance in prices at Maidstone notwithstanding the short supply, 6084-6110.

Very little cattle grazing in Kent, there being hardly any beasts now in the county, 6101. 6112. 6145——Trifling amount of cattle plague in the county though largely dependent upon the metropolitan market for its supply, 6141-6145——Expediency of the butchers in Kent being allowed to bring live cattle from London or elsewhere, and to slaughter them at home, 6142——Belief as to the limited spread of the cattle plague in Sussex, 6146-6148.

[Second Examination].—Consideration of a statement showing that Kent is not peculiarly badly off in the supply of beasts and milch cows, 6200-6210——Admission as to the large supply of sheep in the county, 6211-6213.

Bohemia. With the cattle coming from Bohemia a certificate or passport is given; explanation hereon, *Hicks* 4084, 4085. 5319.

Form of cattle pass in Bohemia certifying as to the health of the cattle removed from any locality, *App.* 324.

See also *Austria.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Bonser, William James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Salesmaster in Newgate Market, 7667——Consignment of dead meat to witness's firm from all parts of England and from abroad as well as from Scotland; great increase in the trade, 7669-7673——Increasing consignment of dead meat from Holland; good condition in which it generally arrives except in very hot weather, 7673-7683——Great inconvenience and loss to the trade if all fat cattle from abroad were obliged to be slaughtered close to the place of debarkation, 7684-7688. 7712-7719——Injury and expense if it were compulsory to use public instead of private slaughterhouses, 7688. 7706-7726.

Various directions to which cattle are now driven from slaughter in addition to their being driven to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, 7689-7692——Frequent instances of live stock being consigned direct to witness; practice as to the disposal and slaughter of these without their going through the market, 7693-7705——Injurious effect upon the foreign trade if it were necessary to incur the increased expense of public slaughter-houses, 7714, 7715.

Difficulty in distinguishing between the carcase butcher and the retail butcher in regard to the retention of private slaughterhouses, 7723-7726——Excellent quality of some of the foreign meat, 7727-7729——Witness pays ready money for all consignments, the business being entirely one of commission, 7730-7732——Diminished consignments from Aberdeen in summer, owing partly to the weather, 7733-7737——Risk of Scotch meat being spoiled if opened and repacked on arrival in London for transmission to Aldershot, &c., 7738-7741.

Very careful manner in which the Scotch meat is packed in cloths, 7742-7744——Disadvantages of the system of packing in the meat vans from Exeter, &c., 7743——Arrangements as to the packing and care of the meat on board the vessels from abroad, 7745-7747——Great inconvenience from the crowded state of Newgate Market, 7748, 7749.

Bradbury, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher at Oldham, 956——Very serious inconvenience at Oldham during the restriction upon the movement of cattle by railway, and through the necessity of obtaining supplies from the Liverpool Dead Meat Market, 957 *et seq.*——Question considered as to the price of meat in Oldham having been affected by the prohibition of railway movement, and the necessity of going to Liverpool and Manchester for dead meat, 966-1003. 1060, 1061——Restriction still in force upon the movement of foreign cattle from markets, 975-983. 991, 992——Recent opening of a live meat market at Oldham for cattle from various parts of England and Scotland, 984-994. 1030-1033.

Sufficiency of the supply at Oldham when the meat was all procured from Liverpool and Manchester, 995, 996. 1003——Bad condition of the meat on arrival at Oldham from Liverpool, the arrangements however having been very imperfect at the latter place, 1004-1012——Belief that Oldham and other towns in the manufacturing districts could never be satisfactorily supplied from a dead meat market in Liverpool; decided dissent hereon from the evidence of Dr. French, 1013-1026. 1042-1053——Continuance of the increased price of meat adverted to with reference to the effect of the cattle plague, and of the Government regulations, 1034-1041.

General feeling of the butchers in Oldham, Macclesfield, &c., that it is most undesirable that those towns should continue to be supplied from dead meat markets, 1042-1053——Better condition in which Spanish cattle arrive than Irish cattle, 1054-1056——Preference given to Scotch beasts over Irish or English ones, 1057-1059——Sources of supply of the butchers in Oldham at the present time, 1062-1067.

Bradford. Establishment of a cattle market at Bradford since the restrictions upon transit of foreign cattle, *Swales* 5590-5592.

Bremen. Particulars as to the crowded state of the vessels from Bremen to Hull, and as to the frequent injury to the animals from this cause and from being knocked about in stormy weather, *Coulson* 2077-2093. 2141-2162——Rate of freight from Bremen to Hull, *Malcolm* 2335——Unsatisfactory accommodation afforded in the Bremen boats, *Lockwood* 2417-2420.

Very crowded and dirty state formerly of the Bremen boats, the ventilation also having been very bad, and the animals greatly neglected; improvement since last year, *Valentine* 2603-2608——Overcrowding and ill-usage of fat cattle as well as store cattle in the boats from Bremen to Hull, *ib.* 2624-2630. 2668.

Character of the vessels in which the cattle are conveyed from Bremen to London; time occupied in the passage, *Hirschler* 4161-4164——Careful inspection at Bremen in order to prevent the shipment of animals with the foot and mouth disease, *ib.* 4178, 4179. 4184.

Bristol. Arrangements made in January last for conveying carcases from the country to Bristol over the Bristol and Exeter Railway; successful operation thereof, though opposed by the butchers, *Wall* 2682-2693. 2719-2721——Reduced price of meat in Bristol through

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Bristol—continued.

through the system of bringing in carcases by railway for sale at public stores, *Wall* 2690–2693. 2720, 2721.

There is no importation of foreign cattle at Bristol, *Hennessy* 8064. 8115, 8116——Good condition in which the cattle arrive from Cork and other Irish ports, *ib.* 8067–8069—Suffering of the cattle through delay in landing; suggestions hereon, *ib.* 8070, 8071. 8113——Modes of disposal at Bristol of the Irish fat and store cattle respectively; effect hereon of the restrictions upon removal of live stock from the market, *ib.* 8077–8097. 8117, 8118——System of inspection of cattle from Ireland, *ib.* 8119–8122.

Bristol and Exeter Railway. See *Bristol.* *Dead Meat*, 4.

Brown's Wharf, Poplar. Details relative to the landing of the cattle at Brown's Wharf from the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company; accommodation for this purpose, *Pratt* 3054–3058. 3169–3181. 3265, 3266——Objection to the landing of cattle at Brown's Wharf, *Rudkin* 6692. 6737–6739.

Brussels. Regulations in force in regard to the sale of dead meat, the system of slaughtering, &c., *App.* 317, 318.

Buenos Ayres. Very inferior condition of a few cattle sent to Liverpool from Buenos Ayres, *Cullen* 579–581.

Butchers. Considerable inconvenience and expense caused to butchers living a short distance from town, by the recent Orders in Council as to transit of live stock, *Ratcliffe* 3639–3642——Very injurious effect upon butchers by the temporary restrictions upon the transit of cattle, *Giblett* 4584–4587. 4622, 4623——Object of the Butchers' Trade Protection Society, of which witness is a member, *Pickworth* 4955, 4956.

See also *Dead Meat.* *Foreign Cattle.* *Kent.* *Prices.* *Slaughter Houses*, I.

Butler, Joseph. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has for many years been largely engaged in the dead-beef trade between Aberdeen and London, 6293–6297——Decrease in the trade since the cattle plague, there being no foreign cattle purchased by the farmers, 6297–6309——Practice of witness to send dead meat to London by railway daily throughout the year; extent of his losses in hot weather, 6304–6331——Less supply of cattle available in summer, 6327, 6328. 6332, 6333——Disposal by witness of the offal in Aberdeen; particulars hereon, 6336–6342. 6377–6399——The fore quarters are generally disposed of in Aberdeen, 6346, 6347.

Long period for which dead meat has been sent from Aberdeen to London; constant use by witness of the steamers as well as the railway, 6348–6351——Quick passage made by one of the steamers, the freight being cheaper than by railway, 6352. 6358–6360——Arrangement as to the packing of the meat in the railway trucks, the animals being generally killed the day before, 6353–6357——Discontinuance of the import of foreign cattle to Aberdeen, 6365–6371——Large trade of Aberdeen in preserved meats, 6372–6376.

C.

Carcase Butchers. Slaughter by witness of from 80 to 100 oxen weekly at his premises in Aldgate High-street, the carcases being mostly sold on the premises to the East-end retail butchers, *Woodley* 4864–4871. 4912–4914. 4934–4936——Satisfactory operation of the large slaughter houses used by carcase men; large quantity of meat supplied thus to retail butchers, *Bannister* 5271–5286——The carcase butcher slaughters for the purpose of selling to retail butchers, *Rudkin* 6615–6617.

See also *Slaughter Houses*, I. 6.

Cattle Plague:

Contemplated slaughtering of the whole cargo of cattle, including store cattle, if only one of them had the plague on arrival from abroad, *Daniels* 189, 190. 204–208; *Read* 1645——Particulars relative to the introduction of the plague into Cheshire and Lancashire by means of store cattle from Germany, *Hall* 861, 862. 864–889——Difficulty in detecting rinderpest when lying dormant in the system, *Ellis* 1403, 1404——Belief as to rinderpest having been decidedly imported, *Read* 1582. 1640.

There is no proof of the rinderpest having come from abroad; witness is confident it was not brought by the cargo from Revel imported by him, *Hönck* 1783–1785. 2031–2033——Belief that the cattle plague has never been introduced by any cattle consigned to witness at Hull; he has never seen any case of rinderpest, *Coulson* 2074, 2075. 2274–2281.

There has never been a case of rinderpest imported at Hull, *Lockwood* 2442–2444——Doubt as to the origin of the rinderpest; opinion that it broke out in the London cow sheds, *ib.* 2543–2549——Belief that the plague never came from abroad, *ib.* 2547.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

CATTLE PLAGUE—continued.

Very strict regulations of foreign Governments for preventing cattle plague, *Robinson* 3330, 3331. 3338. 3354——Belief that the plague originated in this country, and was not brought from Holland, *ib.* 3354.

When any animal, on arrival in the port of London, has the cattle plague the whole of the cargo is slaughtered; instance of this in September last, *Simmonds* 3424. 3430-3434——Opinion that rinderpest was not introduced into this country by live cattle from abroad, *ib.* 3472-3475. 3556-3572——Belief that rinderpest is a foreign disease, *Holmans* 3608, 3609.

Grounds for concluding that the rinderpest did not come to this country from abroad, *Hicks* 4071-4086. 4090-4102——Period of incubation of the cattle plague adverted to in support of the conclusion that the plague was not introduced from Hungary or Bohemia, *ib.* 4071-4085——Great difficulty in accounting for the rinderpest, and its appearance in Austria or Hungary, *Hirschler* 4203-4215.

Liability to the introduction of steppe-murrain or rinderpest unless further precautions are adopted in this country, *Simon* 5073-5083——Suppression of the former cattle plague in England by a very active system of "stamping" it out, *ib.* 5092-5094.

Opinion that danger from cattle arises more from English than foreign cattle, *Rudkin* 6704-6707——Belief as to the cattle plague being owing to the import of foreign animals, *Hudson* 7432——Tendency of rinderpest to diminish the prevalence of other diseases, *Druce* 7535, 7536——Witness has never seen any case of rinderpest in foreign cattle at Newcastle, *Stephens* 8380-8382——Instances of foreign cattle having the rinderpest on being landed in London, *Hunt* 8481, 8482.

Conclusion of Mr. Gebhardt as to the rinderpest not being introduced from abroad, *App.* 329.

Orders in Council between June 1864 and June 1866 relative to the importation and treatment of cattle suffering from rinderpest, *App.* 339-384.

Recommendation by the Committee that the wilful exposure for sale, or conveyance by boat or rail, of any animal suffering from rinderpest be rendered an offence punishable in a summary manner, *Rep.* v.

Recommended prohibition upon import from countries where there is reason to believe the cattle plague is existing, *Rep.* vi.

Conclusion as to rinderpest being the only disease for which quarantine appears to be at all reasonable, *Rep.* vii.

See also *Austria. Cows. Danish Cattle. Dutch Cattle. Foreign Cattle. Inspection*, 1. *Ireland. Lincolnshire. Metropolitan Cattle Market. Norfolk. Northamptonshire. Quarantine. Railways*, 2. *Russian Cattle. Scotland. Steamers*, 4. *Sussex. Transit of Cattle.*

Cattle Vessels. See *Steamers.*

Cheshire. Statement as to the cattle plague having been brought into Cheshire and Lancashire by foreign store cattle, sent in the first instance from Germany to Edinburgh and thence to Liverpool; particulars hereon, *Hall* 861, 862. 864-889.

Witness, who is a grazier in Cheshire, procures his store cattle from Scotland, *Fair* 7540——The plague was not propagated in Cheshire by the railway transit of beasts, *ib.* 7572. 7585, 7586——Statement as to there not being any trade in store stock at the present time, *ib.* 7573-7578.

Clarke, Seymour. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—General manager of the Great Northern Railway; has complete charge of the cattle traffic, 1460-1462——Very large cattle traffic on the line previously to the cattle plague restrictions, 1463, 1464——Practice, previously to the cattle plague, of sweeping out the trucks and pens after each journey, 1465. 1468, 1469——More effectual cleaning and purification of the trucks since the Orders in Council; impracticability, however, of complying with the strict requirements of the recent Order on the subject, 1465-1469. 1480——Objection to covering the bottom of the trucks with asphalte, 1468. 1545, 1546.

Particulars as to the very expensive arrangements necessary in connection with the conveyance of dead meat by railway, 1470-1473——Very large quantity of dead meat brought to London by the Great Northern line, the quantity having increased since the restrictions on the transit of live stock, 1474-1479——Estimate of 200,000 tons a year as the total consumption of meat in London, 1478. 1555-1558——Partial extent to which the carriage of live cattle by railway has been resumed, the restrictions of the Privy Council being a great check, 1480, 1481——Difficulty anticipated in supplying the grazing districts with store cattle, 1481.

Conclusion as to its being feasible to supply London and other populous towns with dead meat by railway all the year round, 1482-1487——Circumstance of dead meat from Aberdeen having arrived in a better condition in London than the meat of live cattle from Aberdeen slaughtered on arrival in London, 1485-1490——Excited and feverish

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Clarke, Seymour. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

feverish state of the animals when conveyed by railway, in addition to which they are not fed or watered in the trucks; consequent deterioration when slaughtered in London, both as regards quality and weight, 1488–1501.

Explanation as to the obstacles to watering or feeding the cattle during the transit by railway between Scotland and London; impracticability of feeding and watering them whilst in the trucks, 1490–1497——Comparative statement of the cost of conveyance of live stock and dead meat from different stations on the Great Northern line to London, 1501–1503 ——Return of live stock carried over the line to London in the year ended June 1865; 1501——Considerable claims on the company in respect of detention or wrong delivery of dead meat, 1503. 1505, 1506. 1542–1544——Conveyance only of the sides of the animals, exclusive of the offal, 1504, 1505——Numerous consignments in the case of dead meat from Scotland; great trouble thereby, 1505. 1532–1534.

Defective arrangements in connection with the new dead meat market in Smithfield; want of a much larger area of siding accommodation, 1506–1514. 1559–1566——Statement in support of the conclusion that with one properly arranged central market the whole of London may be supplied with dead meat by railway, even in hot weather, 1515–1517. 1524–1531. 1548–1553——Great inconvenience through the crowded and narrow state of the streets leading to Newgate market, 1518–1520.

Obstacles to much reduction in the rates for conveying dead meat by railway 1521, 1 22——Belief that the best mode of carrying the carcases is by means of hampers; objection to hanging the meat or placing it on shelves, 1523, 1524. 1530, 1531——Large quantity of fish conveyed to London by the Great Northern line; inference that dead meat may be carried all the year round, 1524–1529——Way in which slaughter-houses might be established in country places if there were a general system of dead meat markets, 1536–1539——Great numbers of sheep carried on witness's line, 1552–1554 ——Contemplated continuance of the import of store cattle to London by railway, 1567–1569.

Coasting Trade. Limited cattle trade of the General Steam Navigation Company from Scotland and English ports to London, *Pratt* 3012–3017.

Condemned Meat. Extracts from report by Dr. Letheby in regard to the practice in former countries relative to the condemnation of unsound meat, *App.* 316–318.

Particulars in report of Dr. Letheby as to the large quantity of meat condemned in the City, and as to the necessity of increased restrictions in the matter, *App.* 319——Account of the meat, game, and poultry condemned in the City markets as unfit for human food during the several years 1861–65, *ib.* 321.

Consumption of Meat (*Metropolis*). Estimate of 200,000 tons a year as the total consumption of meat in London, *Clarke* 1478. 1555–1558——Varying consumption in London according to the season and the weather, *Pickworth* 4985–4990.

Contractors (*Supply of Meat.*) Witness supplies victualling yards, the army and navy at different places, and several public institutions with meat, *Baker* 4255–4263——Purchase by witness, as contractor, chiefly of foreign cattle, in the shape both of dead meat and live stock, *ib.* 4264–4278. 4418——Average of about sixty beasts killed weekly by witness, mostly at the same slaughter-house, *ib.* 4266–4268——Evidence strongly opposed to its being compulsory upon contractors to kill at public slaughter-houses, *ib.* 4280–4300. 4409–4415. 4472 *et seq.*

See also *Aldershot. Deptford Victualling Yard. Plymouth Victualling Yard.*

Coulson, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Is a wholesale salesman in the foreign cattle trade at Hull, 2048, 2049——Considerable import of oxen and sheep to Hull from Hamburgh and other German ports; also from Holland until the recent prohibition, 2050–2055——Consignment of both fat stock and store cattle to witness, there being an increasing demand for the latter, 2056–2073 ——Good condition in which the cattle generally arrive, 2074——Belief that the cattle plague has never been introduced by any cattle consigned to witness, he has never seen any case of rinderpest, 2074, 2075. 2274–2281——Import of some cattle with the foot and mouth disease, these having been killed at once and sold to butchers, 2074. 2169–2180.

Particulars as to the crowded state of the vessels at times, more especially from Bremen, and as to the frequent injury to the animals from this cause and from being knocked about in stormy weather, 2077–2093. 2131–2162——Want of improved facilities for landing at Hull, 2094. 2152–2155——Practice in disposing of the cattle and sheep partly by selling them alive in different directions and partly by a dead meat trade with London, Manchester, and other towns, 2095–2124.

Impracticability, in hot weather, of supplying dead meat from Hull to Manchester, London, &c., 2105–2113. 2132–2140——Satisfactory inspection of foreign cattle at Hull, 2114, 2115. 2181–2184——Good condition in which the sheep from Hamburgh arrive, 2116, 2117. 2163–2166——Competent inspection of dead meat at Hull, 2125–

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Coulson, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

2128——Absence of disease in cattle consigned to witness from Gottenburg, 2129-2131——Injurious effect upon the foreign trade if all cattle were permanently required to be killed on arrival, 2136-2140. 2188-2192. 2196-2204.

Approval of a restriction upon the number of cattle to be carried in the vessels, 2147, 2148. 2156——Import of about 1,000 animals weekly, 2185-2187——Practice of railway transmission of dead meat from Hull to Manchester, 2205-2208——Course pursued by the inspector in the case of animals with the foot and mouth disease, 2209-2213. 2225-2231——Way in which witness disposes of the animals after landing before selling them to jobbers and others, 2214-2224.

Decided objection to a quarantine for either fat stock or lean stock; depreciation of the animals thereby, whilst the effect on the foreign trade would be very injurious, 2232-2253. 2266-2271——Depreciation in the price of animals at Hull since the restrictions upon railway transit; check thereby upon imports, 2254-2256. 2261-2265——The beasts are bought alive from witness, the carcases being removed into the interior by the buyers, 2257-2260.

Quarantine would be no security against the foot and mouth disease, though it would against the cattle plague, 2266. 2272, 2273——There has been no complaint of rinderpest through foreign animals purchased from witness, 2274-2278——Information relative to the cargo of Russian beasts from Revel, which came through witness's hands; he has not been able to trace any case of cattle plague to these animals, 2279-2285. 2289-2293.

Country-killed Meat (*Supply of Towns*). See *Dead Meat.*

Cows. Very good and healthy state in which the Dutch cows arrive at Hull, *Lockwood* 2459-2461——Statement as to three cows in a cargo from Rotterdam to London having been stopped a few months ago as having the cattle plague, the whole cargo having been slaughtered; doubt whether this was really a case of rinderpest at all, *Pratt* 3024-3031. 3255, 3256——Large import of Dutch cows to London, *ib.* 3251.

Inconvenience to the inspector when Dutch cows arrive in London too late for market, *Robinson* 3381, 3382——Objection made some time ago by witness to bringing milch cows from Holland, through fear of their getting the credit of introducing the cattle plague, *ib.* 3347-3353——Restrictions desirable in regard to the import of milch cows, *Hicks* 5348——Great liability to the spread of disease by the system in which cows are introduced from abroad to the London cowsheds, *Rudkin* 6656-6659——Approval of a very close inspection in the case of milch cows from Germany and Holland, *Fair* 7600.

See also *Quarantine*, 5.

Cruelty to Animals. Communication from Mr. Mackie, of Wick, relative to the cruel treatment of cattle on passage from the northern districts of Scotland, *App.* 322, 323.

Suggestion by the Committee that the laws relating to cruelty to animals might often be enforced with advantage in the case of both vessels and railways, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Railways. Steamers.*

Cullen, Hugh. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Cattle salesman at Liverpool; is largely interested in the Irish and foreign cattle trade, 493-495——Large consignments of cattle from Oporto to witness's firm; excellent quality of these, and very good condition in which they arrive, 496-509——Very large vessels in which cattle from Oporto are conveyed, every care being taken of the animals during the voyage, 500. 504-507——Arrangements as to the lairs and sheds used by witness's firm for the cattle on arrival until market day, 510-522.

Complaint as to the prejudicial operation of the recent requirement by which all foreign cattle sent to Stanley market in Liverpool must be slaughtered within four days, and the live animals cannot be sent to Manchester, &c., 522 *et seq.*——Great expense and great risk and injury to the meat by forwarding it in a dead state from Liverpool to Manchester by railway; grounds for this conclusion considered, 523-525. 538. 556-562. 567-572. 622-667——Effect of the present restrictions upon transit by railway in greatly decreasing the importation from Oporto, 526-529. 543. 544. 682-687.

Necessity of submitting to reduced prices if there is at any time a surplus supply of Oporto cattle in the Liverpool market, 530-542. 617-621——Reasons for sending all the cattle to Stanley market instead of forwarding them immediately on arrival to Manchester and other places, 547-553——Very inferior condition of a few cattle sent to Liverpool from Buenos Ayres, 579-581——Large numbers of lean stock which used to come from Ireland to Liverpool, these being at once forwarded to the feeding districts, 582-585——Supply of Irish fat cattle, through Liverpool, to Manchester, Leeds, &c., 586. 588.

Average of from 8 *d.* to 1 *s.* a day as the cost of keeping the cattle in Liverpool, 590, 591——High prices fetched by the animals from Oporto, 592, 593——Entire extinction of the Oporto trade if a quarantine were imposed, 594——Further statement as to the character

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Cullen, Hugh. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

character of the ships and of the accommodation on board in the case of the Oporto cattle, 595–610——Nature of the facilities for conveying Irish cattle to Liverpool; objection to the route *viâ* Holyhead, 612–616——Relative prices of Irish cattle and of foreign cattle at Liverpool, as affected by the existing restrictions upon transit by rail, 668–681.

Considerable number of fat cattle lately brought from Scotland to Liverpool, 688–691——Very large majority of the cattle sold in Liverpool which come from Ireland, 692——Dissent from the views of Mr. Cawkwell as to the facility of a large traffic in dead meat between Ireland and Liverpool, 693——Less satisfactory condition in which cattle arrive from the eastern ports of Ireland than from the western ports, 694, 695——Ample facilities at Liverpool for landing the cattle, 696——Details as to the boats used in the Irish trade, as to the accommodation on board, the care of the cattle, and their condition on arrival at Liverpool, 697 *et seq.*

Several towns in the neighbourhood of Manchester which are supplied thence with cattle or dead meat, 722–726——Advantage in the steamers having coverings on deck for the cattle, 730–733——Opinion that it is not necessary to license the vessels for a limited number of cattle, 734–736——Better condition in which the cattle arrive in summer than in winter, 737, 738——Summary of the facilities required by the cattle trade at Liverpool, 739, 740——Way in which sales were carried out at Liverpool and Manchester before the restrictions upon transit, 741–743.

Currie, James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Steamship owner at Leith, 6857——Objection to a certain proposal that Danish cattle shall all come to the port of Granton; increase of cost if not allowed to be brought in the vessels to Leith, 6858 *et seq.*——Very little risk of infection on the route from Leith or Granton to Edinburgh, 6862–6869——Approval of every facility being given to the import of cattle from Denmark, there being no disease in that country, 6877–6885——Precautions necessary as regards the railway trucks, &c., if Danish cattle, as well as cattle from infected countries, are landed at Leith, 6886–6890.

Customs Department. The out-door department of the Customs acts under the Orders of the Privy Council as regards the importation of foreign cattle, *Hunt* 8388, 8389——Facility given by the Customs to the landing of cattle at any hour, their inspection however only taking place during daylight, *ib.* 8436–8440——Facility also to the landing of foreign dead meat, *ib.* 8441–8443.

Orders in Council from June 1864 to June 1866, as administered by the Customs Department, *App.* 339–384.

D.

Daniels, Patrick. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a merchant and shipping agent at Harwich; was for two years agent of the Great Eastern Railway Company as regards the cattle traffic from Holland to Harwich, 1–4——Very large cargoes of cattle in the boats of the Great Eastern Railway Company from Rotterdam to Harwich, 5–8——Discontinuance after a time of a market established at Harwich by witness and his partner, 9–12——Very good condition in which the cattle have generally arrived; comparatively few deaths on the passage from Holland, 13–15. 25.

Way in which the cattle are accommodated on board; check upon overcrowding, 16–48. 80–90——Arrangements as to the care of the animals in Holland before they are shipped; accommodation provided in large stables, it being also required that the animals be fed and watered when conveyed a certain distance by rail, 49–64——Practice as to the slaughtering of cattle at Harwich when they arrive in a disabled state, 65–69——Character of the Government inspection to which the cattle are subjected on landing, 70. 73–79——Practice to feed and water the animals before they are sent on to London by rail, 71, 72. 237.

Objection to limiting the number to be conveyed by the vessels, 82——Regulations as to cleaning the vessels after each voyage, as soon as the cargo is out, 91–97. 166——Large space available at Harwich if the cattle were quarantined, 98, 99——Opinion that in the case of store cattle quarantine should be enforced, 100–112——Greater suffering of the cattle when sent direct to London by sea than when landed at Harwich, 113——Suffering chiefly during the last three or four hours of the passage, the animals being then worn out by fatigue, 113. 234, 235.

Facility with which beasts and sheep might be slaughtered in large numbers at Harwich and sent to London as dead meat; advantages of such arrangement, 114–135. 140–144. 147–153. 186——Rates now paid for the conveyance of neat stock, and of sheep from Rotterdam and Antwerp to London *viâ* Harwich, 136–139——Doubt as to the import being diminished if it were necessary to slaughter the cattle at the port of arrival, 144. 149, 150——Obstacles to the animals being slaughtered in Holland and sent over as dead meat, 145, 146.

Opinion that sheep need not be required to undergo quarantine, disease in them being easily distinguished, 154, 155. 178–185——Considerations as to the detailed mode of

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Daniels, Patrick. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

applying quarantine to store cattle at Harwich, 156–193——Proposed slaughtering of fat stock, without quarantining them, 161, 162. 178, 179——Importance of the landing wharves, &c. for the cattle being disinfected; practice hereon at Harwich, 164, 165. 220, 221——Contemplated slaughtering of the whole cargo of cattle, including store cattle, if only one of them had the plague, 189, 190. 204–208——Sheep, if diseased on landing, should at once be slaughtered, 193, 194.

Explanation that the corporation of Harwich have no chartered markets for cattle or live meat, 195–200——Doubt as to the price of meat at Harwich having been affected by the restriction upon railway traffic in cattle, 201–203——Improbability of the importation being decreased through the proposed quarantine and the regulations as to slaughtering, 209–211——Inspection of both live cattle and dead meat on the other side of the channel before they are shipped, 214–219.

Better condition generally in which cattle arrive from Rotterdam than from Antwerp, 224–229—— Single instance of disease in a cargo from Rotterdam to Harwich, 229——Opinion as to its not being necessary to feed and water the animals on the voyage to Harwich, 233–235——Objection to its being required to sling the cattle on board; increased expense thereby, 236.

Danish Cattle. Import in witness's ships of fat cattle from Denmark to London, *Robinson* 3343–3346——Excellent and healthy condition in which the Danish cattle always arrive at Scotch ports, *Swan* 5371, 5372——Evidence strongly in favour of Danish cattle being exempted from the present restrictions, *ib.* 5379 *et seq.*——Very strict regulations in Denmark for preventing the cattle plague, *ib.* 5380. 5388.

Proposition that the Danish cattle and home cattle should come to Granton to be sold at a market there, and that facilities be given for their removal by the butchers under certain regulations, *Swan* 5385 *et seq.*——Good breed of the Danish sheep, *ib.* 5448. 5510——Satisfactory arrangements in the transport of cattle from Denmark, *ib.* 5503–5507——Prices fetched by the Danish cattle at Leith and Granton, *ib.* 5508.

Objection to all Danish cattle being imported to Granton exclusively, *Currie* 6858 *et seq.*——Approval of every facility being given to the export of cattle from Denmark, there being no disease in that country, *ib.* 6877–6885——Precautions necessary as regards the railway trucks, &c., if Danish cattle as well as cattle from infected countries are landed at Leith, *ib.* 6886–6890.

Disapproval by the Committee of quarantine being applied in the case of cattle from Denmark, that country being free from rinderpest, *Rep.* vii.

See also *Scotland.*

Dead Meat:

1. *Generally as to the Quantity of Dead Meat now brought to London.*
2. *As to the Supply from Scotland to London.*
3. *As to the Supply from Hull to Various Towns.*
4. *As to the Supply from the West of England.*
5. *As to the Supply from Ireland.*
6. *As to the Foreign Supply.*
7. *Difficulties and Expense of Railway Conveyance.*
8. *Advantage in the Animals being Killed in the Country.*
9. *Modes of Packing the Meat for Conveyance by Railway and Steamer.*
10. *Evidence favourable on the whole to the Supply of London and other large Towns, by means mainly of Dead Meat.*
11. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition.*
12. *Conclusions of the Committee.*

1. *Generally as to the Quantity of Dead Meat now brought to London:*

Considerable quantity of dead meat now brought to London by the railways and steamboats, *Moseley* 286–289—— Estimate that more than half the quantity of meat now consumed in London is brought in as dead meat, *Clarke* 1479——Great increase going on in the supply of dead meat to the metropolis, about one third of the total consumption being now provided in this form, *Letheby* 3836. 3854, 3855. 3895–3898——About 150,000 tons a year are now sold, *ib.* 3855. 3896——Doubt whether the supply of dead meat to London has materially increased of late, *Rudkin* 6760, 6761——Consignment of dead meat to witness's firm from all parts of England and from abroad, as well as from Scotland; great increase in the trade, *Bonser* 7669–7673.

2. *As to the Supply from Scotland to London:*

Circumstance of dead meat from Aberdeen having arrived in a better condition in London, than the meat of live cattle from Aberdeen slaughtered on arrival in London, *Clarke* 1485–1490——Conveyance only of the sides of the animals, exclusive of the offal, *ib.* 1504, 1505—— Numerous consignments in the case of dead meat from Scotland; great trouble thereby, *ib.* 1505. 1532–1534.

Large

Dead Meat—continued.

2. *As to the Supply from Scotland to London*—continued.

Large dead meat trade formerly between Edinburgh and London by sea, *Pratt* 3112, 3113——Relative charge per ton for the conveyance of dead meat and of live stock from Edinburgh, Hamburgh, &c. to London, *ib.* 3115–3118. 3202–3206.

Statement as to witness being supplied chiefly with dead meat from Scotland, both in summer and winter; excellent condition in which this meat generally arives, a great advantage being that the animals are killed when cool and unexcited, *Ratcliffe* 3684–3706. 3751–3762. 3789–3797——Large quantity of dead meat from Scotland purchased by witness's firm, difficulty as to the supply in hot weather, *Slater* 5145–5165. 5188. 5195–5197——Conclusion as to the discontinuance of the supply from Scotland being owing to the state of the weather, *Bannister* 5265–5267.

Prime character of the meat sent from Aberdeen to London, *Stewart* 5727——Interval between the killing of the animal in Aberdeen and the sale of the meat in London, *ib.* 5728, 5729——Diminished trade in the summer months it being stopped in very hot weather, *ib.* 5730–5734. 5794–5798——Practice for many years to send meat from Aberdeen to London by steamboats, *ib.* 5747–5750——Expense of conveyance by boat and railway respectively; difference between the cost of conveyance of the dead meat and of the live animal, *ib.* 5751–5763. 5837.

Practice of the farmers as well as of the Aberdeen butchers to consign meat to the London market, *Stewart* 5764–5773——Very little mutton sent from Aberdeen to London, *ib.* 5774, 5775——Very few complaints of the condition of the meat on arrival, *ib.* 5799–5802——Similar quantity of meat forwarded whether as dead meat or as live cattle, *ib.* 5821–5825——Very little loss of meat through being spoilt on the journey, *ib.* 5844–5847.

Conveyance of the meat from Inverary to London by railway in about thirty-eight hours, *Hutcheson* 6222, 6223.——Practice of sending the meat throughout the year, though at a considerable risk when the weather is hot, *ib.* 6224–6230——Less supply of cattle available in summer, *Hutcheson* 6241–6244. *Butler* 6327, 6328. 6332, 6333——Limited number of live cattle now sent from Inverary to London, it being more profitable on the whole to send dead meat, *Hutcheson* 6245. 6271–6278——Use of the telegraph between the salesmen in London and witness in order to regulate the supply, *ib.* 6246–6248.

Practice of consigning to different salesmen when large quantities are sent, *Hutcheson* 6249–6251——Custom at Inverury in regard to the purchase of the animals from the farmers instead of at markets, *ib.* 6258–6269——As a rule the whole of the beast, except the offal, is sent to London, *ib.* 6270——Considerable trade in dead meat from places north of Inverury to London, *ib.* 6279–6285——Advantage to the farmers in selling the live animal to the butcher rather than in themselves slaughtering and sending the dead meat to London, *ib.* 6286–6292.

Decrease in the trade from Aberdeen to London since the cattle plague, there being no foreign cattle purchased by the farmers, *Butler* 6297–6309——Practice of witness to send dead meat to London by railway daily throughout the year; extent of his losses in hot weather, *ib.* 6304–6331——The forequarters are generally disposed of in Aberdeen, *ib.* 6346, 6347——Long period for which dead meat has been sent from Aberdeen to London; constant use by witness of the steamers as well as the railway, *ib.* 6348–6351——Quick passage made by one of the steamers, the freight being cheaper than by railway, *ib.* 6352. 6358–6360.

Large supply of mutton to London from the Edinburgh slaughter houses, *Strangeways* 6985–6987——Diminished consignments from Aberdeen in summer, owing partly to the weather, *Bonser* 7733–7737——Risk of Scotch meat being spoiled if opened and repacked on arrival in London, *ib.* 7738–7741.

3. *As to the Supply from Hull to various Towns:*

Impracticability in hot weather of supplying dead meat from Hull to Manchester, London, &c., *Coulson* 2105–2113. 2132–2140——Practice as to railway transmission of dead meat from Hull to Manchester, *ib.* 2205–2208——The beasts are bought alive from witness at Hull, the carcases being removed into the interior by the buyers, *ib.* 2257–2260.

Supply of large quantities of dead meat from Hull to Manchester and other towns; obstacle to these towns being thus served permanently in hot weather, *Valentine* 2591–2598. 2650–2663——Practice recently of witness to slaughter the animals at Hull, and to supply the dead meat thence to Wakefield, Huddersfield, and other towns, *Dickenson* 2790–2799——Considerable difficulty in the supply of dead meat by railway from Hull to the inland towns, more especially in hot weather; difficulty even if the railway facilities were rendered as complete as possible, *ib.* 2800 *et seq.*——Lower price, to the extent of 1 *d.* or 1½ *d.* per pound, of meat brought dead to Sheffield from Hull, than of meat killed in Sheffield, *ib.* 2856. 2863–2872.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

DEAD MEAT—continued.

3. *As to the Supply from Hull to various Towns*—continued.

Nature of the facilities by railway for the transmission of meat from Hull to Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, and other towns; there would be no difficulty in conveying any quantity without the meat turning bad, *O'Brien* 6022–6047. 6056–6060—— Absence of complaint as to the condition of meat on arrival at Leeds, &c., there being some complaints, however, as to detention and loss of market, *ib.* 6048–6051. 6070, 6071—— Charges for conveying live cattle and dead meat respectively from Hull to Leeds, *ib.* 6052–6055—— Doubt as to the quantity of meat conveyed by railway to Leeds, Bradford, &c., *ib.* 6061–6069.

4. *As to the Supply from the West of England:*

Encouragement given to the carriage of dead meat on the Bristol and Exeter railway, in the belief that it will ultimately be more profitable to the company than the carriage of live cattle; particulars hereon as to the rates and cost in each case, *Wall* 2693–2697. 2777, 2778. 2784–2787——Statement as to dead meat having been carried all through last summer between Cornwall and London, and being still carried in large quantities, without any complaint of injury or loss; special trains used for the purpose, *ib.* 2698, 2699. 2724–2734. 2782, 2783——There have been no claims for compensation through injury to the meat, *ib.* 2703, 2704. 2718. 2775, 2776. 2779——About equal claims for loss of market in the case of live stock and of dead meat, *ib.* 2705.

Practice as to the slaughtering of the animals, and as to the loading of the carcases in the trucks, *Wall* 2706–2723. 2779–2781——Increasing construction of meat vans for the Bristol and Exeter Company, *ib.* 2718——The system does not cause any public complaint, *ib.* 2718. 2775, 2776——Advantage to cattle owners and graziers, but not to butchers, by the railway traffic in dead meat from the West of England to London, *ib.* 2735–2740.

Large quantity of dead meat traffic from the West to Bristol and to London, *Wall* 2741, 2742——Facility of meeting the demand in London, and of arranging the supply with reference thereto, *ib.* 2743–2748——Satisfactory operation of the system of dead meat traffic on the line further adverted to, *ib.* 2775–2787.

5. *As to the Supply from Ireland:*

Impracticability of supplying Liverpool with meat coming already killed from Ireland, &c., *Trench* 468–470——Dissent from the views of Mr. Cawkwell as to the facility of a large traffic in dead meat between Ireland and Liverpool, *Cullen* 693——Very little dead meat traffic between Ireland and Liverpool, *Aungier* 2903–2906——Trade in dead meat from Dublin to Glasgow, but not to Liverpool, *Walsh* 7833–7837——Difficulties in the way of a dead meat trade from Meath or from Dublin to England, more especially in the hot weather, *Garnett* 7984–7986——Willingness of the Dublin Steam Packet Company to encourage a dead meat traffic; way in which the meat might be packed on board, *Watson* 8046. 8055–8060.

6. *As to the Foreign Supply:*

Obstacles to the animals being slaughtered in Holland and sent over as dead meat, *Daniels* 145, 146——Objection to cattle being killed in Holland and conveyed all the way to London as dead meat, *Moseley* 319——Very little dead meat sent from Holland to Harwich since the prohibition in this country on the import of live stock, *Peters* 1217–1220. 1247. 1278, 1279——Question considered as to the cost of conveyance of dead meat from Germany, &c., to Hull; difficulty in the summer months, *Malcolm* 2382–2407.

Particulars as to the trade in dead meat from Hamburgh, Hull, &c., to London in the vessels of witness's company; good condition of the meat generally on arrival, *Pratt* 3079–3098, 3103–3108. 3111–3114. 3184–3194. 3198–3201—— Necessary discontinuance of the dead meat traffic in hot weather, *ib.* 3085–3090. 3184—— Instance of a quantity of meat having been thrown overboard during the passage from Hamburgh, the voyage having been much prolonged by bad weather, *ib.* 3104. 3198, 3199. 3210–3216.

Very little dead meat brought in witness's vessels from Holland, *Robinson* 3307—— Increasing consignment of dead meat from Holland; good condition in which it generally arrives, except in very hot weather, *Bonser* 7673–7683——Delay in the landing of foreign meat on account of the Custom House regulations, *ib.* 7712——Excellent quality of some of the foreign meat, *ib.* 7727–7729.

Facility given by the Customs to the landing of dead meat from abroad, *Hunt* 8441–8443.

7. *Difficulties and Expense of Railway Conveyance:*

Increased difficulties and expense of conveying the cattle to London in the form of dead meat, *Moseley* 270–283——Much greater expense in the conveyance of dead meat by rail than of the live animal, *Hall* 790–796——Consideration as to the means of improving

DEAD MEAT—continued.

7. *Difficulties and Expense of Railway Conveyance*—continued.

improving the conveyance of meat by railway from Harwich to London; several difficulties to be encountered, *Moseley* 1140–1147.

Much greater expense in the carriage of dead meat than of live stock by railway, the meat moreover being liable to deterioration, *Salmon* 1071–1079. 1090, 1091——Larger claims for compensation against the London and North Western Railway Company in respect of detention of dead meat than of live stock, *ib.* 1080–1088.

Particulars as to the very expensive arrangements necessary in connection with the conveyance of dead meat by the Great Northern Railway, *Clarke* 1470–1473——Obstacles to much reduction in the rates for conveying dead meat by railway, *ib.* 1521, 1522.

Statement as to the unduly heavy charge for the carriage of dead meat between Norwich and London, *Read* 1613–1621——Great additional expense of the carriage of dead meat as compared with live meat, *S. Higgins* 5701——Economy feasible in the conveyance of dead meat by railway, *Torr* 7159–7161.

8. *Advantage in the Animals being Killed in the Country:*

Deterioration of the meat by sending the animals by rail, and by killing them when they come off the trucks, *Hall* 797–801. 899–904——Advantage in the slaughtering of the animal in the country when not over-driven or in a febrile state, as in the London slaughter-houses, *Letheby* 3856——Importance of slaughtering the animals when not excited or feverish, and of letting the meat become properly set before removing it by railway or otherwise, *Baker* 4326–4334. *Bannister* 5256, 5257. *Stewart* 5803–5813. *Hutcheson* 6249–6251. *Torr* 7173–7179——Witness prefers country killed meat though it does not look so well as town killed meat, *Bannister* 5224–5226. 5230–5232.

9. *Modes of Packing the Meat for Conveyance by Railway and Steamer:*

Belief that the best mode of carrying the carcases by railway is by means of hampers; objection to hanging the meat or placing it on shelves, *Clarke* 1523, 1524. 1530, 1531——Information relative to the arrangements on the Bristol and Exeter line for conveying the meat, it being sometimes hung in the vans, and sometimes placed in hampers, *Wall* 2698–2718——Way in which the dead meat is packed and arranged on board the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company, *Pratt* 3080–3083. 3092. 3186–3190. 3210–3216.

Importance of careful packing when dead meat is sent by railway, as from Aberdeen, *Ratcliffe* 3760–3765——Way in which the Aberdeen meat is packed to go by railway, *Stewart* 5776–5787——The meat from Inverury is sent in sides and is packed in cloths, *Hutcheson* 6231, 6232.

Arrangement as to the packing of the Scoth meat in the railway trucks, the animals being generally killed the day before, *Butler* 6353–6357——Very careful manner in which the Scotch meat is packed in cloths, *Bonser* 7742–7744——Disadvantages of the system of packing in the meat vans from Exeter, &c., *ib.* 7743——Arrangements as to the packing and care of the meat on board the vessels from abroad, *ib.* 7745–7747.

10. *Evidence favourable on the whole to the Supply of London and other large Towns by means mainly of Dead Meat:*

Several disadvantages and sources of expense after the cattle are delivered alive in London, so that on the whole it would be a great advantage if they were slaughtered in the country, and if the dead meat were brought up, *Moseley* 280 *et seq.*——Question as to the advantage to butchers in buying the live animal or the dead meat, respectively, *Hall* 802–809. 827–833. 890–895.

Conclusion as to its being feasible to supply London and other populous towns with dead meat by railway all the year round, *Clarke* 1482–1487——Statement in support of the conclusion that with one properly arranged central market the whole of London may be supplied with dead meat by railway, even in hot weather, *ib.* 1515–1517. 1524–1531. 1548–1553.

Concurrence in the opinion as to its being feasible to supply London and other large places with dead meat from the country, *Read* 1598——Probability of supplying the metropolis from dead-meat markets, if in addition to a large central market there were small markets in outlying places, as at Southall, Croydon, &c., *Ratcliffe* 3664–3668. 3737–3739.

Opinion that encouragement should be given to the bringing of dead meat rather than of live stock into London, *Letheby* 3836——Practicability by proper arrangements and by care in packing, of sending meat to London in the hottest weather without putrefaction, *ib.* 3849. 3854–3856. 3927, 3928. 3997–4012——Opinion as to a live cattle market being necessary in order to meet any uncertainty of fluctuation of supply of dead meat; the supply might however be made very complete and regular, *ib.* 3929–3931. 4013–4024.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Dead Meat—continued.

10. *Evidence favourable on the whole to the Supply of London, &c.*—continued.

Excellent condition of the country-killed meat sold by witness, except in the summer months when it is not practicable to bring it from a distance, *Bannister* 5223–5227. 5230–5237. 5248, 5249——Convenience of a large dead-meat market to witness, *ib.* 5264.

Facility of supplying Leeds, Manchester, and other large towns throughout the year with dead meat from Hull and Liverpool, *Torr* 7129. 7136–7148. 7157–7173——Evidence as to the improvements which might be adopted in the supply of country-killed meat to the towns, witness anticipating that London and the large towns may be supplied throughout the year without the meat being deteriorated, *ib.* 7136–7148. 7157–7173——Witness contemplates the supplies being ordered beforehand by the butchers in London, *ib.* 7136, 7137. 7143–7145. 7216–7234. 7272–7281——The dead meat supply to large towns should only be supplementary to live-stock markets, *ib.* 7142, 7143. 7235–7237——Excellent state in which the meat may be brought by railway, *ib.* 7166. 7177——Absence of any undue limitation of markets if the butchers in Leeds, Manchester, &c., had to supply themselves largely from the ports in the shape of dead meat, *ib.* 7216–7225. 7235–7237.

11. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition:*

General feeling of the butchers in Oldham, Macclesfield, &c., that it is most undesirable that those towns should continue to be supplied from dead-meat markets, *Bradbury* 1042–1053——Deterioration of dead meat when sent by railway in hot weather, or when there is not proper ventilation, *Ellis* 1425–1428——Opposition in Manchester, &c., to the system of dead meat markets, *ib.* 1438, 1439.

Advantage to the butcher in getting the live meat rather than dead meat, *Hönck* 1944–1955. 1961–1963——Great irregularity in the meat supply of London if dependent on dead-meat markets, the quality of the meat being also injured by railway transit, *ib.* 1950–1955. 1961–1963. 2012–2017. 2043–2047.

Decided deterioration of meat when the animal is killed before transmission by railway; large supply of dead meat from Scotland to London adverted to hereon, *Dickenson* 2810–2828. 2856. 2863–2879——Instances of mutton killed in Yorkshire and Northamptonshire being tainted when for sale in the London market, more especially in hot weather, *Baker* 4306–4325.

Difficulty in always getting the best meat at the dead-meat market, *Giblett* 4584. 4719——Absolute necessity of a live cattle market in London, it being impracticable to keep a regular supply of dead meat all through the year, *Woodley* 4833, 4834——Obstacle to depending entirely on a dead meat supply, *Slater* 5194–5198.

Discontinuance of the supply of country-killed meat in hot weather, *Herbert* 5971–5979——Disadvantages of the transmission of dead meat, as compared with live meat, by railway, *ib.* 6009–6011.

Reasons for objecting to send dead meat to the London market in lieu of the live animals; loss in sending the slaughtered stock whilst there would be no means of disposing of the offal locally, *Hudson* 7301–7324. 7387–7389. 7398–7406——Disadvantage in sending dead meat, instead of live meat, from the farms in Oxfordshire to the London market, *Druce* 7477–7484. 7515–7526——Grounds for the statement as to the great loss incurred in connection with the dead meat trade to Manchester, *Fair* 7556–7569. 7579–7584——In the hot weather the system of a dead meat supply to towns would never answer, *ib.* 7583——Injury to any meat coming a long distance in hot weather, *Bonser* 7682, 7683. 7711.

12. *Conclusions of the Committee:*

Consideration by the Committee of the advantages and disadvantages of supplying London and other large towns with country-killed meat, *Rep.* iv.——Advantage if London and other large towns could be supplied entirely with meat killed in the country, as the spread of infection would be largely prevented thereby, *ib.*——Grounds of objection by the trade to a dead meat system, *ib.*

The Committee conclude that it is not possible at present to dispense with a live meat market in the metropolis and other large towns, *Rep.* v.——Very small extent to which dead meat can be supplied from foreign parts, *ib.* iv.

See also *Aldershot. Army Contracts. Bristol. Farmers and Graziers. Fish. Glasgow. Great Northern Railway. Harwich. Inspection*, 2. *Kent. Leeds*, 4. *Leith. Liverpool*, 7, 8. *Maidstone. Manchester, &c. Newgate Market. Offal. Oldham. Prices. Scotland. Slaughter-houses. Smithfield Market. Transit of Cattle.*

Denmark. See *Danish Cattle.*

Deptford Victualling Yard. Slaughter, by witness at Deptford, of all the beasts supplied by him under contract to the Victualling Yard there, *Baker* 4456–4461.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Dickenson, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Cattle dealer at Sheffield; has been of necessity a butcher since the prohibition upon the transit of cattle, 2788–2792——Practice recently of witness to slaughter the animals at Hull, and to supply the dead meat thence to Wakefield, Huddersfield, and other towns, 2790–2799——Considerable difficulty in the supply of dead meat by railway from Hull to the inland towns, more especially in hot weather; difficulty even if the railway facilities were rendered as complete as possible, 2800, *et seq.*

Adequacy generally of the slaughtering accommodation in Hull and Liverpool, 2795-2798. 2845–2849. 2860——Very little accommodation on the North Eastern line for the conveyance of dead meat; several improvements required, 2800–2809——Decided deterioration of meat when the animal is killed before transmission by railway; large supply of dead meat from Scotland to London adverted to hereon, 2810–2828. 2856. 2863–2879.

Increased price of meat in Manchester during the last six months; cause of this advance, 2831–2844. 2850–2855——Tendency of the prohibition upon the transit of foreign live stock in checking importation, 2855–2859——Lower price, to the extent of 1*d.* or 1¼*d.* per pound, of meat brought dead to Sheffield from Hull, than of meat killed in Sheffield, 2856. 2863–2872.

Diseased Meat. Check upon diseased meat being got rid of at Liverpool by being potted and preserved, *Trench* 486–492——Probability of there being a considerable sale in the metropolis of meat diseased by the presence of parasites, and detrimental to human health, *Simon*, 5037–5045.

Extract from report by Dr. Letheby upon the question of the fitness for food of the flesh of diseased animals, and the effect thereof upon the constitution, *App.* 315. 320——Statement by Dr. Letheby as to the indications by which unsound meat may be recognised, *ib.* 319, 320.

Disinfecting of Railway Trucks and Steamboats. Recommendation by the Committee that it be made imperative upon all railway companies or steamboat proprietors to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the trucks, steamboats, and pens, after every journey or voyage, *Rep.* iv. *See* also *Railways* 2. *Steamers* 4.

Drovers (Irish Cattle). Rough treatment of the cattle in Ireland by drovers, *Walsh* 7813–7816; *Rep.* iii——Avoidance of the risk of contagion from drovers on return to Ireland, if the cattle were sent from Ireland to England in the shape of dead meat, *Hennessy*, 8058.

Druce, Joseph. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Occupies about 800 acres of land at Eynsham, in Oxfordshire; is both a breeder and grazier, 7463–7468——Opinion that all foreign animals should be subject to quarantine or be killed at the port, 7469, 7470——Approval of fat cattle landed in London going to the Metropolitan Market, before being slaughtered, but not animals landed at Harwich, Hull, &c., 7471–7474. 7498–7501. 7527, 7528——Home fed animals might go into the country from the Metropolitan Market, 7475——Those animals in each cargo which actually had the foot and mouth disease should alone be stopped, 7476.

Disadvantages in sending dead meat, instead of live cattle, from the farms in Oxfordshire to the London market, 7477–7484. 7515–7526——Advantage in sending to the public market instead of in selling to agents, 7485, 7486. 7504–7508——Difficulty as to watering cattle in the railway trucks, though it is very desirable, 7487–7497——Objection to limiting the number of fairs and markets in the country, 7529–7531——Decrease of the foot and mouth disease in Oxfordshire, more precautions being taken, 7532, 7533——Tendency of rinderpest to diminish the extent of other diseases, 7535, 7536.

Dublin Steam Packet Company. Conveyance by the company of cattle between Dublin and Liverpool, *Watson* 7989–7992——Every care is taken to prevent overcrowding on board; difficulty in always avoiding this, *ib.* 7993. 8015–8021——There are from eight to ten vessels devoted to the trade; other cargo besides cattle being conveyed, *ib.* 7994–7996. 8037——Information relative to the general arrangements and accommodation on board the company's vessels, *ib.* 7996–8002. 8009, *et seq.*——Practice of cleansing the vessels without disinfecting them, *ib.* 8009–8011.

Very slight risk of loss on board, there being hardly any claims for compensation, *Watson*, 8033–8037——Self-interest of the company to make their vessels safe, *ib.* 8036. 8038——Responsibility of the company in the event of its being necessary to throw cattle overboard from overcrowding, *ib.* 8038–8041——Arrangements of the company with English railways for sending cattle through to London, Manchester, &c., *ib.* 8047–8049.

Dutch Cattle. Arrangements as to the care of the animals in Holland before they are shipped; accommodation provided in large stables, it being also required that the animals be fed and watered when conveyed a certain distance by rail, *Daniels* 49–64——Prevalence of cattle plague in the south of Holland, but not in Friesland or the northern

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Dutch Cattle—continued.

portions, *Peters* 1168-1172——Prejudicial effect in Holland of the regulation in this country that the animals must be slaughtered at or near the port of arrival, *ib.* 1175-1179——Effect of the prohibition in stopping both beasts and sheep from coming to Rotterdam; it has not lowered the price of stock in Holland, *ib.* 1221-1224. 1247-1250.

Exceptional instance of cattle from Holland having been sent back again because the price in London was not satisfactory, *Pratt* 3122-3124——Great precautions taken at the port of shipment in Holland to prevent any diseased animals being placed on board; full confidence of witness in the inspectors, *Robinson* 3282-3291. 3328-3331. 3359-3372.

Conclusion as regards the cattle plague in Holland, that it was taken there by some animals returned from the London market, *Holmans* 3621-3623. 3631——Instances of a few infected cattle from Holland, the infection having in the first instance been conveyed from the country to Holland in July 1865, *Hicks* 4085. 4090-4099——Healthy character generally of the Dutch cattle, *Woodley* 4915-4933——Few cases of lung disease among the Dutch cattle imported, *ib.* 4920-4925.

Import indirectly of some Dutch beasts at the present time, *Herbert* 5897-5899——Statement as to the rinderpest having appeared in Holland at various intervals for centuries past, *ib.* 5934-5940.

Returns showing the different kinds of Dutch cattle brought to England in the year 1865, *App.* 307-314.

See also *Cows. Foreign Cattle. General Steam Navigation Company. Harwich. Pleuro-pneumonia. Rotterdam. Steamers.*

E.

Eczema. See *Foot and Mouth Disease.*

Edinburgh. Efficient regulations in force in Edinburgh relative to the slaughtering of cattle and the disposal of the offal, &c. *Letheby* 3867-3870. 3890——Very satisfactory operation of the public slaughterhouses in Edinburgh and Leith, *Swan* 5442, 5443. 5538-5542——There is but one slaughterhouse in Edinburgh, and one in Leith, there being no private slaughterhouses, *ib.* 5539, 5540——Very little risk of infection on the route from Leith or Granton to Edinburgh, *Currie* 6862-6869.

Particulars as to the regulations under which the public slaughterhouses in Edinburgh are conducted; satisfactory operation of the system whereby both carcase and retail butchers make use of them, *Strangeways* 6894-6936. 6979-6984——Witness has never heard a single complaint by a flesher, that the system causes loss or inconvenience *ib.* 6903-6905. 6983, 6984——Every butcher or flesher has his own booth in the slaughterhouse, *ib.* 6906-6911——Way in which the offal is disposed of from the slaughterhouses, *ib.* 6920-6930.

Statement as to the rinderpest having been brought to Edinburgh by some milch cows from the Metropolitan Market, *Strangeways* 6956-6961——Permission granted for the removal of live cattle from the Edinburgh market to Leith, *Lindsey* 7638-7640.

See also *Leith. Scotland.*

Ellis, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Veterinary surgeon: is Government Inspector of cattle at the port of Liverpool, 1389——Careful inspection by witness of all foreign cattle arriving at the port, 1390, 1391. 1454, 1455——Immediate destruction of any animals having rinderpest, or pleuro-pneumonia, 1392——Any cases of foot and mouth disease would be dealt with by quarantine, 1392, 1393——Witness does not inspect the Irish cattle, 1394-1396——Healthy and excellent condition in which the cattle from Oporto arrive at Liverpool; they might, without danger, at once be forwarded into the country, 1397-1404. 1456-1459——Very healthy state of the foreign cattle generally on arrival, 1400. 1429, 1430. 1441-1444.

Probability of the health of Liverpool being injuriously affected by the increased slaughtering of cattle, and by the large number kept in the town between market-day and the day of their being killed, 1405-1418. 1436, 1437——Approval of the live stock going to Manchester, and the other places of their destination, and being there killed within a few days, 1419-1421. 1438-1440——Opinion that transit by railway does not tend to develope disease, 1422——Disadvantage when cattle are crowded in the holds of steamboats, *ib.*——Good ventilation and careful treatment in the vessels bringing foreign cattle to Liverpool, 1423, 1424——Deterioration of dead meat when sent by railway in hot weather, or when there is not proper ventilation, 1425-1428.

Very little foreign cattle trade in Liverpool for some months past, 1431-1433——Opposition in Manchester, &c. to the system of dead-meat markets, 1438, 1439——Very bad condition of the cow-houses in Liverpool; belief as their being now under inspection, 1445-1451——Death of a great many cows from rinderpest, 1452, 1453.

F.

Fair, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a dealer in cattle and a grazier in Cheshire, 7537–7539——Procures his store cattle from Scotland, 7540——Is strongly opposed to the compulsory slaughtering of foreign fat cattle at the ports; impracticability in such case of supplying Manchester and the manufacturing district, 7542–7554. 7556–7569. 7579–7584. 7609——Cattle from uninfected countries, like Spain or Portugal, should have the same facilities of transit as Irish cattle, 7544. 7555. 7598——Live cattle should be allowed to come from Liverpool, &c. to the Manchester market, and should be branded for slaughter within a certain time, 7544–7548. 7594–7597. 7603–7605.

Expediency of its being permitted to bring live cattle from Manchester to adjacent towns for slaughter there, 7549–7554——Approval of inspection and quarantine in the case of foreign store cattle from infected countries, 7555. 7595–7602——Grounds for the statement as to the great loss incurred in connection with the dead meat trade to Manchester, 7556–7569. 7579–7584 —— Sources of supply of the Manchester live market, 7570, 7571——The plague was not propagated in Cheshire by the railway transit of beasts, 7572. 7585, 7586.

Statement as to there not being any trade in store stock in Cheshire at the present time, 7573–7578——Check to the foreign trade by a quarantine, 7590——Injury to the foreign trade and increase of price to the consumer by slaughtering at the port, 7591–7594—— Division between the markets for home and foreign stock at Liverpool, Manchester, &c., 7606–7608.

Fairs and Markets. Danger at present in holding large cattle fairs in Scotland, *Swan* 5470–5473——Objection to store stock and fat stock in the same market, *Strangeways* 6997.

Expediency of some restriction in regard to the small markets for live cattle in country towns, these being a fertile source of the spread of disease, *Torr* 7120–7125. 7134——Way in which the small country markets for live stock operate very injuriously, so that they should be prohibited in the smaller towns, *ib.* 7254–7258.

Objections to the small local markets being abolished; respects in which they operate very beneficially, *Hudson* 7450–7460——Disapproval of any limit upon the number of fairs and markets in the country, *Druce* 7529–7531.

Difficulty as to a satisfactory inspection at fairs and markets in Ireland, with a view to preventing the spread of disease, *Walsh* 7882–7884; *Garnett* 7942–7945.

Importance of a system of penalties for sending diseased cattle to fairs and markets, *Garnett* 7942. 7946–7966.

Summary penalties proposed by the Committee for the wilful exposure for sale of diseased cattle in fairs or market, *Rep.* v——Advantage in large towns, if practicable, of separating the fat and store cattle markets, *ib.* vii.

Farmers and Graziers. Objection by graziers to an entirely separate market for foreign cattle, *Lovett* 6803——Witness would be very sorry to buy foreign stock to graze, *ib.* 6810——Strong objection to its being required of farmers to kill fat cattle; difficulty in disposing of the offal, *ib.* 6856.

A large number of carcases are sold by witness locally, the animals being slaughtered by himself, *Torr* 7114–7116——Statement in favour of butchers in London ordering supplies of country killed meat from the farmers and graziers, *ib.* 7136 *et seq.*——Facility for advantageously disposing of the offal in country places, *ib.* 7137–7140. 7147. 7160, 7161——Loss sometimes sustained by graziers when the markets for fat cattle are not good, *ib.* 7282–7284.

Sources of witness's supply of lambs and of beasts for grazing: he does not bring any foreign stock, *Hudson* 7295–7299——Impracticability of disposing of the offal in witness's neighbourhood, if all the animals were slaughtered before transmission to London, *ib.* 7305–7309. 7320–7324. 7387–7389——Practice of witness to consign the animals from his farm to salesmen at the metropolitan market, *ib.* 7461, 7462——Advantage in sending to the public market instead of in selling to agents, *Druce* 7485, 7486. 7504–7508.

Information as to the general course pursued by witness in the purchase and fattening of his stock in the county of Meath, *Garnett* 7888–7894——Witness feeds about 800 head of cattle, and holds 1,100 acres of land, *ib.* 7890. 7972——Practice of witness always to consign his fat stock to the same salesmaster in Dublin or Liverpool, *ib.* 7913–7916. 7925, 7926——Very large scale upon which grazing is conducted by individuals in the county of Meath, &c., *ib.* 7970–7978.

See also *Lincolnshire. Norfolk. Scotland. Store Cattle.*

Fat Stock. See *Dead Meat. Foreign Cattle. Quarantine. Transit of Cattle.*

Feeding of Cattle in Railways and Steamers. See *Railways*, 1, 3. *Steamers*, 2.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Fish. Large quantity of fish conveyed to London by the Great Northern line; inference that dead meat may be carried all the year round, *Clarke* 1524–1529.

Florence. Strict regulations in force in regard to the sale of dead meat, the system of slaughtering, &c., *App.* 317.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE:

1. *Character of this Disease.*
2. *Its Prevalence among Foreign and English Cattle respectively.*
3. *Restrictions now in force as to the Import of Animals or Cargoes having the Disease.*
4. *Suggestions as to the Restrictions and Regulations desirable in future.*

1. *Character of this Disease:*

The foot and mouth disease is constantly contracted after landing from the steamers at Liverpool, all cattle being subject to it, *Cullen* 508, 509——Varying duration of the foot and mouth disease, *Lockwood* 2559–2561. 2567–2569——Witness does not recollect any animal dying from the disease, *ib.* 2570.

Fearful suffering of some animals from the foot and mouth disease, whilst the animals sometimes die from the excitement, *Simmonds* 3503–3508——The disease has been known in this country about twenty-four years, *ib.* 3506, 3507——Modes in which the disease is brought on or is developed, *ib.* 3508.

Great spread of the foot and mouth disease through means of foreign cattle at the Islington market, *Ratcliffe* 3669, 3670. 3800–3807. 3832——Witness has not been able to trace the foot and mouth disease in dead meat, and has not lately rejected any animals on account of it, *Baker* 4425–4429——Reference to the foot and mouth disease, though contagious, as being a curative complaint, *Giblett* 4617, 4618——Slight importance attached to the foot and mouth disease, the meat not being affected by it, *Woodley* 4926–4933.

Peculiar prevalence of the disease about Christmas, *Hicks* 5350, 5351——Opinion as to murrain or eczema being one of the worst diseases imported, *Strangeways* 6967, 6968 Effect of large fairs in spreading this disease; illustration in Norfolk, *Hudson* 7335–7337. 7372–7374——Comparatively slight importance attached to the foot and mouth disease, *ib.* 7394–7397.

Tendency of the conveyance of cattle by sea or rail, to produce the foot and mouth disease, *Rep.* iv.

2. *Its Prevalence among Foreign and English Cattle respectively:*

Small number of beasts suffering from the foot and mouth disease on arrival at Antwerp; prohibition upon the export of these, *Huger* 1343–1347. 1349–1352——The disease is more prevalent in animals from France than from Germany, *ib.* 1351, 1352 ——Doubt as to the foot and mouth disease having been brought from abroad, *Hönck* 1786–1788——Very few cattle stopped on arrival in witness's ships; instances in the case of the foot and mouth disease, *Robinson* 3285–3291. 3355, 3356——The disease was known in this country before the general importation of foreign cattle, *Simmonds* 3506, 3507.

Opinion that eczema, or the foot and mouth disease, is not entirely a foreign importation, *Holmans* 3601–3607. 3610–3612——Prevalence of the foot and mouth disease in England, before any foreign cattle were imported, *Hicks* 5350——Frequency of Scotch cattle suffering from this disease, *ib.*——Frequency of the foot and mouth disease in the case of cattle from Edinburgh to Scotland, *Swan* 5371. 5373. 5502——Decrease of the foot and mouth disease in Oxfordshire, more precautions being taken, *Druce* 7532, 7533.

3. *Restrictions now in force as to the Import of Animals or Cargoes having the Disease:*

At Liverpool any cases of foot and mouth disease would be dealt with by quarantine, *Ellis* 1392, 1393——Check to the import into London of animals having the foot and mouth disease, on account of the rigorous inspection exercised, a large number of such animals having been stopped, *Hönck* 1705–1712 —— Practice in London of slaughtering any animals which have on arrival foot and mouth disease, *Pratt* 3022, 3023. 3254; *Simmonds* 3420.

Import by witness at Hull of some cattle with the foot and mouth disease, these having been killed at once and sold to butchers, *Coulson* 2074. 2169–2180——Course adopted by the inspector at Hull, in the event of the import of store cattle, and of cattle with the foot and mouth disease, *Coulson* 2209–2213. 2225–2231; *Lockwood* 2441. 2445. 2532–2528. 2558–2563——Slaughter at Hull of any animals having the foot and mouth disease, the rest of the cargo being allowed to be sold, *Valentine* 2587, 2588. 2635–2639.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Foot and Mouth Disease—continued.

4. *Suggestions as to the Restrictions and Regulations desirable in future:*

It is very desirable to take stringent measures for preventing any import of the disease, *Simmonds* 3509——Witness considers that foreign cattle with the foot and mouth disease should be allowed to go into the London market, save in extreme cases when they should at once be slaughtered, *Holman* 3597-3610——Comment upon the practice in regard to slaughtering animals having the foot and mouth disease when landed; loss suffered on these occasions, *Hicks* 4123, 4124.

Witness would not stop whole cargoes at the port of landing for the foot and mouth disease, but only those animals which had the disease, *Hudson* 7335–7342——Those animals in each cargo which had actually had foot and mouth disease should alone be stopped, *Druce* 7476——Exceedingly contagious and injurious character of the disease, so that penalties should be inflicted on any one sending cattle having the disease to store markets, *Garnett* 7942. 7946–7966——Restrictions are not required for the foot and mouth disease, *Walsh* 7800.

Representation or memorial of the Foreign Cattle Trade Association as to the inexpediency of the checks imposed in the case of foreign cattle suffering from the foot and mouth disease, *App.* 303.

Objection by Mr. Simmons, in report to the Board of Customs, to permitting foreign cattle having the disease to pass through the street and into sheds, *App.* 304.

Disapproval by Mr. Holmans of the detention of foreign cattle suffering from the disease, *App.* 305, 306.

Foreign Cattle:

1. *As to the Extent and Importance of the Foreign Supply.*
2. *Inspection Abroad before Shipment for England.*
3. *Condition of the Cattle on arrival in this Country.*
4. *Relative Quality of Foreign and Home-fed Meat.*
5. *Statements in favour of a separate Market in London for Foreign Stock, near the River side.*
6. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition.*
7. *Suggested Division between Foreign and English Cattle in the same Market.*
8. *Question of Slaughtering Foreign Cattle at the Port of Arrival.*
9. *Orders in Council regulating the Import and Slaughter of Foreign Cattle.*
10. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *As to the Extent and Importance of the Foreign Supply:*

Various countries and ports whence cattle are consigned to witness, his trade being chiefly in fat stock for the London market, *Hönck* 1667–1675——Statistics as to the imports in the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company in 1865; very large numbers of cattle and sheep, *Pratt* 2983-2988——Increasing character of witness's trade, *Robinson* 3326–3327——Increasing demand for live stock from abroad, *ib.* 3396, 3397——Decreased supply lately of foreign stock, owing to the uncertainty of their being passed on landing, *Baker* 4422–4424.

Increasing importance of the foreign supply, *Giblett* 4622——Belief that but for the free supply of foreign cattle it would be practically impossible to feed the metropolis, *Rudkin* 6634——Growing importance of the foreign supply, *ib.* 6709–6717——Opinion that during the next three or four years London will be practically supplied with foreign cattle, *ib.* 6709.

Paper submitted by Mr. Robinson, containing particulars of cattle imported from Holland, &c. during 1865, and showing the numbers landed at each wharf and at Harwich, *App.* 307–314.

Statement of the number of foreign cattle sold by Mr. Hicks in three months, and the number sold to each class of men, *App.* 325.

2. *Inspection Abroad before Shipment for England:*

Inspection of both live cattle and dead meat on the other side of the Channel before they are shipped, *Daniels* 214–219——Belief as to the very imperfect character of the quarantine and inspection regulations abroad, *Read* 1652–1655——Inspection now in force at the ports of shipment in Germany and Holland, *Hönck* 1714–1716——Arrangement on the Continent as to the transmission of cattle from Hungary, &c. to the port of shipment: inspection exercised with reference to the cattle plague, *ib.* 2034–2042.

Supervision by the authorities abroad, but not by the owners of the vessels in regard to the condition of the animals, *Malcolm* 2338–2350——Character of the inspection to which the animals are subjected at the port of shipment abroad, *Pratt* 3018–3020. 3148. 3252, 3253—— The inspectors abroad are appointed either by the local authorities, or by witness's Company in the case of cattle by the Company's ships, *ib.* 3018–3020——Very

Report, 1866—*continued.*

FOREIGN CATTLE—continued.

2. *Inspection Abroad before Shipment for England*—continued.

careful inspection before the shipment of cattle from Holland to London, *Robinson* 3282–3291. 3328–3331——Strict inspection of the cattle before they are shipped at Hamburg and Rotterdam for Newcastle, *Stephens* 8373–8377.

3. *Condition of the Cattle on Arrival in this Country:*

Very good condition in which the cattle from Rotterdam have generally arrived at Harwich; comparatively few deaths on the passage from Holland, *Daniels* 13–15. 25——The animals from Rotterdam arrive at Harwich almost always in good condition, *Peters* 1211, 1212——Very healthy state of the foreign cattle generally on arrival at Liverpool, *Ellis* 1400. 1429, 1430. 1441–1444——Very good condition in which foreign cattle generally arrive at Hull, *Coulson* 2074; *Lockwood* 2412–2416; *Valentine* 2599–2603; *Torr* 7249, 7250——Excellent condition in which the animals arrive, by long sea, in London, though they are obliged to stand during the whole voyage, *Pratt* 3041–3046——The cattle generally arrive in very good condition by witness's ships, *Robinson* 3308, 3309——Very good condition in which the cattle generally arrive from abroad at the Port of London, *Simmonds* 3435.

Impression of graziers that diseases of cattle are mostly imported, *Ratcliff* 3809–3814 Very little disease found by witness in any foreign cattle, *Baker* 4466–4471——Very few unhealthy animals among the large number of foreign cattle passing through witness's hands, *Wordley* 4915, 4916.

Better condition of the cattle if landed lower down the river and brought up by railway, *Rudkin* 6738. 6750–6755——Much more healthy cattle now sent from abroad, *Hunt* 8417. 8470.

4. *Relative Quality of Foreign and Home-fed Meat:*

Comparative inferiority of foreign meat, witness selling only home-fed meat, *Ratcliff* 3673–3678. 3778–3783——Different class of butchers who purchase foreign meat, *ib.* 3679——Injury to the meat of foreign animals through their treatment on the voyage, and the fatigue and harassment which they undergo before they are killed, *ib.* 3740–3747. 3751.

Inaccuracy of the statement that foreign fat stock are not bought by the same butchers who buy English stock, *Hicks* 4061——The first-class butchers do not buy foreign cattle from witness, but all others do, *ib.* 4087——Lower price of the foreign meat than of the English meat by about a halfpenny or three farthings a pound, *Baker* 4416–4421——Good and healthy character of the foreign meat, *Wordley* 4891. 4909–4916.

Purchase by witness chiefly of English cattle, it being very important at times to have a supply of foreign cattle in the market to fall back upon, *Pickworth* 4961–4964——Witness purchases home-fed meat exclusively, foreign meat not being suited for the West-end trade, *Slater* 5124–5126——Increasing purchase of foreign cattle by the West-end butchers, the meat, however, being inferior to home-fed meat, and the animals being cheaper, *Herbert* 5912–5923.

Statement to the effect that foreign cattle are purchased by some of the best butchers, *Rudkin* 6631, 6632.

5. *Statements in favour of a separate Market in London for Foreign Stock, near the River-side:*

Opinion that the best plan would be to have a separate market for foreign cattle near the place of landing, with slaughter-houses in connexion with it, *Ratcliff* 3662, 3663. 3669–3683——Sufficient convenience to buyers, and sufficient competition for foreign stock, if sold at a separate market near the river side, *ib.* 3663. 3673–3683. 3707–3709. 3778, 3779. 3808——Latent disease frequently in foreign cattle, which cannot be detected by inspection, so that the best means of preventing infection is to have a separate market, *ib.* 3672. 3766. 3817–3833——Several respects in which a foreign market, with a slaughter-house attached, would be productive of much convenience, and would obviate much nuisance to the public, *ib.* 3710–3728.

Prevention of the cattle plague, if there had been a separate market for foreign stock, *Herbert* 5933. 5961——Approval, on the whole, of a separate market at the river side, though less convenient to buyers than the present system, *ib.* 5941, 5942. 5958–5961.

Suggested separate markets for all foreign stock, *Strangeways* 6969. 6989–6997——Absence of disadvantage by having a separate market for foreign cattle near the river side, where landed, *Hudson* 7359–7364.

6. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition:*

Loss to the importers if there were separate markets for foreign cattle, as there would not be the same competition as at present; prejudice also to buyers, *Hönck* 1837–1841. 1903–1907. 1993–1998. 2004–2008——Circumstance of the foreign cattle being largely bought

FOREIGN CATTLE—continued.

6. *Evidence opposed to the foregoing Proposition*—continued.

bought by wholesale butchers and by contractors, for whom a market near the river side would probably be more convenient than at Islington, *Hönck* 1842–1869.

Disapproval of a separate market near the river side for foreign cattle, *Pratt* 3132–3144——Prejudicial effect upon the foreign trade if there were a separate market in London for foreign cattle exclusively, *Simmonds* 3543–3548. 3590, 3591.

Removal of several causes of public nuisance if there were large slaughter-houses and a dead-meat market near the place of import of foreign cattle; witness does not, however, advocate a separate market for foreign live stock, *Letheby* 3903–3918. 3988–3996.

Statement as to the great injury to the foreign trade if the cattle were sold in a separate market near the river side, *Hicks* 4057–4070——Monopoly of buyers, and depreciation in the price of foreign cattle if no longer sold in the same market with home cattle, *ib.* 4059–4062. 4087–4089. 4103–4106. 4112–4122——Inconvenience and expense by having a separate market for foreign cattle, with slaughter-houses attached, near the river side; injury both to the foreign trade and to the buyer, *Baker* 4341–4368. 4483–4497.

Importance of one Metropolitan Market for both home and foreign cattle, in the interests of the public as well as of the buyer and seller, *Giblett* 4619–4622——Serious evil in having a separate market at the river side for foreign cattle, *ib.* 4622——Great importance of there being only one market for foreign cattle and home cattle; interference with prices, as well as with the foreign trade, if there were separate markets, *Woodley* 4833–4844. 4894–4896. 4937–4942——Inconvenience of a separation of the home and foreign markets; that is, in the case of butchers buying in both markets, *Slater* 5127–5131. 5205–5208.

Importance of but one market in the metropolis for live cattle, both English and foreign; several objections to a separate market for foreign cattle at the river side, *Rudkin* 6629–6639. 6694–6717. 6772–6783——Great importance of open competition in the same market for all live cattle, *ib.* 6638, 6639. 6703. 6779, 6780——Material increase of prices if the foreign market were held by itself, *ib.* 6712–6717.

7. *Suggested Division between Foreign and English Cattle in the same Market:*

Non-objection to English and foreign cattle being kept distinct in the London market, so long as they are in close contiguity, *Rudkin* 6708——Suggested division between the English and foreign cattle in the Metropolitan Market, *Lovell* 6801. 6805——Division between the markets for home and foreign stock at Liverpool, Manchester, &c., *Fair* 7606–7608.

8. *Question of Slaughtering Foreign Cattle at the Port of Arrival:*

Contemplated slaughtering, without delay, of all diseased cargoes, *Daniels* 189, 190. 204–208; *Read* 1645——Non-objection to compulsory slaughtering at the port of arrival if enforced generally, and if no animals were allowed to be sent alive to the Metropolitan Market, *Peters* 1211–1216——Opinion that all foreign fat stock should be slaughtered at the port of landing, *Read* 1573–1604.

Grounds for strongly objecting to the slaughtering of all foreign cattle near the river or place of landing instead of at the Islington Market and the private slaughter-houses; examination in detail hereon, *Hönck* 1750–1782. 1826–1869, 1898–1908. 2009–2030——Effect of compulsory slaughtering at the river-side in checking the importation, *ib.* 1758——Instance of depreciation of price at Harwich through the slaughtering of the animals there, *ib.* 1759–1763——Objection to the foreign cattle being all slaughtered near the river, if there were no market for live cattle at Islington, *ib.* 2009–2030.

Injurious effect upon the foreign trade if all cattle were permanently required to be killed on arrival, *Coulson* 2136–2140. 2188–2192. 2196–2204——Sufficiency of the regulation as to fat cattle being killed in four days after their arrival or their being sent to market, *Simmonds* 3479. 3486–3488. 3591——Decreased supply of foreign cattle if it were compulsory to slaughter them near the port of landing, *Baker* 4491–4498——Advantage if foreign fat stock were slaughtered near the place of landing, *Simon* 5079–5081.

Opinion that for the present the import trade should be confined to cattle intended for slaughter within a short time after they were brought, *Hicks* 5344–5350——Regulation suggested in regard to foreign fat cattle conveyed into the country being killed in a given time, *ib.* 5350——Objection to the foreign cattle being slaughtered at the place of landing and conveyed as dead meat to Smithfield Market by railway, *Rudkin* 6634–6639. 6668–6673.

Contemplated slaughtering of fat sheep and beasts from abroad, either at the port of landing or in the towns, within a certain time, *Strangeways* 6974–6978. 6994–6998——Expediency of all foreign fat stock being slaughtered at the ports, *Torr* 7126–7130; *Hudson* 7347. 7350–7358——Approval of fat cattle landed in London going to the

Report, 1866—*continued.*

FOREIGN CATTLE—continued.

8. *Question of Slaughtering Foreign Cattle at Port of Arrival*—continued.

Metropolitan Market before being slaughtered, but not animals landed at Harwich, Hull, &c., *Druce* 7471-7474. 7498-7501. 7527, 7528.

Strong objection to compulsory slaughter at the ports, *Fair* 7542 *et seq.*——Injury to the foreign trade, and increase of price to the consumer, by slaughtering at the port, *ib.* 7591-7594——Great inconvenience and loss to the trade if all fat cattle from abroad were obliged to be slaughtered close to the place of debarkation, *Bonser* 7684-7688. 7712-7719——Depreciation of foreign fat stock if not killed shortly after being landed, *Wilkinson* 8313-8315.

9. *Orders in Council regulating the Import and Slaughter of Foreign Cattle:*

Copies of Orders in Council in 1864-66 relative to the importation of foreign cattle and the prevention of the import of diseased cattle, *App.* 339-384.

10. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Several foreign ports whence cattle and sheep are imported into England and Scotland, *Rep.* iii——Arrival of the sea-borne cattle generally in good condition, *ib.*——Effect of a journey, whether by sea or rail, in causing cattle to deteriorate in value, *ib.* iv——Great importance of foreign cattle in order to keep down the price of meat, *ib.* v.

Consideration of the suggestion that there might be a separate market for foreign fat stock in London; grounds for disapproving of this proposal, *Rep.* vi.

Several objections to compulsory slaughter of foreign cattle at the port of discharge, *Rep.* vi.——Recommendation that all imported fat cattle be subject to the same rules as English fat cattle when exposed in a market, *ib.*

Recommendation as to prohibition upon importation from countries where there is reason to believe the cattle plague is existing, *Rep.* vi.

See also *Austria. Bremen. Cattle Plague. Cows. Danish Cattle. Dutch Cattle. Fairs and Markets. Foot and Mouth Disease. French Cattle. Harwich. Hull. Inspection*, 1. *Leeds*, 1, 2. *Metropolitan Cattle Market. Newcastle-on-Tyne. Ports of Landing. Prices*, 1. *Quarantine. Railways*, 3. *Russian Cattle. Scotland. Spanish Cattle. Steamers. Store Cattle. Transit of Cattle.*

Foreign Cattle Trade Association. Memorial of the Association to the Lords of the Privy Council praying for an investigation into the regulations in respect to the importation of foreign cattle, *App.* 303.

Foreign Countries. Conclusion of Dr. Letheby that in almost every part of the world the regulations for the sale of meat, the inspection of cattle, and the management of markets and slaughter-houses are far more stringent and precise than in the metropolis; grounds for this conclusion, *App.* 315-319.

French Cattle. Removal of the former restriction upon French cattle passing through Belgium, *Huger* 1358, 1359——Considerable importation recently of some very fine fat cattle from France, *Hönck* 1975-1981——Number of beasts and of sheep carried from Boulogne by the General Steam Navigation Company; excellent condition of these, *Pratt* 3003-3011——The cattle from France have been very healthy, *Holman* 3621.

Increasing import from France; increased facilities required, *Giblett* 4622——Great improvement in the beasts being imported from France; fine condition of some of these, and high prices fetched by them, *Bannister*, 5256-5260. 5308-5318——Character of the cattle imported from France; some are very large and good, *Herbert* 5911. 5988-5997——Many of the French cattle are very prime, *Rudkin* 6632.

G.

Garnett, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Grazier in the county of Meath, 7887. 7892——Information as to the general course pursued by witness in the purchase and fattening of his stock, 7888-7894——He feeds about 800 head of cattle, and holds 1,100 acres of land, 7890. 7972——Very injurious crowding and detention of the cattle on the Irish railways, so that witness drives or walks his beasts as much as possible, 7905-7912. 7981-7983——Practice of witness always to consign his fat stock to the same salemaster in Dublin or Liverpool, 7913-7916. 7925, 7926.

Very good condition in which witness's cattle arrive at Liverpool, there being almost an entire exemption from loss on the passage, 7917-7923——Overcrowding of the steamers at times, so that it is very desirable to license them for a limited number of cattle, 7917. 7920. 7935-7941. 7981-7983——Sale by witness of all his sheep in Dublin, 7924-7926——Prejudicial operation of the restrictions upon transit from Liverpool, in regard to the Irish trade, 7927-7934——Difficulty in the way of a satisfactory inspection at fairs in Ireland as a check upon the spread of disease, 7942-7945.

Exceedingly

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Garnett, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Exceedingly contagious and injurious character of foot and mouth disease, so that penalties should be imposed upon any one sending cattle having the disease to store markets, 7942. 7946-7966 — Importance generally of a system of penalties for sending diseased cattle to fairs and markets, 7946-7953——Limited amount of pleuro-pneumonia now in Ireland, whilst the risk of contagion is not very great, 7954, 7955. 7967-7969. 7979-7981——Very large scale upon which grazing is conducted by individuals in the county Meath, &c., 7970-7678——Difficulties in the way of a dead-meat trade from Meath, or from Dublin, to England, more especially in the hot weather, 7984-7986.

Gebhardt, H. Letter from Mr. Gebhardt to the Chairman of the Committee, stating that rinderpest has not been introduced from abroad, that quarantine for foreign cattle is impossible, that the compulsory slaughtering of foreign cattle at the wharves or at the Metropolitan Market would be most objectionable, and offering certain suggestions for preventing the import of diseased cattle, *App.* 329, 330.

General Steam Navigation Company. Statistics as to the quantity of cattle carried in the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company in 1865 from various foreign ports to London, *Pratt* 2983-2988——The largest trade is from Rotterdam, *ib.* 2985. 2989, 2990 —— Conveyance chiefly of fat cattle from the several foreign ports, *ib.* 2991-2993—— Effectual cleansing of the vessels after the discharge of each cargo, *ib.* 3032. 3050-3053. 3166-3168——Conveyance of cattle only in some of the company's vessels, *ib.* 3033, 3034.

Details as to the general arrangements on board, and as to the accommodation, ventilation, &c.; every care is taken to render these as complete as possible, *Pratt* 3035 *et seq.*——There are separate compartments in the holds and on deck admitting five cattle abreast, the space for each being eight feet by two feet, *ib.* 3035. 3152-3160——The animals are placed athwart ship, with their heads to the sides of the vessel, *ib.* 3038—— Feeding and watering of the animals during the passage, *ib.* 3039. 3207-3209——The cattle stand close together during the whole voyage; lateral support thereby, *ib.* 3041-3045. 3196-3198.

Arrangement for the landing of the animals, and mode of disposal when landed; accommodation for this purpose at Brown's Wharf, *Pratt* 3054-3058. 3162. 3169-3181. 3247, 3248. 3265, 3266——Details as to the rates from different ports to London, *ib.* 3059-3064.

Consideration of a comparative statement by Mr. Moseley of the charges from Rotterdam *viâ* Harwich, and from Rotterdam to London direct; error in Mr. Moseley's calculation, witness showing that the direct sea route is much the cheaper of the two, *Pratt* 3065-3077. 3098-3102. 3266, 3267.

Practice of charging freight when the meat or animals are landed, no matter in what condition, *Pratt* 3108, 3109——Actual space given for each animal on board the vessels of the company; its sufficiency, *ib.* 3145-3147. 3152-3165. 3195-3198——There is no shelter for those carried on deck, *ib.* 3154, 3155——Improved accommodation in the "Maas" and the more modern vessels of the company, *ib.* 3217-3226. 3235-3237.

German Cattle. Good condition of the German cattle on arrival at Antwerp, very few having any disease, *Huger* 1303. 1311-1313. 1343-1347. 1363-1365.

See also *Austria. Belgium. Foreign Cattle. Hamburgh. Hull. Scotland. Steamers. Tonning.*

Giblett, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Cattle Salesman in London; receives cattle from all parts of England and of the Continent, 4559-4565——Impracticability, without immense expense, of slaughtering all live cattle in London in public slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Market, 4566-4568. 4581——Impossibility in summer in supplying dead meat to all London in proper condition from one public slaughter-house, 4566, 4567 ——Calculation that oxen are worth more by 30 *s.* a head, and sheep by 3 *s.* a head, to the butcher when killed at a private slaughter-house than when killed at a public slaughter-house; data for this conclusion considered, 4568. 4763-4799.

Excellent manner in which the butchers generally manage the work in their own slaughter-houses; great importance of their personal inspection, 4568——Circumstance of there being four or five public slaughter-houses in Paris, 4569, 4570——System of abattoirs in Edinburgh; decided objection to its application to London, even if there were power in the butchers to have the abattoirs, and if there were two or three instead of only one at the cattle market, 4571-4584——Difficulty in always getting the best meat at the dead meat market, 4584. 4719.

Very injurious effect upon butchers by the temporary restrictions upon the transit of cattle, 4584-4587. 4622, 4623——Expediency of some hay and water being supplied to the animals during railway conveyance from Scotland, 4588-4599——The provision of water and hay on board ship should be rendered compulsory universally, 4600-4602—— Suggested inspection as to the space to be allotted to the animals on board, 4603-4607 ——Decided objection to quarantining fat cattle, 4608-4611——Reference to the foot

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Giblett, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

and mouth disease, though contagious, as being a curative complaint, 4611-4616——Prevalence of foot and mouth disease in this country before any foreign cattle were imported, 4617, 4618.

Importance of one metropolitan market for both home and foreign cattle, in the interests of the public as well as of the buyer and seller, 4619-4622——Serious evil in having a separate market at the river side for foreign cattle, 4622——Increasing import from France; increased facilities required, *ib.*

Great difficulty experienced by butchers in Kent and other parts of the country in obtaining an adequate supply of meat; question hereon as to the price having risen to any marked extent, 4622-4625. 4659-4681——Examination relative to the purchase of some legs of mutton at Newgate Market by a Sevenoaks butcher, through the difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of live animals; high price paid, though the meat turned out bad by the following morning, 4626-4658——Enhanced prices of meat lately in the London market, 4681. 4809-4815.

Evidence as to the loose and erroneous manner in which the prices quoted in the newspapers are obtained; amendments suggested, 4681-4728——Statement that witness has written to the papers to have the erroneous quotations corrected, but without effect, 4729-4759.

Great difficulty in regard to the supply of beef to Manchester and the adjacent towns on account of the restrictions on the transit of live stock, 4800-4803. 4815-4823——Statement as to the price of meat being dearer in the Manchester district than in London; relative prices of live stock in London and in the country adverted to hereon, 4804-4823——Aggavated expense in some counties where, there being no live stock, it has been necessary to come to London for a supply of dead meat, 4815.

Glasgow. Enhanced price of meat at Glasgow through the foreign cattle not being allowed to pass through from Leith, *Swan* 5389. 5440. 5450-5453——Information relative to the importation of fat and store cattle to Glasgow from Ireland; scarcity at the present season of the year, *ib.* 5393-5395. 5454-5469.

Importance of Glasgow, Airdrie, and other towns being supplied by means of live meat removed from Granton, in lieu of the present system of slaughtering at Leith and Granton, and removing the dead meat to the towns, *Swan* 5398-5409. 5417-5420. 5426. 5433. 5440. 5450-5453——Great injury to the meat when sent to Glasgow, &c. by railway in warm and wet weather, *ib.* 5426-5432.

Endeavour made last year to combine the three public slaughter-houses in Glasgow in one; inconvenience and expense thereby, *Swan* 5542-5546.

Gottenburgh. Absence of disease in cattle consigned to witness from Gottenburgh, *Coulson* 2129-2131.

Granton. Evidence in support of the proposal that Danish cattle and home cattle be allowed to come to Granton, and to be conveyed thence to the towns for slaughter by the local butchers, *Swan* 5385 *et seq.*——Excellent accommodation available at Granton, *ib.* 5386. 5397, 5398.

Objection to the proposal that Danish cattle shall all come to the port of Granton; increase of cost if not allowed to be brought in the vessels to Leith, *Currie* 6858 *et seq.*

Careful manner in which the inspection at Granton is conducted by witness, *Strangeways* 6962-6967——Ample quarantine accommodatien available, *ib.* 6970.

Graziers. See *Farmers and Graziers.*

Great Eastern Railway. Very large cattle traffic on the line, including not only fat cattle but store cattle and milch cows, *Moseley* 240-252——Practice of the company thoroughly to cleanse the cattle trucks after each journey, *ib.* 256-263——Means of the Great Eastern Company, by using the North London line, for delivering cattle near the Islington market, *ib.* 320-322.——*See* also *Harwich.*

Great Northern Railway. Considerable traffic on the line previously to the cattle plague restrictions, *Clarke* 1463, 1464——Large quantity of dead meat brought to London by the Great Northern line, the quantity having increased since the restrictions on the transit of live stock, *ib.* 1474-1479.

Comparative statement of the cost of conveyance of live stock and dead meat from different stations on the Great Northern line to London, *Clarke* 1501-1503——Return of live stock carried over the line to London in the year ended June 1865, *ib.* 1501.

Considerable claims on the company in respect of detention or wrong delivery of dead meat, *Clarke* 1503. 1505, 1506. 1542-1544——Great numbers of sheep carried on the line, *ib.* 1552-1554.

Statement of the cattle rates in force on the Great Northern Railway, *App.* 386——Return of the live stock carried to London on the Great Northern line during the year ended June 1865, *ib.*

See also *Dead Meat,* 2.

H.

Hall, Richard. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a wholesale butcher in Liverpool, 744, 745 ——Inconvenience through the deficiency of lairs at Liverpool, 746——Purchase by witness of imported animals almost exclusively, 747–749——Way in which the animals are disposed of after they are purchased in Stanley market, and before they are slaughtered, 750–757——Injurious effect of the overcrowding of the animals previously to their being killed, 757, 758. 772–774——Great inconvenience if all the private slaughter-houses were abolished, and if there were but one slaughter-house near Stanley market, 759.

Nature of the facilities for sending the meat from the slaughter-houses to the railway and to the shipping, 760–771——Good condition in which the cattle from Oporto arrive, the animals being of a valuable class, 775–784——Bad condition in which the Irish cattle arrive, they being much abused during the loading in Ireland, and greatly bruised on the passage, 778. 811–815. 838–841. 954, 955——Means of supplying Manchester with dead meat from Liverpool without any deterioration of the meat, 785–789——Much greater expense in the conveyance of dead meat by rail than of the live animal, 790–796 ——Deterioration of the meat by sending the animals by rail, and by killing them when they come off the truck, 797–801. 899–904.

Question as to the advantage to butchers in buying the live animal or the dead meat respectively, 802–809. 890–895——Slight extent to which a continuance of the prohibition upon transit by rail would be any advantage to the buyer in the Liverpool market, 816–821——Instances of witness having purchased oxen and sheep in London for Liverpool, the latter port not being well situated for the foreign cattle trade, 822–826. 923–926——Import of some dead meat from Scotland; its cost as compared with that of live cattle, 827–833——Disadvantages in the supply of the towns near Manchester depending on the Liverpool dead meat market, 834–837.

Good quality of the Irish cattle, if not injured before import, 838–841——Superior condition in which Scotch cattle come by sea to Liverpool, 842–847——Inconvenience in hot weather in supplying Manchester and other towns with dead meat from Liverpool; absence of difficulty in regard to the towns knowing the precise local demand, 848–857 ——Injury both to store cattle and fat cattle if kept for some days in quarantine, 860–863.

Statement as to the cattle plague having been brought into Cheshire and Lancashire by foreign store cattle, sent in the first instance from Germany to Edinburgh, and thence to Liverpool; particulars hereon, 861, 862. 864–889——Further consideration of the relative advantages and disadvantages of dead-meat markets at Liverpool, &c., and of the transmission of live meat by rail, 896–922——Doubt as to the recent legislation having produced any effect upon the price of meat in Liverpool and in Manchester, &c., 913–922.

Efficient inspection of all cattle now arriving in the port of Liverpool, 927–935—— Great hardship caused by the requirement as to slaughtering within four days; expediency of the limit being extended to a week, and of its being permitted to send the cattle and sheep to fields within a radius of four miles, 935–947——The obligation to slaughter within four days does not enable the purchaser to buy more cheaply, 948–950——Good condition of the foreign sheep coming to Liverpool by way of Hull, 951–953.

Hamburgh. Rate of freight from Hamburgh to Hull, *Malcolm* 2334——Practice recently adopted at Hamburgh to get a certificate as to the condition of the animals when shipped, *ib.* 2338——Statement of the imports from Hamburgh to Hull in 1865, as compared with the imports from all sources, *ib.* 2408.

Satisfactory accommodation on board the Hamburgh steamers, *Coulson* 2093; *Malcolm* 2305–2311——In the Hamburgh trade the arrangements and accommodation are excellent, the Hull vessels generally being now of a suitable character, *Valentine* 2669–2673.

Length of the passage from Hamburgh to Newcastle, there being no delay in landing, *Stephens* 8337, 8338——Strict inspection of the cattle at Hamburgh before shipment, *ib.* 8373–8377.

See also *Dead Meat*, 6. *Hull.*

Harlingen. Belief that there would be no danger in allowing importation to be resumed from Harlingen, *Robinson* 3334–3341——The Harlingen cattle are particularly healthy, *Simmonds* 3502.

Harwich:

Very large cargoes of cattle in the boats of the Great Eastern Railway Company from Rotterdam to Harwich, *Daniels* 5–8——Discontinuance after a time of a market established at Harwich by witness and his partner, *ib.* 9–12——Practice as to the slaughtering of cattle at Harwich when they arrive in a disabled state, *ib.* 65–69——Character of the

Report, 1866—*continued.*

HARWICH—continued.

Government inspection to which the cattle are subjected on landing, *Daniels* 70. 73–79—— Practice to feed and water the animals before they are sent on to London by rail, *ib.* 71, 72. 237.

Large space available at Harwich if the cattle were quarantined, *Daniels* 98, 99—— Facility with which beasts and sheep might be slaughtered in large numbers and sent to London as dead meat: advantages of such arrangement, *ib.* 114–135. 140–144. 147–153. 186——Better condition of the meat by the animal being killed at Harwich than in London, *ib.* 122. 126, 127. 148——Rates now paid for the conveyance of meat stock and of sheep from Rotterdam and Antwerp to London *viâ* Harwich, *ib.* 136–139.

Doubt as to the import being diminished if it were necessary to slaughter the cattle at the port of arrival, *Daniels* 144. 149, 150. 209–211——Proposed slaughtering of fat stock without quarantining them, *ib.* 161, 162. 178, 179——Explanation that the corporation of Harwich have no chartered markets for cattle or live meat, *ib.* 195–200——Doubt as to price of meat at Harwich having been affected by the restriction upon railway traffic in cattle, *ib.* 201–203.

Return handed in showing the quantity of cattle imported from the continent *viâ* Harwich from October 1863 to December 1865, *Moseley, p.* 43, and *App.* 387——Comparative statement of the cost of transit of oxen from Rotterdam to London with the slaughtering and incidental charges, and of the cost of transit to Harwich, with the slaughtering and the conveyance to London: saving of 2 *s.* 3 *d.* per head by the latter route, *Moseley* 1135–1139, and *App.* 387.

Particulars in connection with the comparative statements as handed in by witness, of the charges by the direct route from Rotterdam to London and by Harwich, the animals being slaughtered at the latter place and forwarded in the shape of dead meat, *Pratt* 3065–3077. 3098–3102. 3267——Account showing an excess of 15 *s.* 3 *d.* per head of oxen if conveyed by the Harwich route, *ib.* 3267.

Improved condition of the cattle by landing them at Harwich instead of bringing them to London by sea direct, *Rudkin* 6755–6759——Fear of infection from the trucks by the cattle being brought alive from Harwich to London by railway, *Hudson* 7350–7352. 7365–7371——Witness sees no danger in the railway transit of foreign beasts from Harwich to London, *Fair* 7586. *See* also *Foreign Cattle.*

Hennessy, Joseph. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Salesman and importer of Irish cattle at Bristol, 8061–8066——There is no foreign importation, 8064. 8115, 8116——Good condition in which the cattle arrive from Cork and other ports, 8067–8069——Suffering of the cattle through the delay in landing after arrival in the Bristol river; suggestions hereon, 8070, 8071. 8113——Occasional overcrowding of the store cattle in the vessels from Cork, &c., 8072. 8079——Suggested inspection of the vessels at the port of shipment in order to regulate the number of cattle on board; question hereon whether the number might not be prescribed by law with reference to the space available, 8073–8075. 8102–8108. 8126–8130. 8136–8138.

Modes of disposal at Bristol of the Irish store and fat cattle respectively; effect hereon of the restrictions upon removal of live stock from Bristol market, 8077–8097. 8117. 8118——Way in which the cattle are accommodated on board the steamers; practice of feeding and watering the fat cattle but not the store cattle, 8098–8100. 8109–8113. 8131–8133—— System of inspection of Irish cattle at Bristol, 8119–8122——Arrangements for cleansing and disinfecting the vessels, 8122–8125.

Herbert, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has for many years supplied most of the agricultural newspapers of London with the prices in the cattle and dead-meat markets, 5854–5858——Explanation as to the mode in which witness arrives at the prices; belief as to their fairness generally, 5859 *et seq.*——Good cause for complaint by the butchers, as to the quotations in some of the newspapers, 5872, 5873——Dissatisfaction of the consignors of cattle to the salesmen, through seeing higher prices quoted than they receive, 5876–5879. 5924–5926.

Statement of the present prices and of the supply of foreign cattle in the market, 5892–5901. 5970——Import indirectly of some Dutch beasts, 5897–5899——Light weight of the Spanish cattle, though very showy looking animals, 5901–5910——Character of the cattle imported from France, 5911. 5988–5997.——Increasing purchase of foreign cattle by the west-end butchers, the meat however being inferior to home-fed meat, and the animals being cheaper, 5912–5923——Doubt whether the prices could be better obtained through a committee of salesmen and butchers, 5927–5932.

Prevention of the cattle plague if there had been a separate market for foreign stock, 5933. 5961——Statement as to the rinderpest having appeared in Holland at various intervals for centuries past, 5934–5940——Approval on the whole of a separate market at the river side, though less convenient to buyers than the present system, 5491, 5942. 5958–5961——Opinion as to there being a decrease every year in the number of English beasts and sheep, 5943–5957. 5980–5983——Very few store cattle or milch cows coming into the London market, 5962–5969——Discontinuance of the supply of country killed meat

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Herbert, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—*continued.*

meat in hot weather, 5971–5979——Further advance in prices but for the large foreign supply, 5984. 6017–6020——Very good foreign sheep which come to the London market, 5985–5987.

Slaughter of the chief quantity of the meat consumed in Paris in the abattoirs within the city, 5998, 5999——Number of cattle slaughtered weekly at Islington Market, and rates charged, 6000, 6001. 6008——Considerable inconvenience if butchers were compelled to use public slaughter-houses, 6002–6009——Disadvantages of the transmission of dead meat, as compared with live meat, by railway, 6009–6011——Total of about 4*s.* 6*d.* as the charge against the grazier in connection with the sale of each bullock in London, 6014–6016.

Hicks, Charles. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is chairman of the Foreign Cattle Trade Association, 4054–4056——Statement as to the great injury to the foreign trade if the cattle were sold in a separate market near the river side, 4057–4070——Monopoly of buyers and depreciation in the price of foreign cattle if no longer sold in the same market with home cattle, 4059–4062. 4087–4089. 4103–4106. 4112–4122——Decided objection to its being imperative to use public slaughter-houses exclusively; injurious monopoly in such case in the hands of the larger buyers, 4062, 4063. 4103–4125.

Unsatisfactory operation of the restrictions in Paris upon the subject of slaughter-houses, 4063–4065. 4107–4110——Grounds for concluding that the rinderpest did not come into this country from abroad, 4071–4086. 4090–4102——Period of incubation of the cattle plague adverted to in support of the conclusion that the plague was not introduced from Hungary or Bohemia, 4071–4085——Instances of a few infected cattle from Holland, the infection having in the first instance been conveyed from this country to Holland, 4085. 4090–4099——Comment upon the practice in regard to the slaughtering of animals having the foot and mouth disease when landed; loss suffered on these occasions, 4123, 4124.

[Second Examination.]—Explanation relative to the passport given with the cattle from Bohemia, 5319——Statement as to the heavy loss suffered upon a cargo of cattle from Sweden in August 1865, through the inspector having reported that two of the animals had rinderpest, so that the whole cargo was quarantined; sound state of the cattle suspected of the disease, 5319–5330. 5341–5343——Difficulty as to the supply of suitable food for fat cattle if they were all quarantined, 5331–5341.

Opinion that for the present the import trade should be confined to cattle intended for slaughter within a short time after they were bought, 5344–5350——Restrictions desirable in regard to the import of milch cows, 5348——Approval of a short quarantine in the case of store cattle, 5348, 5349——Regulation suggested in regard to foreign fat cattle conveyed into the country being killed in a given time, 5350.

Prevalence of the foot and mouth disease in England before any foreign cattle were imported, 5350——Frequency of Scotch cattle suffering from this disease, *ib.*——Peculiar prevalence of the disease about Christmas, 5350, 5351——Reference to a paper containing information relative to the abattoirs in Paris; their injurious effect upon the retail trade, 5352–5354.

Higgins, James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is inspector of meat and slaughter-houses at Leeds, 7024–7029——Total of about 130 private slaughter-houses in Leeds, there being also six large slaughter-houses in the centre of the town, 7030–7033——Establishment of a dead-meat market in the town during the restrictions upon the transit of live stock; good supply of this market, 7034–7044——Deficient supply lately, owing to foreign cattle being diverted from Hull to the London live market, whilst the home supply is nearly exhausted, 7045–7065.

Very high price of meat in Leeds at the present time, 7061, 7062. 7070——Purchase of supplies of dead meat in Hull, London, and Liverpool, whilst some butchers have gone to Hamburgh for live cattle; temporary fall in prices through a temporary over supply from these sources, 7066–7069. 7084–7103——Injury to health from private slaughter-houses in large towns, 7071, 7072——Grounds for concluding that butchers in large towns would not suffer if required to use public slaughter-houses, 7072–7083——Any concession, as regards private slaughter-houses, should be in favour of retail butchers rather than of carcase butchers, 7077, 7078.

Higgins, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher and cattle dealer at Leeds, 5675——Discontinuance of the transmission of dead meat from Leeds to London, owing to the short supply at the former place, 5676, 5677. 5692——Ample slaughter-house accommodation at Leeds if all the meat used in Leeds and in the adjacent towns were slaughtered there, 5678–5683——Approval of a supply of live cattle from Hull to Wakefield and other towns, as well as to Leeds, 5678. 5703–5709——Failure in the supply of cattle to Leeds from the north, and from Ireland, whilst there are hardly any to be had from the surrounding districts, 5683–5686.

Evidence in support of the proposal that live foreign cattle be permitted to come from Hull to Leeds, there to be slaughtered, 5687 *et seq.*——Impracticability of supplying

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Higgins, Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Leeds with dead meat from London or from Hull in hot weather, 5687. 5693-5701——Considerable advance in the price of meat at Leeds, owing to the existing restrictions, 5689-5692. 5710.

Great additional expense of the carriage of dead meat as compared with live meat, 5701——Serious objection to a dead meat supply, as preventing the satisfactory disposal of the offal, *ib.*——Belief as to there being no risk of infection by allowing cattle landed at Hull to go on to Leeds, 5702, 5703——Contemplated supply of from 200 to 300 foreign cattle weekly, according to the demand, 5711-5714——Approval of slaughtering in public slaughter-houses at Leeds, there being, in fact, hardly any small private slaughter-houses there, 5715-5721.

Hirschler, A. E. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Resides at Vienna; is an exporter of cattle from Austria, 4126-4129——Practice of sending the lean cattle to be fattened at beet-root-sugar manufactories in Bohemia and Moravia, 4130-4137. 4141——Export of the cattle to England by way of Bremen; particulars hereon as to the route taken, the time occupied, and the arrangements for feeding and watering the animals at Eisenbach and at Bremen, 4131. 4142-4161. 4168-4177. 4242-4244——Information as to the quality and size of the cattle from Hungary and Austria, and the prices fetched by them in the London market, 4136-4140. 4181-4183. 4252-4254.

Very strict regulations in Austria and on the German frontier for the prevention of cattle plague, 4151-4154. 4202-4215. 4239-4241——Character of the vessels in which the cattle are conveyed from Bremen; times occupied in the passage to London, 4161-4164——Total of about 5*l.* per head, as the expense per head from Vienna to London, 4165-4167——Loss of about one per cent. of the animals from Vienna, 4168-4170. 4180.

Careful inspection at Bremen in order to prevent the shipment of animals with the foot and mouth disease; very little of this disease in Austria, 4178, 4179. 4184——Various parts of the country whence the cattle are bought, and exported to England, 4185-4199. 4245-4251——Very little lung disease in Austria or Hungary, 4200, 4201——Impression that there has been no rinderpest in Austria for the last three years, 4202. 4229-4233——Great difficulty in accounting for the rinderpest, and its appearance in Austria or Hungary, 4203-4215.

Statement as to private slaughter-houses having been abolished in Vienna, there being public abattoirs close to the cattle market, 4216-4228——Prohibition upon imports to England from Holland, so that cattle from Vienna are not now sent through Holland, but only through the Zollverein, 4234-4239.

Holland. Account submitted by Mr. Robinson showing the number of beasts, calves, pigs, horses, and sheep brought from Holland, &c. to London during the year 1865, *App.* 307-314.——*See* also *Dead Meat*, 6. *Dutch Cattle. Rotterdam.*

Holmans, Stephen Giles. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is colleague of Mr. Simmonds, as Customs Inspector of foreign cattle in the port of London, 3593-3596——Considers that foreign cattle with the foot and mouth disease should be allowed to go into the London market, save in extreme cases, when they should at once be slaughtered, 3597-3600——Opinion that eczema, or the foot and mouth disease, is not entirely a foreign importation, 3601-3607. 3610-3612——Belief that rinderpest is a foreign disease, 3608, 3609.

Very little room for improvement in the accommodation for cattle on board ship, 3613-3620——Advantage if the cattle could always be fed and watered on board; impracticability of this when there are large numbers close together, 3614-3618——Opinion that save in the case of animals direct from Russia, no necessity has been shown for a quarantine, with reference to the cattle plague, 3621-3631——Conclusion as regards the cattle plague in Holland, that it was taken there by some animals returned from the London market, 3621-3623. 3631.

Holmans, Mr. Report from Mr. Holmans to the Commissioners of Customs, dated 19th April 1866, with reference to the regulations in force as regards foreign cattle, and in disapproval of the detention of animals suffering from the foot and mouth disease, *App.* 304, 305.

Hönck, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is largely concerned as consignee of foreign cattle in the port of London, 1664-1666——Various countries and ports whence cattle are consigned to witness, his trade being chiefly in fat stock for the London market, 1667-1675——Very suitable character of most of the vessels in which the animals are conveyed, so that there is not much suffering or injury, except when the weather is very stormy, 1676-1692——Several wharves at which the cattle brought direct by sea to London are landed, 1693-1695.

Character of the inspection of the animals when landed; belief as to its efficiency, though 1,000 head of oxen and sheep may sometimes be examined in a couple of hours,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Hönck, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

1696–1704. 1809–1825. 1875–1892. 1923–1943——Check to the import of animals having the foot and mouth disease on account of the rigorous inspection exercised, a large number of such animals having been stopped, 1705–1712——Witness has had no animal stopped from rinderpest, 1713——Inspection now in force at the ports of shipment in Germany and Holland, 1714–1716.

Care taken in regard to the feeding and watering of the animals during the Continental railway transit, 1717–1720——Opinion as to its being feasible to water and feed the animals in the railway trucks, 1721–1725——Landing of the animals at Blackwall, &c. mostly on Saturdays, 1726, 1727——Route taken in driving the animals from Blackwall to the cattle market; complaints made on this score, 1728–1731——Slaughter of the animals chiefly at private slaughter-houses scattered throughout the metropolis; convenience and economy thereby to the butchers as compared with the use of a public slaughter-house, 1732 *et seq.* 1944–1955——Prohibition in Paris of the use of private slaughter-houses, 1743–1745.

Facility of inspection of dead meat if there were but one large slaughter-house, 1746–1749——Grounds for strongly objecting to the slaughtering of all foreign cattle near the river or place of landing instead of at the Islington market and the private slaughter-houses; examination in detail hereon, 1750–1782. 1826–1869. 1898–1908. 2009–2030——Effect of compulsory slaughtering at the river side in checking the importation, 1758——Instance of depreciation of price at Harwich through the slaughtering of the animals there, 1759–1763——Limited advantage as regards disposal of the offal, hides, &c. by having one large slaughter-house, 1764–1779.

Belief that there is no proof of the rinderpest having come from abroad; witness is confident it was not brought by the cargo from Revel imported by him, 1783–1785. 2031–2033——Doubt as to the foot and mouth disease having been brought from abroad, 1786–1788——Opinion that the lung disease did not come from abroad, 1789–1796.

Practice of placing foreign cattle in lairs or fields about Bow on their way to the Islington market, 1797–1806——Arrangements as to the inspection of Dutch cows and of fat stock coming together in the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company to Brown's Wharf; belief that the whole cargo would always have been stopped if one case of rinderpest were detected, 1808–1825——Loss to the importers if there were separate markets for foreign cattle and home cattle, as there would not be the same competition as at present; prejudice also to buyers, 1837–1841. 1903–1907. 1993–1998. 2004–2008——Circumstance of the foreign cattle being largely bought by wholesale butchers and by contractors, for whom a market near the river side would probably be more convenient than at Islington, 1842–1869.

Higher price of English meat than of foreign meat to the extent of about one halfpenny per pound, 1872–1874. 1974——Instances of cargoes being stopped and slaughtered by order of the inspector; great loss in such cases, the meat being sold at a great reduction of price, 1875–1882. 1893–1897——Approval of a Government inspection of all vessels in the cattle trade; interest, however, of the owners to have suitable and well-fitted vessels, 1909–1914. 1999–2003——Exceptional instances of the employment of vessels not properly fitted, 1910. 1982–1992.

As regards the way in which hides are exposed and the horns cut off, at Leadenhall Market, witness is not aware that the public health is likely to be affected thereby, 1915–1922——Oppressive temperature in the holds of some of the vessels; opinion as to the facility, nevertheless, of detecting whether the animals, on leaving the vessels, are diseased or unhealthy, 1927–1935——Advantage to the butcher in getting the live meat rather than dead meat, 1944–1955. 1961–1963——Great irregularity in the meat supply of London, if dependent on dead meat markets, the quality of the meat being also injured by railway transit, 1950–1955. 1961–1963. 2012–2017. 2043–2047.

Good condition in which the cattle from Scotland arrive, both by boat and railway, 1956–1960——Reference to the system of inspection of dead meat in Paris, 1967–1973——Considerable importation recently of some very fine fat cattle from France, 1975–1981——Objection to the foreign cattle being all slaughtered near the river, even if there were no market for live cattle at Islington, 2009–2030——Arrangements on the Continent as to the transmission of cattle from Hungary, &c. to the port of shipment; inspection exercised with reference to the cattle plague, 2034–2042.

Hudson, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Farmer and grazier at Castleacre, in Norfolk, 7289–7294——Sources of witness's supply of lambs and of beasts for grazing; he does not buy any foreign stock, 7295–7299——Considerable losses from cattle plague in witness's neighbourhood, 7300——Reasons for objecting to send dead meat to the London market, in lieu of the live animals; loss in sending the slaughtered stock, whilst there would be no means of disposing of the offal locally, 7301–7324. 7387–7389. 7398–7406.

Statement in support of the quarantining of all foreign store cattle; that is, with reference only to rinderpest, 7325–7347. 7375–7380. 7418–7421——Witness would not stop

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Hudson, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

whole cargoes at the port of landing for the foot and mouth disease, but only those animals which had the disease, 7335–7342——Effect of large fairs in spreading this disease; illustration in Norfolk, 7335–7337. 7372–7374——Expediency of all foreign fat stock being slaughtered at the ports, 7347. 7350–7358——Advantage of limiting the number of ports at which foreign cattle should come in, 7347–7349——Fear of infection from the trucks by the cattle being brought alive from Harwich to London by railway, 7350–7352. 7365–7371.

Absence of disadvantage by having a separate market for foreign cattle near the river side, where landed, 7359–7384——Limitation of the supply from Norfolk to London to particular months in the year, 7381–7386——Import of foreign cattle and Irish cattle to Norfolk for feeding, 7390–7393——Comparatively slight importance attached to the foot and mouth disease, 7394–7397——Probability of foreign animals being still sent in equal numbers, if not diseased, even though restrictions in the way of quarantine, &c. should be enforced, 7407–7421.

Reasons for its being impracticable to supply dead meat from witness's locality to London without loss, though it may be done from Hull and Harwich, 7422–7431. 7445–7447——Belief as to the cattle plague being owing to the import of foreign animals, 7432——Objection to the free import of foreign cattle to Ireland; mode in which the disease may have been introduced into Ireland irrespectively of foreign or English cattle, 7432–7443.

Liability of foreign animals to pleuro-pneumonia, 7443——Very little trade in store stock in Norfolk during the spring of the present year, 7448, 7449——Objection to the small local markets being abolished; respects in which they operate very beneficially, 7450–7460——Practice of witness to consign the animals from his farm to salesmen at the Metropolitan Market, 7461, 7462.

Huger, Francois. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is agent for the Great Eastern Railway Company at Antwerp, 1294——Prohibition upon German and Dutch cattle passing through Belgium, so that only sheep and pigs are now sent from Antwerp to Harwich, 1295–1301——Expected removal shortly of the prohibition upon the transit of German cattle through Belgium, 1301. 1359——Export of 400 German beasts weekly from Antwerp to Harwich previously to the present restrictions; prospect of the trade increasing when the restrictions are removed, 1302. 1314–1321.

Good condition of the German cattle on arrival at Antwerp, very few having any disease, 1303. 1311–1313. 1343–1347. 1363–1365——Arrangements as to inspection at Antwerp; effectual check upon the shipment of diseased animals, 1304–1313. 1342–1348——Accommodation of the cattle in lairs before shipment, 1323——Doubt whether the trade from Antwerp would be affected by a requirement that the animals must be killed at the port of arrival in England; that is, unless it be required that they must be killed immediately, 1324–1333.

Very good arrangements in the vessels from Antwerp, so that the cattle do not suffer, 1334——Practice of watering and feeding the cattle in transit from Germany to Antwerp, but not in the railway trucks, 1335–1338——Considerable number of sheep exported from Antwerp; inspection to which subjected, 1339–1342. 1348——Small number of beasts suffering from the foot and mouth disease on arrival at Antwerp; prohibition upon the export of these, 1343–1347. 1349–1352——Removal of the former restriction upon French cattle passing through the Belgium, 1358, 1359——Witness has not seen any cases of pleuro-pneumonia among the French cattle, 1360——Few cattle which used to be shipped from Antwerp to London, 1361, 1362.

Hull. Considerable import of oxen and sheep to Hull from Hamburgh and other German ports; and also from Holland, until the recent prohibition, *Coulson* 2050–2055——Good condition in which the cattle generally arrive, *Coulson* 2074; *Lockwood* 2412–2416; *Valentine* 2599–2603; *Torr* 7249, 7250——Want of improved facilities for landing at Hull, *Coulson* 2094. 2152–2155; *Malcolm* 2311–2316; *Valentine* 2620–2623——Practice of disposing of the cattle and sheep partly by selling them alive in different directions, and partly by a dead-meat trade with London, Manchester, and other towns, *Coulson* 2095–2124.

Satisfactory inspection of foreign cattle at Hull, *Coulson* 2114, 2115. 2181–2184——Competent inspection of dead meat, *ib.* 2125–2128——Import of about 1,000 animals weekly, *ib.* 2185–2187——Way in which witness disposes of the animals after landing before selling them to jobbers and others, *ib.* 2214–2224.

Statistics of the imports of cattle to Hull from Hamburgh and other ports in the last three years; rapid increase going on, *Malcolm* 2297–2304——Improvement required in the accommodation after landing; steps being taken on this score, *ib.* 2317–2328.

Witness inspects for the Customs and for the corporation of Hull all foreign cattle landed at that port, *Lockwood* 2409–2411——Improved accommodation required for the animals when landed; also in landing them, *ib.* 2446–2457——Witness has not experienced any inconvenience or nuisance from the Hull slaughter-houses, *ib.* 2550–2557.

Ample

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Hull—continued.

Ample and satisfactory accommodation in the slaughter-houses at Hull; disapproval of their being superseded by a public slaughter-house, *Valentine* 2573–2583. 2664–2667——Good state of public health in the town, *ib.* 2584–2586——Very efficient inspection of foreign cattle on arrival, *ib.* 2587, 2588. 2599–2602——Inspection by witness of all the dead meat; very rare instances of any unfit or condemned meat, *ib.* 2589–2593. 2647–2661.

Adequacy generally of the slaughtering accommodation in Hull and Liverpool, *Dickenson* 2795–2798. 2845–2849. 2860——Statement as to there having been no case of cattle plague at Hull for some considerable time, *Swales* 5581; *Higgins* 5702.

See also *Cattle Plague.* *Dead Meat*, 3. *Foot and Mouth Disease*, 3. *Leeds.*

Hungarian Cattle. Arrival of cattle at Rotterdam from Silesia, and even from Hungary, for export to this country, *Peters* 1244. 1267, 1268. 1277——Statement as to cattle coming direct from Hungary to the Metropolitan Market, *Read* 1654, 1655——Grounds for concluding that the cattle plague has not been imported with any beasts from Hungary, *Simmonds* 3557–3563. 3571, 3572——The Hungarian cattle are particularly healthy, *ib.* 3571, 3572.——*See* also *Austria.*

Hunt, Charles. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Comptroller of the Out-door Department of the Customs, 8387——The department acts, as regards the importation of foreign cattle, under the Orders of the Privy Council; witness will lay these before the Committee, 8388–8402——Difficulty of enforcing regulations as to the space of cubic feet to be allotted to each animal in the cattle ships; way in which the number carried might, however, be checked, 8403–8410——Means of enforcing proper ventilation, and of alleviating the distress from overcrowding, 8404. 8411–8414——Distress generally from bad weather, rather than from overcrowding or defective ventilation, 8411–8422.

Advantage if the cattle were landed lower down the river, at Dagenham or Thames Haven, there being more accommodation available than at the present landing-places, 8423–8429. 8462–8468——Communication by witness to the veterinary inspectors of the Orders of the Privy Council, the inspectors not being in any way under witness's control, 8430–8435——Facility given by the Customs to the landing of cattle at any hour, their inspection, however, only taking place during daylight, 8436–8440——Facility given also to the landing of dead meat, 8441–8443.

Considerations subject to which it might be desirable to limit the ports at which foreign cattle should be landed, 8444–8453——Effect of quarantine in causing a healthier class of animals to be imported, 8457. 8469, 8470——Quarantine is not necessary for animals intended for immediate slaughter, 8458–8461——Want of better accommodation for inspection at the wharves, 8462–8466——Very small per-centage of disease in foreign cattle, 8470–8473——Necessary approval by the Board of Customs of the ports for the landing of cattle, 8474–8480——Instances of foreign cattle having the rinderpest on being landed, 8481, 8482.

Hutcheson, James. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Butcher at Inverury, near Aberdeen; does business entirely with London, 6214–6221——Conveyance of the meat from Inverury to London by railway in about thirty-eight hours, 6222, 6223——Practice of sending the meat throughout the year, though at a considerable risk when the weather is hot, 6224–6230——The meat is sent in sides and is packed in cloths, 6231, 6232——Disposal of the offal by sending it to Aberdeen and Dundee, the blood being wasted, 6233–6237. 6269——Advantage if there were public slaughter-houses at Inverury, the trade being greatly on the increase, 6237–6240.

Much more cattle available for killing in Aberdeenshire in the winter and spring than in the summer, 6241–6244——Limited number of live cattle now sent from Inverury to London, it being more profitable on the whole to send dead meat, 6245. 6271–6278——Use of the telegraph between the salesman in London and witness, in order to regulate the supply, 6246–6248——Practice of consigning to different salesmen when large quantities are sent, 6249–6251——Arrangement as to the interval between slaughtering the meat and sending it off, 6252–6257.

Custom in regard to the purchase of the animals from the farmers, instead of at markets, 6258–6269——As a rule, the whole of the beast, except the offal, is sent to London, 6270——Considerable trade in dead meat from places north of Inverury to London, 6279–6285——Advantage to the farmers in selling the live animals to the butcher, rather than in themselves slaughtering and sending the dead meat to London, 6286–6292.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

I.

Imports. See *Foreign Cattle.*

Infection. Recommendation by the Committee that the wilful exposure for sale in a public market, or the driving or conveying by boat or rail of animals suffering from infectious disorders be rendered an offence punishable in a summary manner, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Cattle Plague. Foreign Cattle. Metropolitan Cattle Market.*

INSPECTION:

1. *Foreign Cattle on Arrival in London.*
2. *Slaughter-houses and Dead Meat.*

1. *Foreign Cattle on Arrival in London:*

Character of the inspection of the animals when landed in the port of London; belief as to its efficiency, though 1,000 head of oxen and sheep may sometimes be examined in a couple of hours, *Hönck* 1696–1704. 1809–1825. 1875. 1892. 1923–1943——Arrangements as to the inspection of Dutch cows, and of fat stock coming together in the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company to Brown's Wharf; belief that the whole cargo would always have been stopped if one case of rinderpest were detected, *ib.* 1808–1825——Instances of cargoes being stopped and slaughtered by order of the inspector; great loss in such cases, the meat being sold at a great reduction of price, *ib.* 1875–1882. 1893–1897——Opinion as to facility of detecting whether the animals on being landed are healthy, notwithstanding the oppressive temperature in the holds of some of the vessels, *ib.* 1927–1935.

Advantage if fat cattle were kept for twelve hours before inspection, it being very difficult to judge of their real condition just after leaving the holds of the vessels in a hot state, *Lockwood* 2465–2481. 2504–2509——Independent inspection on arrival in London, irrespectively of the foreign inspection, *Pratt* 3021——Strict inspection in London for the last three or four years, *Robinson* 3356–3358.

Witness, who is Customs inspector of foreign cattle in the port of London, inspects each beast separately when landed on the wharf, *Simmonds* 3415–3420——Practice of keeping back and slaughtering animals having the foot and mouth disease, or the lung disease, the rest of the cargo being allowed to proceed, *ib.* 3420–3429——Slaughter of the whole cargo when any animal has the cattle plague, *ib.* 3424. 3430–3434——General character of the inspection by witness and his colleague; obstacle to rendering it more efficient unless the animals are quarantined, *ib.* 3573–3583.

Communication by witness to the veterinary inspectors of the orders of the Privy Council, the inspectors not being in any way under witness's control, *Hunt* 8430–8435——Want of better accommodation for inspection at the wharves, *ib.* 8470–8473.

Conclusion of the Committee as to the effectual manner in which the inspection of foreign cattle is on the whole carried out, *Rep.* v, vi.

2. *Slaughter-houses and Dead Meat:*

Facility of inspection of dead meat if there were but one large slaughter-house, *Hönck* 1746–1749——Very effective supervision which might be exercised over the meat sold in the metropolis if the animals were necessarily slaughtered in public slaughter-houses, *Letheby* 3859, 3860. 3875.

Character of the inspection by the City of London over the animals at the Metropolitan Market, *Letheby* 3888, 3889——Importance of an inspection of all dead animals with reference to the detection of disease, *ib.* 4037–4048——System of inspection of the animal when dead as well as when alive, in Switzerland, Prussia, &c. *ib.* 4048–4050. 4053.

Important advantage of public slaughter-houses as facilitating a proper inspection of dead meat, *Simon* 5021–5023. 5051——Character of the twofold inspection formerly of slaughter-houses and of dead meat markets in the City, *ib.* 5024–5031——The inspection of slaughter-houses in the City is doubtless much better than it used to be, *ib.* 5070.

Approval of efficient inspection, so as to prevent private slaughter-houses being injurious to health, *Slater* 5180–5185——Inspection now applied to slaughter-houses, which are for the most part kept clean and wholesome, *Bannister* 5276, 5277. 5303–5307.

Sundry particulars in report by Dr. Letheby as to the system of inspection of dead meat markets in foreign countries, *App.* 316–318.

Recommendation by the Committee that the system of inspection at present existing in the City of London be extended to the whole metropolitan district, *Rep.* v.——Obstacle to an entirely satisfactory inspection of meat until all meat is killed in specified public slaughter-houses, *ib.*

See also *Foot and Mouth Disease*, 3, 4. *Foreign Cattle*, 2. *Harwich. Hull. Liverpool*, 1. *Steamers*, 3.

Inverury.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Inverury. Advantage if there were public slaughter houses at Inverury, the trade being greatly on the increase, *Hutcheson* 6237-6240——In the year ending 31 March last there were 4,065 beasts killed in the town, *ib.* 6239.

See also *Dead Meat*, 2.

Ireland. Objection to the free import of foreign cattle to Ireland; mode in which the disease may have been introduced into Ireland irrespectively of foreign or English cattle, *Hudson* 7432-7443——Opinion that the live stock in the country is larger than usual at the present time, *Walsh* 7865——Very little import of foreign cattle to Ireland, *ib.* 7878, 7879——Difficulty in the way of a satisfactory inspection at fairs in Ireland, as a check upon the spread of disease, *Walsh* 7882-7884; *Garnett* 7942-7945.

Orders in Council of 25 August and 30 September 1865, prohibiting the removal of cattle from Great Britain to Ireland, *App.* 341, 342. 347——Order in Council of 20 January 1866, making provisions for checking the spread of the cattle plague to Ireland, *ib.* 354, 355.

IRISH CATTLE (EXPORT TO ENGLAND):

1. *As to the Railway Arrangements in Ireland.*
2. *Feeding and Watering of the Cattle before Shipment.*
3. *As to the Accommodation and Treatment in the Steamers.*
4. *Condition on Arrival in England.*
5. *Large Export to this Country; Effect hereon of the recent Restrictions upon Transit.*
6. *Other Details generally.*

1. *As to the Railway Arrangements in Ireland:*

Very bad treatment to which Irish store cattle have been subjected, both on the Irish railways and on board ship, more especially on the railways, *Walsh* 7768-7774. 7805-7832——Undue detention of the cattle in the railway trucks, whilst they are constantly overcrowded and badly treated by the railway servants, *ib.* 7768-7771. 7780-7785. 7805-7815. 7824-7132. 7870-7877——Instances of fat cattle not being properly conveyed on the Irish railways, *ib.* 7861-7871——Doubt as to any great convenience by bringing the cattle in Dublin down to the place of embarkation by railway, *Watson* 8050-8054.

2. *Feeding and Watering of the Cattle before Shipment:*

Practice in Dublin of watering and feeding the cattle before they are placed on board, *Walsh* 7774.

3. *As to the Accommodation and Treatment in the Steamers:*

Nature of the facilities for conveying Irish cattle to Liverpool; objection to the route *viâ* Holyhead, *Cullen* 612-616——Details as to the boats used in the Irish trade, as to the accommodation on board, the care of the cattle, and their condition on arrival at Liverpool, *ib.* 613. 697 *et seq.*——Advantage of larger vessels for conveying the cattle, *ib.* 613——Opinion that it is not necessary to license the vessels for a limited number of cattle, *ib.* 734-736.

Particulars relative to the conveyance of Irish cattle by sea; good accommodation and careful treatment on board the boats to Holyhead, *Salmon* 1102-1126——Advantage in sending the Irish cattle by Holyhead instead of by Liverpool, *ib.* 1111-1114. 1129, 1130——Very bad way in which Irish cattle used to be conveyed across the Channel, *Read* 1585-1587. 1622, 1623. 1650.

Improved accommodation lately in the Irish cattle ships to Liverpool, further improvements being, however, required, *Aungier* 2883-2892. 2924-2946——Better conveyance of the animals if the vessels were broader in the beam, and were built less for speed, *ib.* 2886-2892——Very bad ventilation and very crowded state, formerly, of the vessels conveying cattle between Ireland and England, some of the steamers still carrying an unduly large number of cattle, *ib.* 2924-2943——Protection now afforded on the deck of the vessels from Ireland, so that the cattle arrive in better condition, *ib.* 2944-2946——Cleansing of the vessels after the discharge of each cargo, *ib.* 2953, 2954.

Suggested inspection of the cattle ships between Dublin and England, so as to prevent overcrowding; satisfactory character, however, of the arrangements in most of the Irish cattle vessels, *Walsh* 7756, 7757. 7764-7767. 7821-7823——Better treatment in the steamers than in the railways, *ib.* 7821-7824.

Overcrowding of the steamers at times, so that it is very desirable to license them for a limited number of cattle, *Garnett* 7917. 7920. 7935-7941. 7981-7983.

Details relative to the accommodation on board the cattle vessels between Dublin and Liverpool; due care taken of the animals, *Watson* 7993 *et seq.*

Occasional overcrowding of the store cattle, *Hennessy* 8072. 8076——Suggested inspection of the Irish cattle vessels at the port of shipment in order to regulate the number of cattle on board; question hereon whether the number might not be prescribed by law with reference to the space available, *ib.* 8073-8075. 8102-8108. 8126-8130. 8136-8138

Report, 1866—*continued.*

IRISH CATTLE (*EXPORT TO ENGLAND*)—continued.

3. *As to the Accommodation and Treatment in the Steamers*—continued.

——Way in which the cattle are accommodated on board the steamers; practice of feeding and watering the fat cattle, but not the store cattle, *Hennessy* 8098–8100. 8109–8113. 8131–8133——Arrangements for cleansing and disinfecting the vessels, *ib.* 8122–8125.

Instances of defective accommodation and bad treatment of the cattle in the vessels from Ireland, *Wilkinson* 8205–8213.

Reference by the Committee to the overcrowding, at times, in the vessels from Ireland, *Rep.* iii——Regulations suggested as to the ventilation, cleansing, &c., of the vessels, *ib.* iv.

4. *Condition on Arrival in England:*

Less satisfactory condition in which the cattle arrive at Liverpool from the eastern ports of Ireland than from the western ports, *Cullen* 694, 695——Better condition in which the cattle arrive in summer than in winter, *ib.* 737, 738——Bad condition in which the Irish cattle arrive at Liverpool, they being much abused during the loading in Ireland, and greatly bruised on the passage, *Hall* 778. 811–815. 838–841. 954, 955.

Better state in which cattle arrive in the Irish boats than in the boats from ports of Scotland, *Salmon* 1120–1125——Satisfactory condition on the whole in which cattle arrive from Ireland, *ib.* 1127–1134.

Bruised and injured state of the Irish cattle occasionally, *Aungier* 2886. 2891–2893——Tendency to disease through exposure on deck, *ib.* 2947–2949.

Good condition in which cattle are imported direct from Ireland to London, *Robinson* 4405–4407——Very good condition in which witness's cattle arrive in Liverpool, there being almost an entire exemption from loss on the passage, *Garnett* 7917–7923——Good condition in which the cattle arrive at Bristol, *Hennessy* 8067–8069.

5. *Large Export to this Country; Effect hereon of the recent Restrictions upon Transit:*

Considerable number of lean stock which used to come from Ireland to Liverpool, these being at once forwarded to the feeding districts, *Cullen* 582–585——Supply of Irish fat cattle, through Liverpool to Manchester, Leeds, &c., *ib.* 586. 588——Large majority of the cattle in the Liverpool market which come from Ireland, *Cullen* 692; *Aungier* 2978–2981——In 1865 there were 120,000 from Irish ports, *Aungier* 2981.

Prejudicial interference with the Irish trade through the restrictions upon the transit of live stock from Liverpool, *Walsh* 7788–7795; *Garnett* 7927–7934——Tendency of the restrictions upon transit from Liverpool to diminish the export of fat stock from Ireland, *Watson* 8005–8008.

6. *Other Details generally:*

Good quality of the Irish cattle, if not injured before import, *Hall* 838–841——Restive character of Irish cattle, owing to which they often get bruised in transit, *Salmon* 1092. 1128——Very fine cattle imported from Ireland, *Read* 1659, 1660——Good class and good condition of the cattle from the eastern ports of Ireland, *Aungier* 2972–2976.

Good condition in which the cattle are brought to the port of Dublin for shipment; various ports of Ireland whence they come, *Walsh* 7758–7761——Some cattle are consigned to salesmen in Dublin, by whom they are sold to dealers, and some go direct to salesmen in Liverpool, *ib.* 7762, 7763——Good prices fetched by store cattle in Ireland during the spring of the present year, *ib.* 7775, 7776——Increased price of fat cattle; serious rise recently, *ib.* 7777–7779. 7786, 7787.

Transmission of grass-fed cattle to England for about seven months in the year, and of stall-fed cattle for the rest of the year, *Walsh* 7838–7846——Practice generally of consigning the fat cattle to salesmen in Dublin or Liverpool, instead of sending them to fairs, *ib.* 7847–7855——Way in which the trade in Irish store cattle is carried on; that is irrespectively of salesmen, *ib.* 7856–7864.

See also *Bristol. Cattle Plague. Dead Meat*, 5. *Dublin Steam Packet Company. Liverpool. Pleuro-pneumonia.*

Isle of Grain. Statement as to the several advantages of the Isle of Grain, near Sheerness, as the landing place for foreign cattle, the fat cattle being slaughtered there, and the lean stock being quarantined, *Wilson* 6400–6438——Superiority of the Isle of Grain over the Plaistow Marshes, Thames Haven, or any other site down the river, for the landing, quarantining, &c., of foreign cattle, *ib.* 6417–6428.

Isle of Man. Proclamation by the lieutenant governor of the Isle of Man, dated 18 October 1865, prohibiting the importation of cattle, sheep, &c., into the island, and also the exportation of the same to Ireland, *App.* 348, 349.

J.

Jews. Careful examination by the Jews of the carcases used by them, all animals with the lung disease being rejected, but not animals with the foot and mouth disease, *Woodley* 4917-4925. 4932, 4933.

Jutland. Import of some very fine beasts from Jutland, *Bannister* 5258. 5314.

K.

Kent. Great difficulty experienced by butchers in Kent and other parts in obtaining an adequate supply of meat; question hereon as to the local prices having risen to any marked extent, *Giblett* 4622-4625. 4659-4681.

Statement as to the supplies of cattle in Kent being almost exhausted, so that unless the restrictions upon the transit of live stock are removed, great difficulty will be experienced by the butchers, *Betts* 6078-6119——Very little cattle-grazing in Kent, there being hardly any beasts now in the county, *ib.* 6101. 6112. 6145.

Trifling amount of cattle plague in the county, though largely dependent upon the Metropolitan Market for its supply, *Betts* 6141-6145——Expediency of the butchers in Kent being allowed to bring live cattle from London or elsewhere, and to slaughter them at home, *ib.* 6142.

Very few beasts now to be bought in Kent from the marsh districts, *Wakefield* 6197-6199——Consideration of a statement showing that Kent is not peculiarly badly off in the supply of beasts and milch cows, *Betts* 6200-6210——Admission as to the large supply of sheep in the county, *ib.* 6211-6213.

See also *Maidstone. Sevenoaks.*

L.

Lairs. Practice of placing foreign cattle in lairs or fields about Bow, on their way to the Islington Market, *Hönck* 1797-1806——Immense lairage required if all the slaughtering were done at the Metropolitan Market, *Woodley* 4847-4852——Difficulty as regards lairage accommodation at public slaughter-houses, *Pickworth* 5006-5009——Explanation as to the accommodation in the lairs before the animals are sent into the Metropolitan Market, *Rudkin* 6456-6459.

Landing of Foreign Cattle. Several wharves at which the cattle brought direct by sea to London are landed, *Hönck* 1693-1695——Landing of the animals at Blackwall, &c., mostly on Saturdays, *ib.* 1726, 1727——Particulars relative to the arrangements for the landing of cattle at the wharves used by the General Steam Navigation Company, *Pratt* 3054-3058. 3169-3181——Advantage if the cattle were landed lower down the river, at Dagenham or Thames Haven, the accommodation at the present landing-places being very insufficient, *Hunt* 8423-8429. 8462-8468.

Conclusion of the Committee as to the advantage of the cattle being landed lower down the river than at present, and being brought up by rail, *Rep.* vi.

See also *Isle of Grain. Ports. Slinging. Thames Haven.*

Leadenhall Market. As regards the way in which hides are exposed and the horns cut off at Leadenhall Market, witness is not aware that the public health is likely to be affected thereby, *Hönck* 1915-1922——Strong condemnation of the practice in disposing of the hides at Leadenhall Market; witness has frequently complained on this subject, *Letheby* 3940-3943.

Account of the meat, game, and poultry condemned at the market during the years 1861-65, *App.* 321.

Return of the tolls levied at the market, and of the produce thereof, in the years 1861-65, *App.* 328.

Leeds:

1. *Limited Supplies of Live Cattle in Leeds Market since the Restrictions on Transit from Hull.*
2. *Suggestions for the Removal of these Restrictions.*
3. *Slaughter-house Accommodation.*
4. *Dead Meat Supply.*

1. *Limited Supplies of Live Cattle in Leeds Market since the Restrictions on Transit from Hull:*

Supply of nearly a million of people from Leeds Cattle Market, *Swales* 5551, 5552. 5622-5625——Very inadequate supply of live cattle in Leeds since the restrictions upon transit from Hull to Leeds; consequent advance in the price of meat, there being every prospect

Report, 1866—*continued.*

LEEDS—continued.

1. *Limited Supplies of Live Cattle in Leeds Market, &c.*—continued.

of a further advance, *Swales* 5553–5578. 5587. 5600–5603. 5616–5621. 5640–5645—— The cattle now come chiefly from Northumberland and Scotland, *ib.* 5553, 5554. 5644, 5645——Limited supply obtainable from the grazing districts adjacent to Leeds, *ib.* 5554. 5558–5563——The normal demand is about 500 cattle a week, the supply being now only from 180 to 190, *ib.* 5555. 5557. 5640–5643——Circumstance of the supply of Irish cattle in Leeds Market having ceased, *ib.* 5670–5674.

Failure in the supply of cattle to Leeds from the North and from Ireland, whilst there are hardly any to be had from the surrounding districts, *S. Higgins* 5683–5686—— Considerable advance in the price of meat at Leeds owing to the existing restrictions, *ib.* 5689–5692. 5710.

Deficient supply lately, owing to foreign cattle being diverted from Hull to the London live market, whilst the home supply is nearly exhausted, *J. Higgins* 7045–7065——Very high price of meat in Leeds at the present time, *ib.* 7061, 7062. 7070——The average supply of beasts for the borough should be from 500 to 600, but is now only about 200, *ib.* 7063–7065.

2. *Suggestions for the Removal of these Restrictions:*

Witness submits that healthy live cattle should be allowed to come from Hull to Leeds, there to be slaughtered for the supply of Leeds and the adjacent towns, *Swales* 5579 *et seq.*——Belief as to there being no risk of infection by allowing cattle landed at Hull to go on to Leeds, *Swales* 5581; *S. Higgins* 5702, 5703.

Evidence in support of the proposal that live foreign cattle be permitted to come from Hull to Leeds, there to be slaughtered, *S. Higgins* 5687 *et seq.*——Contemplated supply of from 200 to 300 foreign cattle weekly according to the demand, *ib.* 5711–5714.

3. *Slaughter-house Accommodation:*

Accommodation in Leeds for slaughtering the cattle: willingness of the local authorities to provide improved facilities if there were a large increase of slaughtering, *Swales* 5588. 5622–5639. 5666–5669——Approval of public slaughter-houses exclusively in Leeds, if the convenience of the different localities be considered, *ib.* 5654–5659.

Ample slaughter-house accommodation at Leeds if all the meat used in Leeds and in the adjacent towns were slaughtered there, *S. Higgins* 5678–5683——Approval of slaughtering in public slaughter-houses at Leeds, there being in fact hardly any small private slaughter-houses there, *ib.* 5715–5721.

Total of about 130 private slaughter-houses in Leeds, there being also six large slaughter-houses in the centre of the town, *J. Higgins* 7030–7033.

4. *Dead Meat Supply.*

Supply of dead meat to Leeds from Hull in order to make up for the deficient supply of live cattle; impracticability of this arrangement during the hot weather, *Swales*, 5564–5568. 5593–5598. 5604–5608. 5660–5665——Obstacle to supplying Leeds with dead meat from London, Newcastle, &c., in hot weather, *ib.* 5604–5608. 5615. 5646, 5647—— Arrangements now in force for conveying dead meat from Hull to Leeds, *ib.* 5660–5665.

Discontinuance of the transmission of dead meat from Leeds to London owing to the short supply at the former place, *S. Higgins* 5676, 5677. 5692——Impracticability of supplying Leeds with dead meat from London or from Hull in hot weather, *ib.* 5687. 5693–5701——Better condition in which the meat could be procured from London than from Hull, *ib.* 5700.

Evidence as to the facilities for the conveyance of dead meat from Hull to Leeds in any weather without the meat being spoiled, *O'Brien* 6022–6034. 6044–6046. 6056–6060.

Establishment of a dead meat market in the town during the restrictions upon the transit of live stock; good supply of this market, *J. Higgins* 7034–7044——Purchase of supplies of dead meat in Hull, London, and Liverpool, whilst some butchers have gone to Hamburgh for live cattle: temporary fall in prices through a temporary over supply from these sources, *ib.* 7066–7069. 7084–7103.

Return of the quantity of meat sent by the North Eastern Railway from Hull to Leeds in each of the five weeks ending 16th June 1866, *App* 329.

See also *Dead Meat*, 3.

Leith. Very good inspection of foreign cattle at the port of Leith, *Swan* 5374, 5375—— Lage number of foreign store cattle which used to be imported through Leith, *ib.* 5376, 5377——Strict regulations in force as to the slaughtering of animals landed at Leith, *ib.* 5396——Deficient slaughtering accommodation for all the cattle landed, *ib.* 5397. 5422.

Diminished import through the compulsory slaughtering at the port, *Strangeways* 6951–6954——Difficulty as to quarantine accommodation, *ib.* 6970.

Explanation

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Leith—continued.

Explanation as to the regulations in force in the case of foreign cattle coming to the port, *Lindsey* 7611-7614——Importance of a strict check upon the quality or condition of the animals imported; recent comdemnation of some sheep adverted to hereon, *ib.* 7614-7617. 7644-7648. 7661-7663——Rapidly increasing import of foreign cattle, *ib.* 7618-7620.

Necessity of the present practice of slaughtering foreign cattle at Leith, so long as there is any fear of the cattle plague being spread, *Lindsey* 7621-7626. 7652-7660——Large traffic in dead meat from Leith to Edinburgh and Glasgow, *ib.* 7627-7630. 7665, 7666——Advantage of there being a market for foreign cattle on stated days; want of power in the local authorities to establish such market, *ib.* 7630-7638——Excellent slaughter-house now in operation at Leith; want of facilities for obtaining land for its extension, *ib.* 7641-7643. 7664——Very indifferent condition of the foreign cattle on arrival, *ib.* 7644-7648——Great difficulty in getting rid of the manure of the animals, *ib.* 7649, 7650.

Letheby, Dr. Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Considers that the collecting of live animals for sale in the Metropolitan Cattle Market need not, if properly regulated, involve any injury to the public health, 3836-3840——Opinion, however, that encouragement should be given to the bringing of dead meat rather than of live stock into London, 3836——Great increase going on in the supply of dead meat to the metropolis, about one-third of the total consumption being now provided in this form, 3836. 3854, 3855. 3895-3898.

Details as to the extremely injurious operation of private slaughter-houses in the metropolis, so that in the interests of the public witness recommends their compulsory abolition, 3841-3848. 3857 *et seq.*——Evidence strongly in favour of a limited number of public slaughter-houses, or abattoirs, under proper regulations, and with proper appliances for disposing of the offal and manure, 3844. 3859, *et seq.*

Large quantity of putrid meat condemned in the City, most of which comes from the country, 3849-3854——Practicability, by proper arrangements and by care in packing, of sending meat to London in the hottest weather without putrefaction, 3849. 3854-3856. 3927, 3928. 3997-4012——Advantage in the slaughtering of the animal in the country when not overdriven or in a febrile state, as in the London slaughter-houses, 3856.

Very effective supervision which might be exercised over the meat sold in the metropolis if the animals were necessarily slaughtered in public slaughter-houses, 3859, 3860. 3875——The consumers of meat and the public health would be benefited by the proposed abattoirs, the only difficulty being with the butchers; these should be compensated, 3860-3863. 3877-3881——Very satisfactory operation of the system of abattoirs in Paris, and in various large towns in France, Prussia, &c., 3864-3867. 3890——Efficient regulations in force in Edinburgh relative to the slaughtering of cattle, and the disposal of the offal, &c., 3864. 3867-3870. 3890——Disapproval of restrictions in regard to the disposal of the live animal if not diseased, 3847. 3932-3936.

Expediency of public slaughter-houses, not only in London but in every large town in the kingdom, 3875. 3884-3887. 3979-3983——Comtemplated erection of slaughter-houses by the municipalities, after which they would be self-supporting by the fees, 3876——Fee for slaughtering at the Metropolitan Cattle Market; prejudice of the butchers against the use of these slaughter-houses, 3882, 3883——Character of the inspection by the City of London over the animals at the Metropolitan Market, 3888, 3889.

Conclusion that the trade would soon conform without inconvenience to the regulations in public slaughter-houses, 3890-3894. 3899-3902——Removal of several causes of public nuisance if there were large slaughter-houses and a dead-meat market near the place of import of foreign cattle; witness does not, however, advocate a separate market for foreign live stock, 3903-3918. 3988-3996——Probability of much of the putrid meat seized in the City being the flesh of animals killed in the country in a state of disease; much meat of this kind now escapes detection outside the City, 3919-3926. 3962-3970.

Opinion as to a live cattle market being necessary, in order to meet any uncertainty or fluctuation of supply of dead meat; the supply might, however, be made very complete and regular, 3929-3931. 4013-4024——Cause of the delay in the erection of the new market at Smithfield, 3937, 3938——Strong condemnation of the practice in disposing of the hides at Leadenhall Market; witness has frequently complained on this subject, 3940-3943——Opinion as to the sufficiency of two or three abattoirs for the metropolis, 3944-3946. 3971-3978.

Extent to which putrid meat may be considered injurious to the human system, 3956-3961——Tendency of public slaughter-houses to lower rather than to enhance the price of meat, 3984-3987——Conclusion that as regards the supply of offal to London, no difficulty would after a time arise if the animals were slaughtered in the country, 4025-

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Letheby, Dr. Henry. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*
4037——Importance of an inspection of all dead animals, with reference to the detection of disease, 4037-4048—— System of inspection of the animal when dead, as well as when alive, in Switzerland, Prussia, &c., 4048-4050. 4053——Impression that meat is generally somewhat cheaper in Paris than in London, 4051, 4052.

Letheby, Dr. Extract from report of Dr. Letheby, on the cattle plague in England in 1865, *App.* 315-320.

Lincolnshire. Witness, who occupies some 2,000 acres in Lincolnshire, is supplied with grazing stock chiefly from the breeders within the county, *Torr* 7108-7110. 7269—— The cattle when fat are sent mostly to the markets of Leeds and Wakefield, *ib.* 7111-7113——Witness has never bought foreign stock to graze, nor are many bought in Lincolnshire, *ib.* 7131, 7132. 7248——Considerable supply formerly of store cattle from Holland and Germany for Lincolnshire, *ib.* 7154-7156.

Losses from the cattle plague in Lincolnshire, though witness has fortunately escaped it, *Torr* 7239-7241——There are still some villages in the county which are treated as infected districts, *ib.* 7242——Increased price of beef and mutton in witness's district, adverted to with reference to the shortness of the supply, *ib.* 7243-7247. 7259-7271—— Difficulty at present in the supply of stock for grazing, *ib.* 7267-7271——Large quantity of fat stock now killed on Lincolnshire farms, without being consigned to the markets, the butchers arranging to take so many per week or month, *ib.* 7276, 7277. 7287, 7288 ——Different class of sheep sent by witness to Manchester and to London, *ib.* 7284-7286.

Lindsey, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—As Provost of Leith, explains the regulations as to the inspection of foreign cattle coming to the port, 7610-7614——Importance of a strict check upon the quality or condition of the animals imported; recent condemnation of some sheep adverted to hereon, 7614-7617. 7644-7648. 7661-7663—— Rapidly increasing import of foreign cattle to Leith, 7618-7620——Necessity of the present practice of slaughtering foreign cattle at Leith, so long as there is any fear of the cattle plague being spread, 7621-7626. 7652-7660.

Large traffic in dead meat from Leith to Edinburgh and Glasgow, 7627-7630. 7665, 7666——Advantage if there was a market for foreign cattle at Leith on stated days; want of power in the local authorities to establish such market, 7630-7638——Permission granted for the removal of live cattle from the Edinburgh market to Leith, 7638-7640——Excellent slaughter-house now in operation at Leith; want of facilities for obtaining land for its extension, 7641-7643. 7664——Very indifferent condition of the foreign cattle on arrival, 7644-7648——Great difficulty in getting rid of the manure of the animals, 7649, 7650.

LIVERPOOL:

1. *Inspection of Cattle on Arrival at the Port.*
2. *Facilities for Landing the Cattle.*
3. *Want of increased Lairage Accommodation.*
4. *Markets for Live Stock.*
5. *Slaughter-houses.*
6. *Cow-houses.*
7. *Question of Supplying Dead Meat to Manchester and other Towns.*
8. *Complaints as to the Restrictions upon the Movement of Live Stock to Manchester, &c.*
9. *Other details generally.*

1. *Inspection of Cattle on Arrival at the Port:*

There is a Government officer for the inspection of foreign cattle on their landing, there being different inspectors for the Scotch and Irish cattle, *Trench* 445-447—— Efficient inspection of all cattle now arriving in the port of Liverpool, *Hall* 927-935—— Careful inspection by witness of all foreign cattle, *Ellis* 1390, 1391. 1454, 1455—— Immediate destruction of any animals having rinderpest, or pleuro-pneumonia, on arrival at Liverpool, *ib.* 1392.

2. *Facilities for Landing the Cattle:*

Ample facilities at Liverpool for landing the cattle, *Cullen* 696——Very good facilities for debarkation of cattle from Ireland, *Watson* 8042.

3. *Want of increased Lairage Accommodation:*

Great inconvenience experienced through there being no lairs for the cattle before they are slaughtered, after leaving Stanley market, *Trench* 399-414——Arrangements as to the lairs and sheds used by witnes's firm for the cattle on arrival until market day, *Cullen* 510-522——Inconvenience through the deficiency of lairs, *Hall* 746——Way in which the animals are disposed of after they are purchased in Stanley market and before they are slaughtered, *ib.* 750-757——Increased accommodation required for the cattle before they are sent into the market, *Aungier* 2964-2966.

LIVERPOOL—continued.

4. *Markets for Live Stock :*

Inconvenience through there being only one cattle market and one market day in the week, *Trench* 414-418. 423, 424——Doubt as to any advantage in separating the market for foreign and English beasts, *Aungier* 2967-2970——Question as to the advantage of a market close to the place of landing, *Watson* 8043-8045.

5. *Slaughter-houses :*

Information relative to the private slaughter-houses in Liverpool and the public slaughter-house or abattoir; compensation necessary before removing them, *Trench* 360, 361——Statement as to the excessive mortality, and as to this being partly owing to the slaughter-houses being in the town, and their effect in contaminating the sewers, *ib.* 362-384. 427-429——Advantage if all the slaughter-houses were removed from the town, and if there were but one abattoir to be erected on corporation land near Stanley market, *ib.* 385-399. 439-443. 450.

Weekly return of cattle slaughtered in the borough in 1865 and 1866, also of cattle slaughtered at the public abattoir in the first three months of 1865 and 1866, *Trench* 418——Unduly large amount of work done in the abattoir, Manchester and Salford being largely supplied with dead meat from Liverpool, *ib.* 418-422——Arrangements as to the removal of manure from the slaughter-houses and cow-houses, *ib.* 430-434.

Statement as to the corporation not having taken action towards removing the slaughter-houses and cow-houses out of the town, *Trench* 451-454——Suggestion that the proposed abattoir outside the town be let off to a company instead of being managed by the corporation, *ib.* 455, 456——Arrangement as to the payment by the Butchers for the use of the present abattoir, *ib.* 457——Facility of preventing bad meat coming in if there were but one public slaughter-house, *ib.* 463, 464.

Great inconvenience if all the private slaughter-houses were abolished, and if there were but one slaughter-house near Stanley market, *Hall* 759——Probability of the health of Liverpool being injuriously affected by the increased slaughtering of cattle and by the large number kept in the town between market day and the day of their being killed, *Ellis* 1405-1418. 1436, 1437——The slaughter-houses in Liverpool are excellent, *Dickenson* 2860.

6. *Cow-houses :*

Great number of cow-houses in Liverpool over which some control is urgently required, *Trench* 450——Very bad condition of the cow-houses; belief as to their being now under inspection, *Ellis* 1445-1451——Death of a great many cows from rinderpest, *ib.* 1452, 1453.

7. *Question of Supplying Dead Meat to Manchester and other Towns :*

Opinion as to its being feasible to supply not only all Liverpool but Manchester and Salford by means of one large slaughter-house near Liverpool, *Trench* 477. 479.

Great expense and great risk and injury to the meat by forwarding it in a dead state from Liverpool to Manchester by railway; grounds for this conclusion considered, *Cullen* 523-525. 538. 556-562. 567-572. 622-667——Consideration of the relative advantages and disadvantages of dead meat markets at Liverpool, &c., and of the transmission of live meat by rail, *Hall* 896-922——Belief that Oldham and other towns in the manufacturing districts could never be satisfactorily supplied from a dead meat market in Liverpool; decided dissent hereon from the evidence of Dr. Trench, *Bradbury* 1013-1026. 1042-1053.

8. *Complaints as to the Restrictions upon the Movement of Live Stock to Manchester, &c. :*

Prejudicial operation of the recent requirement by which all foreign cattle sent to Stanley market, in Liverpool, must be slaughtered within four days, and the live animals cannot be sent to Manchester, &c., *Cullen* 522 *et seq*——Necessity of submitting to reduced prices if there is at any time a surplus supply of Oporto cattle in the Liverpool market, *ib.* 530-542. 617-621——Reasons for sending all the cattle to Stanley market instead of forwarding them immediately on arrival to Manchester and other places, *ib.* 547-553——Relative prices of Irish cattle and of foreign cattle at Liverpool, as affected by the existing restrictions upon transit by rail, *ib.* 668-681——Expediency of its being allowed to move sound cattle coming from uninfected districts to the Liverpool market into the manufacturing districts, *ib.* 739.

If there is no fear of the rinderpest spreading, witness would rather have open markets, *Hall* 785. 837. 851. 921, 922——Slight extent to which a continuance of the prohibition upon transit by rail would be any advantage to the buyer in the Liverpool market, *ib.* 816-821——Great hardship caused by the requirement as to slaughtering within four days; expediency of the limit being extended to a week, and of its being permitted to send the cattle and sheep to fields within a radius of four miles, *ib.* 935-947——The obligation to slaughter within four days does not enable the purchaser to buy more cheaply, *ib.* 948-950.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

LIVERPOOL—continued.

8. *Complaints as to the Restrictions upon the Movement of Live Stock, &c.*—contd.

Very little foreign cattle trade in Liverpool for some months past, *Ellis* 1431–1433——Very prejudicial effect of the restriction upon the removal of live cattle to any distance from Liverpool; application about to be made to Government on the subject, *Aungier* 2908. 2913–2923.

9. *Other details generally:*

Difficulty in obtaining land at or near Liverpool for placing cattle in quarantine, *Trench* 425. 437–443——Large quantity of unsound meat condemned every week, the killing butchers not being to blame in this matter, *ib.* 458–462.

Average of from 8*d.* to 1*s.* a day as the cost of keeping the cattle in Liverpool, *Cullen* 590, 591——Considerable number of fat cattle lately brought from Scotland, *ib.* 688–691——Summary of the facilites required by the cattle trade at Liverpool, *ib.* 739, 740——Way in which sales were carried out at Liverpool and Manchester before the restrictions upon transit, *ib.* 741–743.

Purchase by witness (as wholesale butcher) of imported animals almost exclusively, *Hall* 747–749——Injurious effect of the over-crowding of the animals previously to their being killed, *ib.* 757, 758. 772–774——Nature of the facilities for sending the meat from the slaughter-houses to the railway and to the shipping, *ib.* 760–771——Instances of witness having purchased oxen and sheep in London for Liverpool, the latter port not being well situated for the foreign cattle trade, *ib.* 822–826. 923–926——Import at Liverpool of some dead meat from Scotland; its cost as compared with that of live cattle, *ib.* 827–833

See also *Dead Meat*, 5. *Irish Cattle*, 5. *Manchester, &c. Spanish Cattle.*

Lockwood, Noel James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Veterinary surgeon at Hull; inspects for the Customs and for the Corporation of Hull all foreign cattle landed at Hull, 2409–2411——Very good condition in which the cattle generally arrive, 2412–2416——Unsatisfactory accommodation in the Bremen boats, 2417–2420——Restriction suggested as to the number of cattle according to the space in each vessel, 2421–2432——Modes of arranging the cattle in the holds; suggestion hereon, 2428–2440.

Course adopted at Hull in the event of the import of store cattle and of cattle with the foot and mouth disease, 2441. 2445. 2522–2528. 2558–2563——There has never been any case of rinderpest imported, 2442–2444——Improved accommodation required for the animals when landed; also in landing them, 2446–2457——Very good and healthy state in which the Dutch cows arrive, 2459–2461——Quarantine arrangements suggested for store and fat cattle respectively, 2462–2492. 2510–2521. 2538–2541.

Advantage if fat stock were kept for twelve hours before inspection, it being very difficult to judge of their real condition just after leaving the holds of the vessels in a hot state, 2465–2481. 2504–2509——Suggested use of disinfectants before a vessel takes any fresh cargo on board, 2493, 2494——Very few drovers with the cattle landed at Hull, 2495–2503——Course adopted at Hull in the event of sheep being imported with the scab, &c., 2529–2534.

Slaughter of any animals having pleuro-pneumonia, 2535–2537. 2564–2566——Doubt as to the origin of the rinderpest; opinion that it broke out in the London cow-sheds, 2543–2549——Witness has not experienced any inconvenience or nuisance from the Hull slaughter-houses, 2550–2557——Varying duration of the foot and mouth disease, 2559–2561. 2567–2569.

Lovell, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Farmer and grazier in Northamptonshire; has for many years sent fat cattle to the Metropolitan Market, 6784–6798——Considers that the prices in the market are fairly returned by the sales, 6793, 6794. 6799, 6800. 6846–6851——Suggested division between the English and foreign cattle in the market, 6801–6805——Objection by the graziers to an entirely separate market for foreign cattle, 6803——Expediency of all store cattle from abroad being quarantined, so long as there is disease in foreign countries, 6806–6810. 6832–6835——All fat cattle sent to the Metropolitan Market should be slaughtered in London, 6811–6820.

Circumstance of the plague having been brought into Northamptonshire by foreign cattle sent down from London, 6819, 6820. 6825——Opinion as to the decrease of English bred cattle in the country; sources of witness's supply and increased prices paid by him adverted to hereon, 6826–6830. 6836–6841. 6852–6855——There is no infection in witness's district, 6845——Strong objection to its being required of farmers to kill fat cattle; difficulty in disposing of the offal, 6856.

Lower Classes. Greater cheapness of the dead meat market in London than in the country, especially for the lower classes, owing to the foreign supply, *Woodley* 4888–4899. 4909–4914——Lower price paid by the working classes through witness being enabled to kill his own meat, instead of being compelled to purchase dead meat, *Pickworth* 4991–4997. 5004, 5005——Meat would be unobtainable by the lower classes but for the foreign supply, *Herbert* 6019.

Lung Disease. See *Pleuro-pneumonia.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

M.

Mackie, John. Letter from Mr. Mackie, dated Wick, 5 April 1866, relative to the objectionable manner in which cattle from the northern districts of Scotland are treated whilst on their passage to the southern markets, *App.* 322, 323.

Maidstone. Impracticability of any satisfactory supply of dead meat to Maidstone and other towns from London, more especially in hot weather, *Betts* 6081. 6120–6140—— Limited advance in prices at Maidstone notwithstanding the short supply, *ib.* 6084–6110.

Frequent complaint made about witness's supply to the troops at Maidstone, since he has been obliged to procure dead meat from Newgate Market, *Wakefield* 6155–6177—— Amount of contract price for the troops and for the gaol, *ib.* 6178–6183——Very bad condition in which meat slaughtered in London has arrived at Maidstone in hot weather; mode of packing and of conveyance adverted to hereon, *ib.* 6181–6193.

Malcolm, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is connected with the firm of Brownlow, Browning, Lumsden, & Co., having vessels engaged in the cattle trade with Hamburgh and other ports, 2294–2296——Statistics of the imports of cattle to Hull in the last three years; rapid increase going on, 2297–2304——Particulars as to the accommodation in the cattle vessels of witness's firm, and as to the stowage and care of the animals during the passage from Germany, &c., 2305–2311. 2359–2381——Interest of the firm to bring the cattle without injury or loss on the voyage, 2308–2310. 2347–2349.

Improvement required in the landing accommodation at Hull, 2311–2316——Also in the accommodation after landing; steps being taken on this score, 2317–2328—— Suffering of the animals when the weather is very stormy, but not on ordinary occasions, 2331–2333——Rate of freight from Hamburgh, 2334——Also from Bremen, 2335—— Practice recently at Hamburgh to get a certificate as to the condition of the animals when shipped, 2338——Supervision by the authorities abroad, but not by the owners of the vessels in regard to the condition of the animals, 2338–2350.

Practice of cleansing the vessels after each voyage; approval of its being compulsory to use disinfectants, 2351–2356——Provision as to ventilation in the holds of the vessels, 2371–2373——Question considered as to the cost of conveyance of dead meat from Germany, &c. to Hull; difficulty in the summer months, 2382–2407——Statement of the imports from Hamburgh to Hull in 1865, as compared with the imports from all sources, 2408.

Manchester and Manufacturing District. Very bad slaughter-houses in Manchester, *Trench* 478——Several towns in the neighbourhood of Manchester, and supplied thence with cattle or dead meat, *Cullen* 722–726——Means of supplying Manchester with dead meat from Liverpool without any deterioration of the meat, *Hall* 785–789——Disadvantages in the supply of the towns near Manchester depending on the Liverpool dead meat market, *ib.* 834–837——Inconvenience in hot weather in supplying Manchester and other towns with dead meat from Liverpool; absence of difficulty in regard to the towns knowing the precise local demand, *ib.* 848–857.

Increased price of meat in Manchester during the last six months; cause of this advance, *Dickenson* 2831–2844. 2850–2855——Privilege lately granted to Manchester in regard to the removal of live cattle to towns within a certain distance *Aungier* 2909–2912——Great difficulty in regard to the supply of beef to Manchester, and the adjacent towns on account of the restrictions in the transit of live stock, *Giblett* 4800–4803. 4815–4823——Statement as to the price of meat being dearer in the Manchester district than in London; relative prices of live stock in London and in the country adverted to hereon, *ib.* 4804–4823.

Witness is strongly opposed to the compulsory slaughter of foreign fat cattle at the ports; impracticability in such case of supplying Manchester and the manufacturing district, *Fair* 7542–7554. 7556–7566. 7579–7584. 7609——Live cattle should be allowed to come from Liverpool to the Manchester market, and should be branded for slaughter within a certain time, *ib.* 7544–7548. 7594–7597. 7603–7605——Expediency of its being permitted to bring live cattle from Manchester to adjacent towns for slaughter there, *ib.* 7549–7554——Sources of supply of the Manchester live market at the present time, *ib.* 7570, 7571.

See also *Dead Meat*, 3. *Leeds.* *Liverpool*, 7.

Markets (*Country Places*). See *Fairs and Markets.*

Markets (*Metropolis*). Several markets under the control of the Markets Committee of the City of London, by whom bye-laws are framed for their management, *Rudkin* 6444–6446 ——Personal supervision exercised by witness both at Copenhagen Market and the dead-meat markets, *ib.* 6447–6451.—— Particulars relative to the tolls, or commuted payments,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Markets (*Metropolis*)—continued.
received by the Corporation in respect of Newgate and Leadenhall markets; unsatisfactory arrangements on this subject, *Rudkin* 6519-6541. 6545.

Expediency of one central dead-meat market for the metropolis, *Rudkin* 6628——Also of but one market for live stock, *ib.* 6629-6639——Objection to markets outside the metropolis for supplying Kent and other adjacent districts; the competition by means of one central market for live stock being very desirable in the public interests, *ib.* 6629-6639. 6694-6717. 6772-6783.

Conclusion of the Committee as to the necessity of retaining a live-meat market in the metropolis, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Foreign Cattle*, 5-7. *Metropolitan Cattle Market.* *Newgate Market.* *Public Health.* *Smithfield Market.*

Meat (*Supply of Towns*). See *Dead Meat.*

Metropolitan Cattle Market. Fat stock from the country, but not from abroad, might come into the Metropolitan Market, *Read* 1602-1604——Recent signature by witness of a memorial to Government for permission to remove live cattle from the Metropolitan Market by railway, *Baker* 4430-4438.

Suggestion that all animals coming into the Metropolitan Market be branded for slaughter within seven days either in London or the country, *Rudkin* 6639-6647. 6718-6730. 6741, 6742——Grounds for objecting to any store cattle being sent to the market, *ib.* 6639-6644. 6648-6653. 6718-6720.

Regulations desirable in order to prevent the spread of infection by means of fat cattle removed from the London market into the country for slaughter; expediency of such removal notwithstanding there may be some risk attached, *Rudkin* 6660-6686——Statement in support of the proposition that fat cattle sent to the London market should not be allowed to be exposed for sale in any other market subsequently, *ib.* 6721-6730.

Peculiarly healthy state of the market since the end of February, *Rudkin* 6763-6767——Total of thirty-seven seizures for rinderpest from 16 November 1865 to 22 February 1866, three-fourths of the animals being English, *ib.*——Probable danger of infection by allowing cattle from the London market to be conveyed alive into the country for slaughter, *ib.* 6768-6771.

All fat cattle sent to the Metropolitan Market should be slaughtered in London, *Lovell* 6811-6820——The graziers look upon the Metropolitan Market as the great focus of infection, *ib.* 6818——Objection to fat cattle that have been once in the Metropolitan Market going into the country for slaughter, *Torr* 7180-7187. 7238——Store cattle should be excluded from the Metropolitan Market, *ib.* 7188-7193.

Foreign beasts have been smuggled into the country by rail from the Metropolitan Market, within the last few months, *Hudson* 7354-7358——Home-fed animals, but not foreign animals, might go into the country before being slaughtered, *Druce* 7471-7475.

Return showing the number of animals in the market for eight weeks, commencing from 16th April and ending 10th June 1866, and for the corresponding weeks in 1865——*App.* 326——Similar return relative to the number of animals in the lairs, *ib.*

Return showing the number of animals in the market for nine weeks, commencing 12th February and ending 14th April 1866, and for the corresponding weeks of 1865, *App.* 328.

Recommendation that the Metropolitan Market be confined to cattle intended for immediate slaughter, *Rep.* v.——Suggestion also that all the cattle be branded and not allowed to be exhibited for sale in any other market, but should be slaughtered within ten days, *ib.*——Diminished chance of infection if the Metropolitan Market were made exclusively a fat-meat market, *ib.*

See also *Foreign Cattle*, 5-7. *Prices*, 2. *Slaughterhouses*, I.

Moseley, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is traffic manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company, 238, 239——Very large cattle traffic on the line, including not only fat cattle, but store cattle and milch cows, 240-252——Conveyance of the cattle from Holland to Harwich in boats belonging to the company, without the animals suffering much during the passage, 253-255——Practice of the company thoroughly to cleanse the cattle trucks after each journey, 256-263——Objection to the floor of the trucks being covered with tar or asphalte so as to facilitate cleaning, 264-269.

Increased difficulties and expense of conveying the cattle to London in the form of dead meat, 270-283——Several disadvantages and sources of expense after the cattle are delivered alive in London, so that on the whole it would be a great advantage if they were slaughtered in the country, 280 *et seq.*——Considerable quantity of dead meat now brought to London by the railways and steamboats, 286-289——Competition by road to which the railways are open as regards conveyance of cattle for distances of thirty or forty miles from London; competition also on the part of steamboats, 301-318——Objection to cattle being killed in Holland and conveyed all the way to London as dead meat, 319.

Means

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Moseley, Robert. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Means of the Great Eastern Company, by using the North London line, for delivering cattle near the Islington Market, 320–322——Great advantage if the Great Eastern and other railways had a direct communication with the Smithfield Dead-Meat Market; obstacle in the case of the Great Eastern line, 323–330. 340–347. 350–356——Undue delay on the part of the Corporation in converting Smithfield into a dead-meat market, 329–334. 352, 353——Inconvenience of a large dead-meat market in the heart of the City, 348–352.

[Second Examination.]—Return handed in showing the quantity of cattle imported from the Continent *viâ* Harwich, from October 1863 to December 1865; *p.* 43——Comparative statement of the cost of transit of oxen from Rotterdam to London, with the slaughtering and incidental charges, and of the cost of transit to Harwich, with the slaughtering and the conveyance to London; saving of 2 *s.* 3 *d.* per head by the latter route, 1135–1139.

Consideration as to the means of improving the conveyance of meat by railway from Harwich to London; several difficulties to be encountered, 1140–1147——Impracticability of complying with the Privy Council Order of 16 April as to the mode of cleansing the trucks, 1147——Objections further urged against flooring the trucks with asphalte, 1148–1160.

[Third Examination.]—Further evidence on the question of watering cattle during transit in railway trucks; opinion as to this not being necessary between Harwich and London, 1366–1388.

Movement of Cattle. See *Foreign Cattle,* 8–10. *Railways. Steamers. Transit of Cattle.*

Murrain. See *Foot and Mouth Disease.*

N.

Nelson, Joseph. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Statement as to the several advantages of the Isle of Grain, near Sheerness, as the landing-place for foreign cattle, the fat cattle being slaughtered there, and the lean stock being quarantined, 6400–6438——Superiority of the Isle of Grain over the Plaistow Marshes, Thames Haven, or any other site down the river, for the landing, quarantining, &c. of foreign cattle, 6417–6428.

New York. Very stringent regulations in New York for the inspection and management of slaughterhouses, butchers' shops and public markets, *App.* 318, 319.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Very good condition in which the foreign cattle generally arrive in the Tyne, *Wilkinson* 8156–8161——Large sheds for the cattle when landed, with ample slaughterhouses attached, *ib.* 8165–8169. 8191——Facility for quarantining the animals, *ib.* 8170. 8190——Very few store cattle imported, *ib.* 8171.

Number of cows that have died or been slaughtered on account of rinderpest: the disease was not imported by foreign cows, *Wilkinson* 8171–8179——Absence of any cases of rinderpest among the cattle in the town since March last, *ib.* 8179.

Statement in favour of foreign fat stock being allowed to be removed by railway to the towns near Newcastle, *Wilkinson* 8188, 8189. 8192. 8255–8266. 8298, 8299——Present practice of slaughtering in Newcastle for the towns in the district; inconvenience and injury involved in supplying the dead meat to these places, *ib.* 8192, 8193. 8264–8287. 8321, 8322——Care taken in cleansing the Newcastle market, as well as the landing-places for the cattle, *ib.* 8194–8199——Slaughter of the whole of the cargo if there are any cases of pleuro-pneumonia, *ib.* 8200, 8201——Prompt landing of the cattle, *ib.* 8202–8204.

Rise of prices in the Newcastle market through the short supply of stock, *Wilkinson* 8217–8220. 8235, 8236. 8323–8333——Fairness of the quoted prices of dead meat; way in which obtained, *ib.* 8221–8227——Very satisfactory operation of the public slaughter-houses, *ib.* 8288–8296——Check to the import trade by the restrictions relative to the cattle plague, *ib.* 8300–8302.

Return of the number of cattle landed at the port of Tyne in each week, from 5th July 1864 to 26th June 1866, *App.* 331——Daily return of the arrivals of foreign cattle to the port of Tyne, and weekly returns of foreign cattle computed to each market day, *ib.* 332–337——Return of stock of various kinds exhibited in Newcastle live cattle market in the twelve months, ended 26th June 1866, *ib.* 338.

Newgate Market. Entire insufficiency of the dead meat market at Newgate, *Moseley* 352, 353; *Ratcliff* 3729–3731; *Pickworth* 4976–4979——Great inconvenience through the crowded and narrow state of the streets leading to Newgate Market, as well as of the market itself, *Clarke* 1518–1520; *Baker* 4301–4305; *Bonser* 7748, 7749——Utter insufficiency of the arrangements in connection with Newgate Market, *Read* 1599–1601

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Newgate Market—continued.

——Depreciation to some slight extent through the meat being carted from Newgate Market, instead of being killed on the premises, *Pickworth* 4980–4984.

Account of the meat, game, and poultry condemned at the market during the years 1861–65, *App.* 321——Return of the several tolls levied at the market, and of the produce thereof in 1863-65, *App.* 328.

See also *Prices.*

Norfolk. Considerable losses from cattle plague in witness's neighbourhood in Norfolk, *Hudson* 7300——Very little foot and mouth disease in the county at the present time, *ib.* 7335, 7336——Limitation of the supply from Norfolk to London to particular months in the year, *ib.* 7381–7386——Import of foreign cattle and Irish cattle to Norfolk for feeding, *ib.* 7390–7393.

The rinderpest was imported into the county by foreign cattle brought down from the Metropolitan Market, *Hudson* 7413, 7414——Reasons for its being impracticable to supply dead meat from witness's locality to London without loss, though it may be done from Hull and Harwich, *ib.* 7422–7431. 7445–7447——Very little trade in store stock in Norfolk during the spring of the present year, *ib.* 7448, 7449.

North Eastern Railway. Very little accommodation on the North Eastern line for the conveyance of dead meat; several improvements required, *Dickenson* 2800–2809——Explanatory statement relative to the facilities afforded by the line for the conveyance of dead meat, *O'Brien* 6022 *et seq.*

See also *Dead Meat*, 3. *Leeds.*

Northamptonshire. Circumstance of the plague having been brought into Northamptonshire by foreign cattle sent down from London, *Lovell* 6819, 6320. 6825——Opinion as to the decrease of English bred cattle in the county; sources of witness's supply, and increased prices paid by him adverted to hereon, *ib.* 6826–6830. 6836-6841. 6852–6855——There is no infection in witness's district, *ib.* 6845.

O.

O'Brien, Captain William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is general manager of the North Eastern Railway, 6021——Explains the facilities for the conveyance of dead meat by railway from Hull to Leeds, 6022–6032. 6046, 6047. 6056–6060——Means of supplying Leeds with dead meat from Hull in any weather without the meat being spoiled, 6033, 6034. 6044–6046——Nature of the facilities, by railway, for the transmission of meat from Hull to Bradford, Wakefield, and other towns; there would be no difficulty in conveying any quantity without the meat turning bad, 6035–6045. 6047.

Absence of complaint as to the condition of meat on arrival at Leeds, &c., there being some complaints, however, as to the detention and loss of market, 6048–6051. 6070, 6071——Charges for conveying live cattle and dead meat respectively from Hull to Leeds, 6052–6055——Doubt as to the quantity of meat conveyed by railway to Leeds, Bradford, &c., 6061–6069——There was a tolerably large trade in live cattle between Hull and the West Riding before the restrictions upon transit, 6074——There are no arrangements for watering or feeding the cattle during transit, 6075, 6076.

Offal. Conclusion that as regards the supply of offal to London no difficulty would, after a time, arise if the animals were slaughtered in the country, *Letheby* 4025–4037——Way in which the offal, hides, &c., of animals slaughtered by witness are now disposed of as compared with the facility of disposal if there were a public slaughter-house in a less populous locality in London, *Baker* 4394–4408——Practice as to the disposal by witness of the offal and hides, *Woodley* 4900–4908. 4951, 4952.

With regard to the large quantity of dead meat sent from Aberdeen to London the offal is sold chiefly in Aberdeen; price fetched by it, and mode in which finally disposed of, *Stewart* 5735–5744——Disposal of the offal of animals killed at Inverury by sending it to Aberdeen and Dundee, the blood being wasted, *Hutcheson* 6233–6237. 6269——Disposal by witness of the offal in Aberdeen; particulars hereon, *Butler* 6336–6342. 6377–6399——About similar price of offal in Aberdeen and London, *ib.* 6377–6380.

Serious objection to a dead-meat supply of London as preventing the satisfactory disposal of the offal, *S. Higgins* 5701——Difficulty as to the offal being disposed of by farmers or graziers, if they were to slaughter largely, *Lovell* 6856; *Hudson* 7305–7309. 7320–7324. 7387–7389.

Opinion as to the facility of advantageously disposing of the offal in country places, *Torr* 7137–7140. 7147. 7160, 7161.

Conclusion of the Committee as to the difficulty in disposing of the offal if animals are slaughtered in districts thinly peopled, *Rep.* iv.

See also *Edinburgh.*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Oldham. Very serious inconvenience at Oldham during the restriction upon the movement of cattle by railway, and through the necessity of obtaining supplies from the Liverpool dead-meat market, *Bradbury* 957 *et seq.*——Recent opening of a live-meat market at Oldham for cattle from various parts of England and Scotland, *ib.* 984–994. 1030–1033——Sufficiency of the supply at Oldham when the meat was all procured from Liverpool and Manchester, *ib.* 995, 996. 1003——Bad condition of the meat on arrival at Oldham from Liverpool, the arrangement, however, having been very imperfect at the latter place, *ib.* 1004–1012——Sources of supply of the butchers in Oldham at the present time, *ib.* 1062–1067.

Oporto Cattle. See *Spanish Cattle.*

Orders in Council. Copies of orders issued to the Customs Department by the Lords of the Privy Council relative to the cattle plague, from June 1864 to June 1866, *App.* 339–384.——*See* also *Privy Council.*

Overcrowding (*Conveyance of Cattle*). See *Irish Cattle*, 1. 3. *Railways*, 4. *Steamers*, 1.

Overdriven Cattle. Preferable condition of the meat when the animal has not been overdriven, *Ratcliff* 3751–3755——Instance of the injurious effect of overdriving the cattle, *Rudkin* 6754.

P.

Paris. Prohibition in Paris of the use of private slaughter-houses, *Hönck* 1743–1745——Reference to the system of inspection of dead meat in Paris, *ib.* 1967–1973——Satisfactory operation of the system of abattoirs, *Letheby* 3864–3867——Impression that meat is generally somewhat cheaper in Paris than in London, *ib.* 4051, 4052.

Opinion as to the unsatisfactory operation of the restrictions in Paris upon the subject of slaughter houses, *Hicks* 4063–4065. 4107–4110——System and number of abattoirs in Paris adverted to; much smaller consumption of meat than in London, *Baker* 4510–4518. 4550–4553——Circumstance of there being four or five public slaughter-houses in Paris, *Giblett* 4569, 4570——Reference to a paper containing information relative to the abattoirs in Paris; their injurious effect upon the retail trade, *Hicks* 5352–5354——Slaughter of the chief quantity of the meat consumed in Paris in the abattoirs within the city, *Herbert* 5998, 5999.

Regulations in force in regard to the slaughtering of cattle, *App.* 318.

Communication submitted to the Committee by Mr. Hicks relative to the sale of meat in Paris, the inspection of the abattoirs, &c., *App.* 324, 325.

Penalties (*Sale or Removal of Diseased Cattle*). Summary punishment recommended in the event of the wilful exposure for sale or the conveyance by boat or rail of animals suffering from certain diseases, *Rep.* v.

Peters, Godefridus Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is agent to the Great Eastern Railway Company at Rotterdam, 1161, 1162——Very good condition in which the cattle generally arrive at Rotterdam from the interior, 1163. 1166. 1265, 1266——Inspection to which the animals are subject on arrival at Rotterdam, those which are diseased being sent back again; doubt as to the proportion rejected, 1163–1165. 1169–1171. 1206–1210. 1225–1240——Prevalence of cattle plague in the south of Holland, but not in Friesland or the northern portions, 1168–1172.

Arrangements as to the shipment of the cattle at Rotterdam, and as to their accommodation on board, 1173, 1174. 1256–1262. 1276, 1277. 1280–1285——Prejudicial effect in Holland of the regulation in this country that the animals must be slaughtered at or near the port of arrival, 1175–1179——Trade in milch cows and lean stock, as well as in fat stock, between Rotterdam and Harwich, 1180, 1181. 1288–1293——Doubt whether a quarantine, if general, would have any injurious effect on the trade in foreign cattle, 1182–1186.

Information relative to the practice as to watering and feeding the cattle in the trucks and as to the arrangements, generally, during transit by railway from Germany, and from the interior of Holland to Rotterdam, 1187–1205. 1265–1268. 1286, 1287——Arrangements as to placing the animals in lairs, or turning them into fields at Rotterdam in the interval between their arrival and their shipment; inspection during this period, 1206–1210. 1241–1246. 1251–1255——Good condition in which the animals arrive at Harwich, 1211, 1212——Non-objection to compulsory slaughtering at the port of arrival if enforced generally, and if no animals were allowed to be sent alive to the Metropolitan Market, 1211–1216.

Very little dead meat sent from Holland to Harwich since the prohibition in this country on the import of live stock, 1217–1220. 1247. 1278, 1279——Effect of the prohibition in stopping both beasts and sheep from coming to Rotterdam; it has not lowered

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Peters, Godefridus Samuel. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

the price of stock in Holland, 1221–1224. 1247–1250——Great prevalence of the lung disease among the Dutch cattle, 1231——Practice of killing, at Rotterdam, animals having the cattle plague badly, 1240. 1263, 1264——Arrival of cattle at Rotterdam from Silesia, and even from Hungary, 1244. 1267, 1268. 1277——Prohibition now in force in Belgium, as well as in Holland, in regard to the transit of German cattle, 1269–1272.

Pickworth, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a retail butcher near Tottenham Court-road, 4953, 4954——Object of the Butchers' Trade Protection Society, of which witness is a member, 4955, 4956——Convenience and benefit to the public at large, as well as to the butchers, in the latter having private slaughter-houses where they can kill at any moment, according to the demand, or the state of the weather, 4956. 4964–4975. 5011–5015——Number of animals slaughtered weekly by witness; character of his accommodation for the purpose, 4957–4960. 4969–4974. 5006, 5007.

Purchase by witness chiefly of English cattle, it being very important at times to have a supply of foreign cattle in the market to fall back upon, 4961–4964——Decided objection to being compelled to use public slaughter-houses, even though there were several in convenient localities; the wants of the public could not, in fact, be satisfactorily met, 4965–4968. 5008–5015——Very insufficient accommodation at Newgate Market, 4976–4979——Depreciation to some slight extent, through the meat being carted from Newgate, instead of being killed on the premises, 4980–4984.

Varying consumption in London, according to the season and the weather, 4985–4990——Lower price paid by the working classes through witness being enabled to kill his own meat, 4991–4997. 5004, 5005——Varying prices charged by witness accordingly as the meat is cut; list of his present prices, 4998–5003——Difficulty as regards lairage accommodation at public slaughter-houses, 5006–5009——Difficulty also in butchers identifying their own animals, 5009–5011——Clean and wholesome state in which the private slaughter-houses are generally kept, 5015, 5016.

Pigs. Great care necessary in the conveyance of pigs by sea; difficulty in getting them under the decks, *Robinson* 3398–3404. 3408——Practice, for many years to walk the pigs on and off the vessels from Ireland, *ib.* 3409–3412——The importation of pigs has almost entirely ceased on account of the higher prices abroad, *Bonser* 7715.

Account showing the number of pigs imported during the year 1865 into London from Holland, &c., and showing the number landed at the different wharves, *App.* 307–314.

Returns showing the number of animals in the Metropolitan Cattle Market for the several periods from 12th February to 14th April, and from 16th April to 10th June, in 1865 and 1866 respectively, *App.* 326. 328.

Pleuro-pneumonia. Great prevalence of the lung disease among the Dutch cattle, *Peters* 1231——Witness has not seen any cases of pleuro-pneumonia among the French cattle at Antwerp, *Huger* 1360——Liability of Dutch and other cattle to pleuro-pneumonia in a greater degree than Irish cattle, *Read* 1582–1585. 1629–1636——Opinion that the lung disease did not come from abroad, *Hönck* 1789–1796.

Slaughter of any animals having pleuro-pneumonia when landed at Hull, *Lockwood* 2535–2537. 2564–2566——Condemnation at Hull of any animal with pleuro-pneumonia, the rest of the cargo being allowed to be sold, *Valentine* 2640–2646——Way in which cattle with the lung disease or the foot and mouth disease are dealt with at Liverpool, *Aungier* 2956–2963——Practice in the port of London to slaughter all animals having the lung disease, the rest of the cargo being allowed to proceed, *Simmonds* 3420–3429.

Very little lung disease in Austria or Hungary, *Hirschler* 4200, 4201——Liability of foreign animals to pleuro-pneumonia, *Hudson* 7443——Objection to an inspection of Irish cattle at English ports with reference to pleuro-pneumonia or the foot and mouth disease, *Walsh* 7796–7801. 7880, 7881——Very little lung disease now in Ireland, *ib.* 7800–7804——Limited amount of pleuro-pneumonia now in Ireland, whilst the risk of contagion is not very great, *Garnett* 7954, 7955. 7967–7969. 7979–7981.

Plymouth Victualling Yard. Difficulty of London contractors supplying the victualling yard at Plymouth with dead meat through the restrictions upon railway transit; obstacle to sending the beasts coastwise, *Baker* 4432. 4439–4446. 4451–4455. 4523–4530.

Ports of Landing (*Foreign Cattle*). Advantage of limiting the number of ports at which foreign cattle should come in, *Hudson* 7347–7349——Considerations subject to which it might be desirable to limit the ports at which foreign cattle should be landed, *Hunt* 8444–8453——Necessary approval by the Board of Customs of the ports for the landing of cattle, *ib.* 8474–8480.

Mention of the chief ports approved of by the Customs for the landing of foreign cattle, *Rep.* iii.

Several objections to compulsory slaughter of foreign cattle at the port of discharge, *Rep.* vi.

Pratt, Martin. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Secretary to the General Steam Navigation Company, 2982——Statistics as to the quantity of cattle carried in the company's vessels in 1865 from various foreign ports to London, 2983–2988——Large trade in fat cattle and sheep from Tonning, this being only a summer trade, 2985. 2989–3000——The largest trade is from Rotterdam, 2985. 2989, 2990——Conveyance chiefly of fat cattle from the several ports, 2991–2993——Number of beasts and of sheep carried from Boulogne; excellent condition of these, 3003–3011——Limited cattle trade of the company from Scotland and English ports to London, 3012–3017.

Inspection to which the animals are subjected at the port of shipment abroad, 3018–3020. 3148. 3252, 3253——Independent inspection on arrival irrespectively of the foreign inspection, 3021——Practice of slaughtering any animals which have on arrival the foot and mouth disease, 3022, 3023. 3254——Statement as to three cows in a cargo from Rotterdam having been stopped a few months ago as having the cattle plague, the whole cargo having been slaughtered; doubt whether this was really a case of rinderpest at all, 3024–3031. 3255, 3256.

Effectual cleansing of the vessels after the discharge of each cargo, 3032. 3050–3053. 3166–3168——Conveyance of cattle only in some of the company's vessels, 3033, 3034——Details as to the general arrangements on board, and as to the accommodation, ventilation, &c.; every care is taken to render these as complete as possible, 3035 *et seq.*——Feeding and watering of the animals during the passage, 3039. 3207–3209——Length of the passage from different ports, 3040——Excellent condition in which the animals arrive, though they are obliged to stand during the whole voyage, 3041–3046.

Arrangements for the landing of the animals, and mode of disposal when landed; accommodation for this purpose at Brown's Wharf, 3054–3058. 3162. 3169–3181. 3247, 3248. 3265, 3266——Details as to the rates from different ports to London, 3059–3064——Reduction in the rates from Rotterdam in order to meet the competition of the Harwich route, 3065–3068. 3078——Consideration of a comparative statement by Mr. Moseley of the charges from Rotterdam *viâ* Harwich, and from Rotterdam to London direct; error in Mr. Moseley's calculation, witness showing that the direct sea route is much the cheaper of the two, 3065–3077. 3098–3102. 3266, 3267.

Particulars as to the trade in dead meat from Hamburgh, Hull, &c., to London in the vessels of witness's company; good condition of the meat generally on arrival, 3079–3098. 3103–3108. 3111–3114. 3184–3194. 3198–3201——Way in which the dead meat is packed and is arranged on board, 3080–3083. 3092. 3186–3190. 3210–3216——Necessary discontinuance of the dead-meat traffic in hot weather, 3085–3090. 3184——Instance of a quantity of meat having been thrown overboard during the passage from Hamburgh, the voyage having been much prolonged by bad weather, 3104. 3198, 3199. 3210–3216.

Practice of charging freight when the meat or animals are landed, no matter in what condition, 3108, 3109——Special arrangement by which cattle from Tonning are insured by the company, 3110. 3227–3232——Large dead-meat trade formerly between Edinburgh and London by sea, 3112, 3113——Relative charge per ton for the conveyance of dead meat and of live stock from Edinburgh, Hamburgh, &c., to London, 3115–3118. 3202–3206——Disapproval of a separate market near the river side for foreign cattle, 3132–3144.

Actual space given to each animal on board the vessels of the General Steam Navigation Company; its sufficiency, 3145–3147. 3152–3165. 3195–3198——Improved accommodation in the "Maas" and the more modern vessels of the company, 3217–3226. 3235–3237——Import of cattle to London by other companies, the vessels being chiefly English, 3238–3243——Preference of shippers for paddle-wheel vessels, 3244–3246.

Few store cattle imported by witness's company, 3250——Large import of Dutch cows, 3251——Obstacles to quarantining the animals in order to see there is no latent disease, 3254–3265——Comparative statements of the charges by the direct route from Rotterdam to London, and by Harwich, the animals being slaughtered at the latter place and forwarded in the shape of dead meat, 3267.

PRICES:

1. *Actual Prices of Live Stock and of Dead Meat; Effect of recent Legislative Restrictions.*
2. *Prices as publicly quoted, and Mode in which ascertained in the London Markets: Amendments suggested.*

1. *Actual Prices of Live Stock and of Dead Meat; Effect of recent Legislative Restrictions:*

Doubt as to the recent legislation having produced any effect upon the price of meat in Liverpool and in Manchester, &c., *Hall* 913–922——Question considered as to the price of meat in Oldham having been effected by the prohibition of railway movement and the necessity of going to Liverpool and Manchester for dead meat, *Bradbury*, 966–1003. 1060, 1061——Continuance of the increased price of meat adverted to with reference to the effect of the cattle plague and of the government regulations, *ib.* 1034–

PRICES—continued.

1. *Actual Prices of Live Stock, and of Dead Meat, &c.*—continued.

1041——Higher price of English meat than of foreign meat to the extent of about a halfpenny per pound, *Hönck* 1872–1874. 1974——Depreciation in the price of animals since the restrictions upon railway transit; check thereby upon imports, *Coulson* 2254–2256. 2262–2265.

Belief that the existing restrictions have caused but little if any advance in the price of meat, *Ratcliff* 3643–3649——Advanced prices paid by witness and the trade generally, though not charged by them to the public, *ib.* 3646–3651——Enhanced price of foreign cattle when the transit of live cattle by railway was prohibited in February, *Baker* 4335-4340——Enhanced price of meat lately in the London market, *Giblett* 4681. 4809–4815——Aggravated expense in some counties where, there being no live stock, it has been necessary to come to London for a supply of dead meat, *ib.* 4815——Meat is now much dearer than ever witness has known it, *ib.*

Varying prices charged by witness accordingly as the meat is cut; list of his present prices, *Pickworth* 4998–5003——Various parts of the country whence beasts are bought by witness's firm; increased price paid for them of late, *Slater* 5189–5193——Tendency of the foreign supply to keep prices down, *ib.* 5205——Enhanced prices caused by the prohibition upon the movement of live stock, *Bannister* 5215–5222——Effect upon prices in the London market when the supply of country killed meat is stopped, *ib.* 5227–5229.

Statement of the present prices and of the supply of foreign cattle in the London market, *Herbert* 5892–5901. 5970——Great advance in prices within the last thirty years, *ib.* 5956——Further advance in prices but for the large foreign supply, *ib.* 5984. 6017–6020.

Information relative to the prices of different kinds of meat in the Metropolitan Market, from 16th April to 10th June in 1865 and 1866, *Rudkin* 6462–6471——Foreigners now complain that the prices here will scarcely allow them to send, *Bonser* 7715.

Return showing the prices of meat at the metropolitan cattle market, from 17th April to 10th June 1865, *App.* 327—Also from 16th April to 9th June 1866, *ib.*

Tendency of the importation of foreign cattle to keep down the price of meat, *Rep.* v.

2. *Prices as publicly quoted, and Mode in which ascertained in the London Markets; Amendments suggested:*

Improper prices given by the London salesmen and quoted in the newspapers; suggestion that the quoted prices be settled by six salesmen and six butchers, *Ratcliff* 3650–3654. 3771–3777——Evidence as to the loose and erroneous manner in which the prices quoted in the newspapers are obtained; amendments suggested; *Giblett* 4681–4728——The prices are given too early in the morning, *Giblett* 4684. 4716, 4717; *Bannister* 5261——The prices should be arranged by a committee of salesmen and butchers, *Giblett* 4712–4716; *Slater* 5139, 5140; *Bannister* 5245——Statement that witness has written to the papers to have the erroneous quotations corrected, but without effect, *Giblett* 4729–4759——Way in which the prices in London are regulated, there being three different markets for dead meat, *Woodley* 4881–4887.

Imperfect manner in which the prices quoted in the newspapers are obtained, the quotations being too low; amended practice suggested, *Slater* 5129. 5132–5144——Suggestions as to the improvements required in the system of ascertaining the prices for quotation in the public newspapers, *Bannister* 5238–5247. 5261. 5296–5302——The prices are now quoted too low by the salesmen, *ib.* 5239–5241. 5246. 5296–5302.

Witness has for many years supplied most of the agricultural newspapers of London with the prices in the cattle and dead-meat markets. *Herbert* 5854–5858——Explanation as to the mode in which witness arrives at the prices; belief as to their fairness generally, *ib.* 5859 *et seq.*——Witness sometimes takes the opinion of the butchers as well as of the salesmen, *ib.* 5871. 5883——Good cause for complaint by the butchers as to the quotations in some of the newspapers, *ib.* 5872, 5873——Dissatisfaction of the consignors of cattle to the salesmen, through seeing higher prices quoted than they receive, *ib.* 5876–5879. 5924–5926——The prices are sometimes quoted too high and sometimes too low, *ib.* 5877–5879——Doubt whether the prices could be better obtained through a committee of salesmen and butchers, *ib.* 5927–5932.

Practice for the clerk of the market to take the opinions of various salesmen as to the prices, *Rudkin* 6471–6482—— Interest of the salesman to keep down the quoted prices, the consignor in the country having, as regards Newgate Market, no check in the matter, *ib.* 6482, 6483. 6502–6508——Approval of the prices of dead meat being given by a joint committee of salesmen and butchers, *ib.* 6484–6487—— Fallacious character of the return of prices for Newgate Market as a guide to the consumer, *ib.* 6488–6495. 6584, 6585——Great variation in the price of meat in Newgate Market according to its quality, *ib.* 6490–6495. 6501. 6584, 6585.

Custom of cattle salesmen at Islington Market, but not of dead-meat salesmen at Newgate, to give a sold note to the consignor, showing the name of the buyer; advantage

if

PRICES—continued.

2. *Prices as publicly quoted, &c.*—continued.

if this practice were extended to the dead meat market as a check upon salesmen and upon prices, *Rudkin* 6496-6519. 6560-6576——Witness does not recommend that the salesmen be obliged by Act of Parliament to state the prices for an official return, *ib.* 6547-6549. 6572-6576——Periods of the day by which the prices may be obtained in the live market and dead market respectively, *ib.* 6555-6559. 6579-6583.

Witness considers that the prices in the London market are fairly returned by the salesmen, *Lovell* 6793, 6794. 6799, 6800. 6846-6851.

See also *Foreign Cattle.* *Lower Classes.*

Privy Council. Statement as to the Customs Out-door Department acting under the orders of the Privy Council in the matter of the import of foreign cattle, *Hunt* 8388-8390.

Copies of Orders in Council between June 1864 and June 1866, with a view to the prevention of the introduction and spread of the cattle plague, *App.* 339-384.

Recommendation by the Committee that a permanent department of the Council Office be appointed to keep up communications with the Board of Customs and the consuls abroad, in order to have accurate accounts as to the existence of cattle plague, upon whose recommendation the Council could order a quarantine or impose other restrictions upon the trade in animals, *Rep.* vii.

Public Health. Witness considers that the collecting of live animals for sale in the Metropolitan Cattle Market need not, if properly regulated, involve any injury to the public health, *Letheby* 3836-3840.——*See* also *Slaughter-houses*, 1. 3.

Putrid Meat. Doubt as to any disease being traceable to over-kept meat, though it is doubtless unwholesome, *Trench* 471-476. 480-485——Large quantity of putrid meat condemned in the City, most of which comes from the country, *Letheby* 3849-3854——Probability of much of the putrid meat seized in the City being the flesh of animals killed in the country in a state of disease; much meat of this kind now escapes detection outside the City, *ib.* 3919-3926. 3962-3970——Extent to which putrid meat may be considered injurious to the human system, *ib.* 3956-3961——Doubt as to much meat in a putrid state being consumed in the metropolis, so as to be seriously prejudicial to public health, *Simon* 5029-5036.

Q.

QUARANTINE:

1. *Suggestions for Quarantining Store Cattle from Abroad.*
2. *Question of Exemption of Uninfected Countries.*
3. *Effect of Quarantine on the Foreign Supply.*
4. *Increased Value and Price of Store Stock, if Quarantined.*
5. *Suggested Quarantine for Milch Cows, and Calves.*
6. *Evidence opposed to Quarantine, more especially of Fat Cattle.*
7. *Conclusions of the Committee on the Subject.*

1. *Suggestions for Quarantining Store Cattle from Abroad:*

Opinion that in the case of store cattle quarantine should be enforced, *Daniels* 100-112——Considerations as to the detailed mode of applying quarantine to store cattle at Harwich, *ib.* 156-193——Way in which quarantine should be applied to foreign store cattle; doubt as to the number of these rendering the matter very difficult, *Read* 1624-1628. 1644-1647——Witness does not propose to quarantine Irish store cattle, but only cattle from abroad, *ib.* 1629-1636——The quarantine should last for twenty-one days, *ib.* 1644.

Nature of the quarantine arrangements suggested, *Lockwood* 2462-2492. 2510-2521. 2538-2541——Necessity of a quarantine of fourteen or twenty-one days in the case of store cattle, in order to be sure that the plague is not latent, *Simmonds* 3477-3497——Suggestions as to the application of quarantine to store cattle, when they come from infected countries, *Simon* 5082-5112——Approval of a short quarantine in the case of store cattle, *Hicks* 5348, 5349.

Approval of a quarantine in the case of store cattle from Germany to Leith, *Swan* 5379, 5380——Proposed quarantine in the case of all store cattle at the port of landing, with a market attached, *Rudkin* 6648-6655. 6687-6694. 6749——Expediency of all store cattle from abroad being quarantined, so long as there is disease in foreign countries, *Lovell* 6806-6810. 6832-6835; *Strangeways* 6969-6973——Considerations of objections to quarantining foreign store cattle on account of the risk to be incurred by healthy cattle in the quarantine ground, *Torr* 7197-7215.

Statement in support of the quarantining of all foreign store cattle; that is, with reference only to rinderpest, *Hudson* 7325-7347. 7375-7380. 7418-7421——Greater

Report, 1866—*continued.*

QUARANTINE—continued.

1. *Suggestions for Quarantining Store Cattle from Abroad*—continued.

care taken abroad if there were a quarantine in this country, *Hudson* 7328-7331. 7418-7421—— Opinion that all foreign animals should either be subject to quarantine, or be killed at the port, *Druce* 7469, 7470——Approval of inspection and quarantine in the case of store cattle from infected countries, *Fair* 7555. 7595-7602; *Wilkinson* 8184, 8185 —— Necessity of a quarantine of fourteen days in order to make it effectual, *Wilkinson* 8180-8183.

2. *Question of Exemption of Uninfected Countries:*

Opinion that store cattle from all foreign countries should be subject to quarantine, inasmuch as they almost all come from districts where some disease constantly prevails, *Read* 1573-1582. 1624-1647——Countries entirely free from the cattle plague should be exempted from quarantine, *Simmonds* 3498-3502——Way in which it might be settled as to the countries to be placed under quarantine; discretion advisable in the Privy Council, *Simon* 5095-5097. 5100-5118.

Expediency of foreign store cattle being quarantined whenever there is disease in the countries whence they come, *Lovell* 6806-6810. 6832-6835; *Strangeways* 6969-6973 ——Witness would apply quarantine to all foreign cattle, though some countries may be entirely free from disease, *Hudson* 7345-7347. 7377-7380——Approval of store cattle being quarantined, unless they come from a country free from disease, *Fair* 7555. 7595-7602; *Wilkinson* 8184, 8185.

3. *Effect of Quarantine on the Foreign Supply:*

Doubt whether a quarantine, if general, would have any injurious effect on the trade in foreign cattle, *Peters* 1182-1186——Very few store cattle which would come from abroad, if subject to the expense of quarantine of fourteen or twenty-one days, *Simmonds* 3490-3497. 3520-3524. 3538-3542. 3591, 3592——Probability of foreign animals being still sent in equal numbers if not diseased, even though restrictions in the way of quarantine, &c., should be enforced, *Hudson* 7407-7421——Check to the foreign trade by a quarantine, *Fair* 7590.

4. *Increased Value and Price of Store Stock, if Quarantined:*

Enhanced value and price of store cattle if quarantined, *Read* 1576, 1577. 1661-1663; *Rudkin* 6749; *Lovell* 6808; *Torr* 7149-7153. 7200. 7207-7213; *Hudson* 7325, 7326; *Wilkinson* 8186, 8187——Store cattle, when quarantined, would be worth 1*l.* a head more to the buyer, *Read* 1661——Effect of quarantine in causing a healthier class of animals to be imported, *Hunt* 8457. 8469, 8470.

5. *Suggested Quarantine for Milch Cows, and Calves:*

Importance of quarantining milch cows, and calves under a certain age; how this might be carried out, *Simmonds* 3497. 3525-3537. 3592——Expediency of quarantining the cows from Holland, *Rudkin* 6658. 6687-6690——Contemplated quarantine for milch cows, as well as for foreign store stock, *Torr* 7133. 7135. 7238.

6. *Evidence opposed to Quarantine, more especially of Fat Cattle:*

Injury both to store cattle and fat cattle, if kept for some days in quarantine, *Hall* 860-863——Decided objection to a quarantine for either fat stock or lean stock; depreciation of the animals thereby, whilst the effect on the foreign trade would be very injurious, *Coulson* 2232-2253. 2266-2271——Quarantine would be no security against the foot and mouth disease, though it would against the cattle plague, *ib.* 2265. 2272, 2273.

Obstacle to quarantining the animals in order to see that there is no latent disease, *Pratt* 3254-3265—— Decided objection to quarantining fat cattle, *Giblett* 4608-4611 ——Difficulty as to the supply of suitable food for fat cattle, if they were all quarantined, *Hicks* 5331-5341——Quarantine is not necessary for animals intended for immediate slaughter, *Hunt* 8458-8461.

Statement by Mr. Gebhardt as to quarantine for foreign cattle being impossible, *App.* 329.

7. *Conclusions of the Committee on the subject:*

Several objections to any system of quarantine; its effect in checking importation, and in raising the price to the purchaser, *Rep.* vii——Conclusion that the only disease for which quarantine appears at all reasonable is the rinderpest, *ib.*——Objection to quarantine being applied to counties which, like Spain or Denmark, are free from rinderpest, and are not a channel for the exportation of cattle from infected inland countries, *ib.*—— Suggested permanent department in the Council Office for making inquiries relative to cattle plague abroad, and for recommending quarantine or other restrictions, *ib.*

See also *Sheep.*

R.

RAILWAYS:

1. *Watering and Feeding the Cattle during Railway Transit.*
2. *Cleansing and Disinfecting of the Railway Trucks.*
3. *Feeding and Watering on Foreign Railways.*
4. *Loading and Overcrowding of the Trucks.*
5. *Other details generally.*

1. *Watering and Feeding the Cattle during Railway Transit:*

Obstacles to the cattle being watered and fed in the railway trucks, *Salmon* 1099–1101——Evidence on the question of watering cattle during transit in railway trucks; opinion as to this not being necessary between Harwich and London, *Moseley* 1366–1388——Explanation as to the obstacles to watering or feeding the cattle during the transit by railway between Scotland and London; impracticability of feeding and watering them while in the trucks, *Clarke* 1490–1497——The Great Northern route between Aberdeen and London occupies about thirty-six hours, the cattle not being fed or watered during the journey, *ib.* 1541.

Impracticability of feeding and watering Irish or Scotch cattle in the trucks, though this way may be very possible with cattle abroad, *Reed* 1589–1593——Suggestion that it be imperative to water cattle from Scotland at the commencement and end of the journey, *ib.* 1594–1597——Opinion as to its being feasible to water and feed the animals in the railway trucks, *Hönck* 1721–1725——Expediency of some hay and water being supplied to the animals during railway conveyance from Scotland, *Giblett* 4588–4599——There are no arrangements for watering or feeding the cattle during transit from Hull to Leeds, &c., *O'Brien* 6075, 6076.

Suggestions for watering the animals in the railway trucks between Aberdeen and London, *Strangeways* 7020–7023——Tendency to febrile diseases when the animals are long without water, *ib.* 7023——Obstacles to watering cattle in the trucks, though it is very desirable, *Torr* 7251–7253; *Druce* 7487–7497; *Walsh* 7882, 7883——Difficulty in supplying water in the trucks, it not being necessary, however, to water the cattle unless the journey is very long, or the weather very hot, *Wilkinson* 8316–8320.

Communication from the general manager of the Great Northern Railway, dated 11th December 1865, with reference to the feeding and watering of cattle in transit by rail from Scotland to London, *App.* 385.

Instances of cattle being conveyed on railways without being fed or watered for from thirty-six to forty-eight hours, *Rep.* iv——Serious evils consequent upon cattle in transit not being properly watered, *ib.*

2. *Cleansing and Disinfecting of the Railway Trucks:*

Impracticability of complying with the Privy Council Order of 16th April as to the mode of cleansing the trucks, *Moseley* 1147——Practice, previously to the cattle plague, of sweeping out the trucks and pens after each journey on the Great Northern Railway, *Clarke* 1465. 1468, 1469——More effectual cleaning and purification of the trucks since the Orders in Council; impracticability, however, of complying with the strict requirements of the recent Order on the subject, *ib.* 1465–1469. 1480.

Practice of cleaning the trucks on the Bristol and Exeter line previously to the cattle plague, disinfectants not having been used till prescribed by the Orders in Council, *Wall* 2679–2681——Further particulars as to the practice of cleansing and disinfecting the trucks on witness's line; effectual manner in which carried out, *ib.* 2758–2764. 2768–2274.

Care bestowed upon the cleansing of the cattle trucks since the recent Orders in Council, *Rep.* iv——Recommendation that it be made imperative upon railway companies to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the trucks after each journey, *ib.*

3. *Feeding and Watering on Foreign Railways:*

Information relative to the practice as to watering and feeding the cattle in the trucks, and as to the arrangements generally during transit by railway from Germany, and from the interior of Holland to Rotterdam, *Peters* 1187–1205. 1265–1268. 1286, 1287——Practice of watering and feeding the cattle in transit from Germany to Antwerp, but not in the railway trucks, *Huger* 1335–1338——Care taken in regard to the feeding and watering of the animals during the continental railway transit, *Hönck* 1717–1720——Practice of taking the animals from Austria out of the trucks, in order to water and feed them, *Hirschler* 4171–4176.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

RAILWAYS—continued.

4. *Loading and Overcrowding of the Trucks:*

Practice as to the loading of the trucks on the London and North Western Line, and the number of beasts put into each, *Salmon* 1094–1098——The number of cattle in railway trucks should be limited, *Read* 1588——Undue crowding of the trucks by the jobbers, *Torr* 7253——Suggested restriction upon the number in each truck, *Walsh* 7772. 7826–7832.

Very injurious crowding and detention of the cattle on the Irish railways, so that witness drives or walks his beasts as much as possible, *Garnett* 7905–7912. 7981–7983——Overcrowding of cattle in the railway trucks generally, *Wilkinson* 8303–8308.

Frequent overcrowding and bad treatment of cattle on the railways, especially in Ireland, *Rep.* iv.

5. *Other details generally:*

Concurrence in the objection to covering the bottom of the trucks with asphalte, *Moseley* 264–269. 1148–1160; *Clarke* 1468. 1545, 1546; *Wall* 2765–2767——Competition by road to which the railways are open as regards conveyance of cattle for distances of thirty or forty miles from London; competition also on the part of steamboats, *Moseley* 301–318——Deterioration of live meat when conveyed a long distance by railway, *Salmon* 1092–1094——Opinion that transit by railway does not tend to develope disease, *Ellis* 1422.

Partial extent to which the carriage of live cattle by the Great Northern Railway has been resumed, the restrictions of the Privy Council being a great check, *Clarke* 1480, 1481——Excited and feverish state of the animals when conveyed by railway, in addition to which, they are not fed or watered in the trucks; consequent deterioration, when slaughtered in London, both as regards quality and weight, *ib.* 1488–1501.

There is a large cattle traffic, both in store beasts and fat beasts, on the Bristol and Exeter Railway, *Wall* 2674–2678——Limited extent to which cattle traffic on the line has been resumed since the removal of the restrictions on railway transit, *ib.* 2682. 2748——Expediency of improved arrangements for the conveyance of cattle by railway, *Stewart* 5830–5834.

See also *Austria. Dead Meat. Irish Cattle*, 1.

Ratcliff, James John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a butcher, and is supplied chiefly from Newgate Market, 3632–3638——Considerable inconvenience and expense caused to butchers living a short distance from town by the recent Orders in Council as to the transit of live stock, 3639–3642——Belief that the existing restrictions have caused but little if any advance in the price of meat, 3643–3649——Advanced prices paid by witness and the trade generally though not charged by them to the public, 3646–3651——Improper prices given by the salesmen and quoted in the newspapers; suggestion that the quoted prices be settled by six salesmen and six butchers, 3650–3654. 3771–3777.

Inconvenience and loss to butchers beyond a distance of three miles or so if compelled to slaughter at a public slaughter-house; feeling of the trade on this question, 3655–3661. 3733–3736. 3748–3750. 3784–3788——Opinion that the best plan would be to have a separate market for foreign cattle near the place of landing, with slaughter-houses in connection with it, 3662, 3663. 3669–3683——Sufficient convenience to buyers, and sufficient competition for foreign stock, if sold at a separate market near the river side, 3663. 3673–3683. 3707–3709. 3798, 3799. 3808.

Practicability of supplying the metropolis from dead markets, if in addition to a large central market there were small markets in outlying places, as at Southall, Croydon, &c., 3664–3668. 3737–3739——Great spread of the foot and mouth disease through means of foreign cattle at the Islington Market, 3669, 3670. 3800–3807. 3832——Latent disease frequently in foreign cattle, which cannot be detected by inspection, so that the best means of preventing infection is to have a separate market, 3672. 3766. 3817–3833——Comparative inferiority of foreign meat, witness selling only home-fed meat, 3673–3678. 3778–3783.

Statement as to witness being supplied chiefly with dead meat from Scotland, both in summer and in winter; excellent condition in which this meat generally arrives, a great advantage being that the animals are killed when cool and unexcited, 3684–3706. 3751–3762. 3789–3797——Several respects in which a foreign market, with a slaughter-house attached, would be productive of much convenience, and would obviate much nuisance to the public, 3710–3728——Entire insufficiency of the present dead meat markets, 3729–3731——Want of a central meat market, into which the railways should run, 3732. 3737–3739.

Injury to the meat of foreign animals through their treatment on the voyage and the fatigue and harassment which they undergo before they are killed, 3740–3747. 3751——Preferable condition of the meat when the animal has not been over-driven, 3751–3755——Importance

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Ratcliff, James John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

——Importance of careful packing when dead meat is sent by railway, as from Aberdeen, 3760-3765——Impression of graziers, that diseases of cattle are mostly imported, 3809-3814——Instance, recently, of some foreign sheep having been imported with the small-pox, 3814-3816.

Read, Clare Sewell (*Member of the House*). (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Was one of the Cattle Plague Commissioners; has had considerable experience in grazing, 1570-1572——Opinion that all foreign fat stock should be slaughtered at the port of landing, 1573. 1604——Also that all store cattle from foreign countries should be subject to quarantine, inasmuch as they almost all come from districts where some disease constantly prevails, 1573-1582. 1624-1647——Increased value and price of store cattle when quarantined, 1576, 1577. 1661-1663——Very good fat cattle which come from Spain, there being no store cattle, 1577, 1578. 1656-1658——Belief as to rinderpest having been decidedly imported, 1582. 1640——Liability of Dutch and other cattle to pleuro-pneumonia in a greater degree than Irish cattle, 1582-1585. 1629-1636.

Very bad way in which Irish cattle used to be conveyed across the Channel, 1585-1587. 1622, 1623. 1650——Expediency of vessels being built expressly for the transport of cattle, and of their being limited to a certain number, 1588——The number in railway trucks should also be limited, *ib.*——Impracticability of feeding and watering Irish or Scotch cattle in the trucks, though this may be very possible with cattle abroad, 1589-1593——Suggestion that it be imperative to water cattle from Scotland at the commencement and end of the journey, 1594-1597.

Opinion as to its being feasible to supply London and other large places with dead meat from the country, 1598——Utter insufficiency of the arrangements in connection with Newgate Market, 1599-1601——Fat stock from the country but not from abroad might come into the Metropolitan Market, 1602-1604——Great advantage if there were a large public slaughter-house attached to the Islington Market, 1605-1612——Statement as to the unduly heavy charge for the carriage of dead meat between Norwich and London, 1613-1621.

Way in which quarantine should be applied to foreign store cattle; doubt as to the number of these rendering the matter very difficult, 1624-1628. 1644-1647——Witness does not propose to quarantine Irish store cattle, but only cattle from abroad, 1629-1636——Contemplated slaughtering, without delay, of all diseased cargoes, 1645——Suitable boats now used for bringing cattle from abroad, 1648-1651——Belief as to the very imperfect character of the quarantine and inspection regulations abroad, 1652-1655——Very fine cattle imported from Ireland, 1659, 1660.

Revel Cargo. See *Russian Cattle.*

Rinderpest. See *Cattle Plague.*

Robinson, Anthony George. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Shipowner and shipping agent in London; is largely interested in the import cattle trade, 3268-3278——Considerable quantity of store cattle imported from Holland, 3279, 3280——Conveyance of merchandise as well as cattle in most of the ships in which witness is interested, 3281——Great precautions taken at the port of shipment in Holland, to prevent any diseased animals being placed on board; full confidence of witness in the inspectors, 3282-3291. 3328-3331. 3359-3372——Very few cattle stopped on arrival in witness's ships; instances in the case of the foot and mouth disease, 3285-3291. 3355, 3356.

Mode of disposing of the cattle on arrival in London during the interval before they are sent to market, 3292-3297——Careful cleansing of witness's ships after the discharge of each cargo, 3298-3302. 3332, 3333——Regulations as to the space allowed to each beast, and as to their arrangement on board, 3303-9306. 3314——Very little dead meat brought in witness's vessels, 3307——Excellent condition in which the cattle generally arrive, 3308, 3309——Comparatively little suffering of the animals from Oporto, or from Holland, during the voyage, unless the weather is very severe, 3310-3325——Increasing character of witness's trade, 3326, 3327.

Very strict regulations of foreign Governments for preventing cattle plague, 3330, 3331. 3338. 3354——Belief that there would be no danger in allowing importation to be resumed from Harlingen, 3334-3341——Import in witness's ships of fat cattle only from Denmark, 3343-3346——Objection made, some time ago, by witness, to bringing milch cows from Holland, through fear of their getting the credit of introducing the cattle plague, 3347-3353——Belief that the plague originated in this country, and was not brought from Holland, 3354——Strict inspection in London, for the last three or four years, 3356-3358.

Greater difficulty and expense of a system of quarantine at Rotterdam than in London, 3372-3380——Inconvenience to the importer when Dutch cows arrive too late for market, 3381, 3382——Varying supply of store cattle from Holland, 3384——Careful construction of the vessels in the cattle trade, it being to the interest of the owners to

Robinson, Anthony George. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

bring the animals in good condition, so that Government regulations on the subject are not required, 3385–3392——Very prejudicial effect upon the import of foreign cattle through the restrictions as to transit, save in the form of dead meat, 3393–3397——Increasing demand for live stock from abroad, 3396, 3397——Large numbers of foreign sheep being introduced into Essex, 3397.

Great care necessary in the conveyance of pigs by sea; difficulty in getting them under the decks, 3398–3404. 3408——Good condition in which cattle are imported direct from Ireland to London, 3405–3407——Practice, for many years, to walk the pigs on and off the vessels from Ireland, 3409–3412——Arrangements as to the ventilation of witness's ships, 3413——Reference to a plan showing the way in which the animals are accommodated on deck, 3414.

Rotterdam. Very good condition in which the cattle generally arrive at Rotterdam from the interior, *Peters* 1163. 1166. 1265, 1266——Inspection to which the animals are subject on arrival at Rotterdam, those which are diseased being sent back again; doubt as to the proportion rejected, *ib.* 1163–1165. 1169–1171. 1206–1210. 1225–1240——Arrangements as to the shipment of the cattle at Rotterdam, and as to their accommodation on board, *ib.* 1173, 1174. 1256–1262. 1276, 1277. 1280–1285——Trade in milch cows and lean stock, as well as fat stock, between Rotterdam and Harwich, *ib.* 1180, 1181. 1288–1293.

Arrangements as to placing the animals in lairs, or turning them into fields, at Rotterdam, in the interval between their arrival and their shipment; inspection during this period, *Peters* 1206–1210. 1241–1246. 1251–1255——Practice of killing at Rotterdam animals having the cattle plague badly, *ib.* 1240. 1263, 1264——The largest number in any vessel, including sheep and beasts, has been about 240, *ib.* 1256. 1282.

The voyage from Rotterdam to London occupies about twenty hours, *Pratt* 3040——Reduction of the rates from Rotterdam to London direct, in order to meet the competition of the Harwich route, *ib.* 3065–3068. 3078——Greater difficulty and expense of a system of quarantine at Rotterdam than in London, *Robinson* 3372–3380.

See also *Dutch Cattle.* *Harwich.*

Rudkin, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Chairman of the Markets Committee of the City of London; has been on the committee for several years, 6439–6443——Several markets under the control of the committee, by whom bye-laws are framed for their management, 6444–6446——Personal supervision exercised by witness, both at Copenhagen Market and the dead meat markets, 6447–6451.

Reference to returns (*App.* 326) showing the number of cattle in the Metropolitan Market, and in the lairs attached to the market, in the eight weeks from 16th April to 10th June in 1865 and 1866 respectively, 6452–6461——Explanation as to the accommodation in the lairs before the animals are sent into the market, 6456–6459.

Information relative to the prices of different kinds of meat in the Metropolitan Market, from 16th April to 10th June in 1865 and 1866; 6462–6471, and *App.* 327——Practice for the clerk of the market to take the opinions of various salesmen as to the prices, 6471–6482——Interest of the salesman to keep down the prices, the consignor in the country having, as regards Newgate Market, no check in the matter, 6482, 6483. 6502–6508——Approval of the prices of dead meat being given by a joint committee of salesmen and butchers, 6484–6487.

Fallacious character of the return of prices for Newgate Market as a guide to consumers, 6488. 6495. 6584, 6585——Great variation in the price of meat in the market according to its quality, 6490–6495. 6501. 6584, 6585——Custom of cattle salesmen at Islington Market, but not of dead meat salesmen at Newgate, to give a sold note to the consignor, showing the name of the buyer; advantage if this practice were extended to the dead meat market, as a check upon salesmen and upon prices, 6496–6519. 6560–6576.

Particulars relative to the tolls, or commuted payments, received by the corporation in respect of Newgate and Leadenhall Markets; unsatisfactory arrangements on this question, 6519–6541. 6545——Improved regulations contemplated in regard to tolls and stallage in the new market in Smithfield, 6533–6542. 6552——Prospect of the new market being opened in the summer of 1868; 6543. 6544.

With regard to an accurate return of prices, witness does not recommend that the salesmen be obliged by Act of Parliament to state the prices for an official return, 6547–6549. 6572–6576——Open question at present whether there is to be an afternoon retail market at Smithfield, 6553, 6554——Periods of the day by which the prices may be obtained in the live market and dead market respectively, 6555–6559. 6579–6583.

Great advantage of abolishing the private slaughter-houses, if it were practicable, 6586–6591——Conclusion that the slaughter-houses of retail butchers cannot be done away with; regulations proposed to be applied to these, 6592–6601——Suggestion that all carcase butchers be required to use the slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Cattle Market;

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Rudkin, Thomas—(Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Market; grounds for this recommendation, 6595–6627——Several slaughter-houses of carcase butchers in the City and its vicinity, 6618–6627.

Expediency of one central dead meat market for the metropolis, 6628——Importance also of but one market for live cattle, whether English or foreign; several objections to a separate market for foreign cattle at the river side, 6622–6639. 6694–6717. 6772–6783 ——Belief that but for the free supply of foreign cattle it would be practically impossible to feed the metropolis, 6634–6706 ——Objection to the foreign cattle being slaughtered at the place of landing and conveyed as dead meat to Smithfield Market by railway 6634–6639. 6668–6673.

Suggestion that all animals coming into the metropolitan live market be branded for slaughter within seven days, either in London or the country, 6639–6647. 6718–6730. 6741, 6742——Grounds for objecting to any store cattle being sent to the Metropolitan Market, 6639–6644. 6648–6653. 6718–6720——Proposed quarantine in the case of all store cattle at the port of landing, with a market attached, 6648–6655. 6687–6694. 6749 ——Great liability to the spread of disease by the system in which cows are introduced from abroad to the London cowsheds, 6656–6659——Importance of quarantining the cows from Holland, &c., 6658. 6687–6690.

Regulations desirable in order to prevent the spread of infection by means of fat cattle removed from the London market into the country for slaughter; expediency of such removal notwithstanding there may be some risk incurred, 6660–6686 —— Suggestions with a view to all foreign cattle being landed at Thames Haven; facilities for a quarantine and market in this locality for store cattle, 6687–6694. 6731–6740. 6750–6755——Opinion that danger from cattle plague arises more from English than foreign cattle, 6704–6707——Non-objection to the foreign and English cattle being kept distinct in the market, so long as they are in close contiguity, 6708——Growing importance of the foreign supply, 6709–6717.

Statement in support of the proposition that fat cattle sent to the Metropolitan market should not be allowed to be exposed for sale in any other market, 6721–6730——Better condition of the cattle if landed lower down the river and brought up by railway, 6738. 6750–6755——Obstacle to any improvement in the practice as to the animals being driven through the streets, 6743–6748——Improved condition of the cattle by landing them at Harwich instead of bringing them by sea direct, 6755–6759——Doubt whether the supply of dead meat to London has materially increased of late, 6760, 6761.

Total of thirty-seven seizures for rinderpest in the Metropolitan Market from 16th November 1865 to 22nd February 1866, three-fourths of the animals being English, 6763–6767——Peculiarly healthy state of the market since the end of February, 6763–6767 ——Probable danger of infection by allowing cattle from the London market to be conveyed alive into the country for slaughter, 6768–6771——Objections to markets outside the metropolis for supplying Kent and other adjacent districts, the competition by means of one central market for live stock being very desirable in the public interests, 6772–6783.

Russian Cattle. Witness is satisfied the cattle plague was not introduced into this country by the cargo of beasts from Revel, *Hönck* 2031–2033——Information relative to the cargo of Russian beasts from Revel which came through witness's hands; he has not been able to trace any case of cattle plague to these animals, *Coulson* 2279–2285. 2289–2293——Very wild character of these cattle, *ib.* 2285——Poor and lean character of the Revel cargo, *ib.* 2285–2293——Good accommodation and ventilation in the vessel which brought these cattle, *ib.* 2290.

Conclusion as to the plague not having been introduced by the cargo from Revel, *Simmonds* 3475, 3476. 3556–3570——Opinion that, except in the case of animals direct from Russia, no necessity has been shown for a quarantine with reference to the cattle plague, *Holmans* 3621–3631——If rinderpest was imported at all, and witness has very little doubt on the subject, it came direct from Russia, *ib.* 3621—— Witness never had any faith in the statement that the disease was imported by the cargo from Revel, *Rudkin* 6707.

S.

Sale of Diseased Cattle. Summary punishment suggested in the event of the wilful exposure of diseased cattle for sale, *Rep.* v.

Salesmen. Total of about 4 *s.* 6 *d.* as the charge against the grazier in connection with the sale of each bullock in London, *Herbert* 6014–6016——Witness, as salemaster in Newgate Market, pays ready money for all consignments, the business being entirely one of commission, *Bonser* 7730–7732.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Salmon, Frederick. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is manager of the cattle traffic of the London and North Western Railway, 1068–1070——Much greater expense in the carriage of dead meat than of live stock by railway, the meat moreover being liable to deterioration, 1071–1079. 1090, 1091——Larger claims for compensation against the railway company in respect of detention of dead meat than of live stock, 1080–1088——Deterioration of live meat when conveyed a long distance by railway, 1092–1094——Restive character of Irish cattle, owing to which they often get bruised in transit, 1092. 1128——Practice as to the loading of the trucks, and the number of beasts put into each, 1094–1098——Objections to the cattle being watered and fed in the railway trucks, 1099–1101.

Particulars relative to the conveyance of Irish cattle by sea; good accommodation and careful treatment on board the boats to Holyhead, 1102–1126——Advantage in sending the Irish cattle by Holyhead instead of by Liverpool, 1111–1114. 1129, 1130——Better state in which cattle arrive in the Irish boats than in the boats from parts of Scotland, 1120–1125——Satisfactory condition on the whole in which cattle arrive from Ireland, 1127–1134.

Scotch Cattle. Superior condition in which Scotch cattle come by sea to Liverpool, *Hall* 842–847——Preference given to Scotch beasts over Irish or English ones, *Bradbury* 1057–1059——Good condition in which the cattle from Scotland arrive in London, both by boat and railway, *Hönck* 1956–1960.

Scotland:

Very large quantity of cattle from Denmark and Germany consigned to witness's firm at the ports of Granton and Leith, *Swan* 5357–5362——Sale of the cattle at the ports where they are slaughtered before removal, *ib.* 5363–5365——Transmission of the cattle alive to Edinburgh, Glasgow, &c. until the restrictions upon transit in consequence of the plague, *ib.* 5366, 5367——Dealings of witness's firm in both store and fat cattle from Ireland, *ib.* 5368–5370.

Great loss to the farmers and graziers in Scotland through the present restrictions, it being most desirable to exempt cattle and sheep from Denmark from these restrictions, *Swan* 5379 *et seq.*——Large area of land in Scotland now not stocked, *ib.* 5379. 5448, 5449——Proposition in regard to Danish cattle and home cattle coming to Granton, *ib.* 5385 *et seq.*——German cattle should come to Leith, and should for the present be slaughtered there or at Edinburgh, *ib.* 5385. 5387, 5388. 5406, 5407. 5453.

Limited import of foreign cattle to Edinburgh since the present restrictions, *Swan* 5390–5392. 5433–5445——Increasing demand for meat in Scotland; large supplies sent to London adverted to hereon, *ib.* 5410–5416——Proposal that store cattle should be kept out of the fat cattle market at Edinburgh and Glasgow, on account of the foot and and mouth disease being very prevalent in those markets; the same objection does not apply to fat cattle being sent to the store markets, *ib.* 5474–5500.

Satement as to the cattle plague having been introduced into Scotland by some cows from the Metropolitan Market, *Swan* 5515, 5516. 5521–5525——Summary measures proposed by witness on the first appearance of the plague in Scotland; advantage in the infected animals being at once slaughtered, compensation being given to the owners, *ib.* 5525. 5529–5537.

Very healthy character of the cattle landed at Leith and Granton, so that every facility should be granted to their import, *Strangeways* 6937–6956——Increased import to Scotland if the cattle were allowed to be taken to the interior for slaughter, *ib.* 6951–6954——Check to the import of store stock to Scotland from abroad, *ib.* 6954.

Order in Council of 3 November 1865, regulating the removal of cattle to and from the north western district of Scotland, *App.* 349, 350.

Order in Council of 11 April 1866, consolidating and amending previous orders for preventing the spread of cattle plague in Scotland, *App.* 373–380.

Reference by the Committee to the injurious effect upon Scotch farmers through the regulation as to the compulsory slaughter of foreign cattle at the port of discharge, *Rep.* vi.

See also *Danish Cattle. Dead Meat,* 2. *Glasgow. Granton. Leith.*

Sevenoaks (*Kent*). Examination relative to the purchase of some legs of mutton at Newgate Market by a Sevenoaks butcher, through the difficulty of obtaining locally an adequate supply of live animals; high price paid, though the meat turned out bad by the following morning, *Giblett* 4626–4658.

Sheep. Conclusion as to it not being necessary to apply quarantine to sheep, disease being easily detected in their case, *Daniels* 154, 155. 178–185——Sheep, if diseased on landing, should at once be slaughtered, *ib.* 193, 194——Good condition of the foreign sheep coming to Liverpool by way of Hull, *Hall* 951–953——Large trade in the export of

Sheep—continued.

of sheep from Rotterdam, until the recent prohibition by Order in Council, *Peters* 1249, 1250——Considerable number of sheep exported from Antwerp: inspection to which subjected, *Huger* 1339-1342. 1348.

Good condition in which the sheep from Hamburgh arrive at Hull, *Coulson* 2116, 2117. 2163-2166——Course pursued at Hull in the event of sheep being imported with the scab, *Lockwood* 2529-2534——Large number of foreign sheep introduced into Essex, *Robinson* 3397——Instance recently, of some foreign sheep having been imported with the small-pox, *Ratcliffe* 3814-3816.

Opinion that sheep should not be stopped from any foreign part at the present time, *Swan* 5510, 5511——Information relative to the general kinds of disease in sheep, *ib.* 5511-5514. 5517-5520——Very good foreign sheep which come to the London market, *Herbert* 5985-5987——Sale by witness of all his sheep in Dublin, without sending any direct to Liverpool, *Garnett* 7924-7926——Healthy condition in which foreign sheep are landed at Newcastle, *Wilkinson* 8215, 8216.

Paper furnished by Mr. Robinson showing the number of sheep brought in from Holland, &c., during the year 1865, *App.* 307-314.

Returns showing the number of sheep in the Metropolitan Cattle Market for the several periods from 12th February to 14th April, and from 16th April to 10th June in 1865 and 1866 respectively, *App.* 326. 328.

Simmonds, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Veterinary surgeon; is Customs inspector of foreign cattle in the port of London, 3415-3417——Inspection by witness of each beast separately when landed on the wharf, 3418-3420——Practice of keeping back and slaughtering animals having the foot and mouth disease, or the lung disease, the rest of the cargo being allowed to proceed, 3420-3429——When any animal has the cattle plague, the whole of the cargo is slaughtered; instance of this in September last, 3424. 3430-3434.

Very good condition in which the cattle generally arrive from abroad, 3435——Occasional injury and suffering from overcrowding, so that witness suggests that it be imperative to allow a certain space to each animal, 3435-3457. 3466-3471——Suggestion also that it be compulsory to provide water and hay during the voyage, 3458-3460 3510-3519——Expediency of each vessel being thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each voyage; this is now very generally done, 3461-3463. 3584-3589——Due care already taken by shipowners in the matter of ventilation, no expense being spared for the purpose, 3464, 3465. 3518.

Opinion that rinderpest was not introduced into this country by live cattle from abroad, 3472-3475. 3556-3572——Conclusion as to the plague not having been introduced by the cargo from Revel, 3475, 3476. 3556-3570——Necessity of a quarantine of fourteen or twenty-one days in the case of store cattle, in order to be sure that the plague is not latent, 3477-3497——Sufficiency of the regulation as to fat cattle being killed in four days after their arrival or their being sent to market, 3479. 3486-3488. 3591——Very few store cattle which would come from abroad, if subject to the expense of quarantine of fourteen or twenty-one days, 3490-3497. 3520-3524. 3538-3542. 3591, 3592——Importance of quarantining milch cows and calves under a certain age; how this might be carried out, 3497. 3525-3537. 3592.

Countries entirely free from the cattle plague should be exempted from quarantine, 3498-3502——Fearful suffering of some animals from the foot and mouth disease; expediency of a strict check upon its introduction from abroad, 3502-3509——Prejudicial effect upon the foreign trade, if there were a separate market in London for foreign cattle exclusively, 3543-3548. 3590, 3591.

Advantage if it were compulsory to supply hay and water on short passages as well as on the longer voyages, 3549-3555——Grounds for concluding that the cattle plague has not been imported with any beasts from Hungary, 3557-3563. 3571, 3572——General character of the inspection by witness and his colleague; obstacle to rendering it more efficient unless the animals are quarantined, 3573-3583.

Simmonds, Mr. Report from Mr. Simmonds to the Commissioners of Customs, dated 18th April 1866, relative to the restrictions applied in the case of foreign cattle, and disapproving of any relaxation thereof, *App.* 304.

Simon, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is medical officer of the Privy Council; was formerly officer of health for the City of London, 5017, 5018——Considers that the private slaughter-houses in the City, when under witness's inspection, were decidedly a nuisance, and were more or less injurious to the public health, 5018-5020. 5061-5070——Important advantage of public slaughtering as facilitating a proper inspection of dead meat, 5021-5023. 5051——Character of the twofold inspection formerly of slaughter houses, and of dead markets in the City, 5024-5031.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Simon, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Doubt as to much meat in a putrid state being consumed in the metropolis, so as to be seriously prejudicial to public health, 5029–5036——Probability of there being a considerable sale in the metropolis of meat diseased by the presence of parasites and detrimental to human health, 5037–5045——Insufficiency of the present system of inpection for preventing the sale of trichinous pork, 5046–5050.

Expediency of regulations relative to the accommodation and treatment of cattle on board ship, 5054–5060——Liability to the introduction of steppe-murrain or rinderpest, unless further precautions are adopted in this country, 5073–5083——Advantage if foreign fat stock were slaughtered near the place of landing, 5079–5081——Suggestions as to the application of quarantine to store cattle, when they come from infected countries, 5082–5112——Way in which it might be settled as to the countries to be placed under quarantine; discretion advisable in the Privy Council, 5095–5097. 5100–5118.

Slater, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher in Jermyn-street; purchases largely in the dead-meat market, and also slaughters at Kensington, 5119–5121——Difficulty of supply when the prohibition upon the movement of cattle was in force, 5122, 5123——Purchase by witness of home-fed meat exclusively, foreign meat not being suited for the West-end trade, 5124–5126——Inconvenience of a separation of the home and foreign markets; that is, in the case of butchers buying in both markets, 5127–5131. 5205–5208.

Imperfect manner in which the prices quoted in the newspapers are obtained, the quotations being too low; amended practice suggested, 5129. 5132–5144——Large quantity of dead meat from Scotland purchased by witness's firm; difficulty as to the supply in hot weather, 5145–5165. 5188. 5195–5197——Statement as to the importance of butchers having private slaughter-houses under their personal supervision, 5166–5179. 5199–5204——Approval of efficient inspection so as to prevent private slaughter-houses being injurious to health, 5180–5185——Various parts of the country whence beasts are brought by witness's firm; increased price paid for them of late, 5189–5193——Obstacle to depending entirely on a dead meat supply, 5194–5198——Considerable quantities of prime roasting beef supplied to witness's firm from private slaughter-houses, 5199–5202.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES:

I. *In the Metropolis:*

1. Evidence in Condemnation of Private Slaughter-houses.
2. Defence of the Private Slaughter-houses.
3. Evidence in favour of Public Slaughter-houses or Abattoirs exclusively.
4. Objections to the foregoing Proposition.
5. Suggested Regulations for Private Slaughter-houses.
6. Question of compelling Carcase Butchers to use Abattoirs.
7. Fees at the Islington Slaughter-houses; extent to which these are used.
8. Discontinuance of Slaughtering at the Dead Meat Markets.

II. *In the Country and in Large Towns.*

III. *In Foreign Countries.*

IV. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

I. *In the Metropolis:*

1. Evidence in Condemnation of Private Slaughter-houses:

Details as to the extremely injurious operation of private slaughter-houses in the Metropolis, so that in the interests of the public witness recommends their compulsory abolition, *Letheby* 3841–3848. 3857 *et seq.*——Very objectionable way which the offal, fat, and blood are now very frequently disposed of, *ib.* 3842–3848. 3858. 3871. 3915–3917. 3953——There are fifty-eight slaughter-houses in the City, and they are all more or less a nuisance to the neighbourhood, *ib.* 3907.

Witness considers that the private slaughter-houses in the City, when under witness's inspection, were decidedly a nuisance, and were more or less injurious to the public health, *Simon* 5018–5020. 5061–5070——Great advantage of abolishing the private slaughter-houses if it were practicable, *Rudkin* 6586–6591.

Pressing necessity for the removol of all the slaughter-houses in the City of London, *App.* 319——List of slaughter-houses in the City, *ib.*

2. Defence

Report, 1866—*continued*.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES—continued.

I. *In the Metropolis*—continued.

2. Defence of the Private Slaughter-houses:

Slaughter of the animals chiefly at private slaughter-houses scattered throughout the Metropolis: convenience and economy thereby to the butchers as compared with the use of a public slaughter-house, *Hönck* 1732 *et seq*, 1944–1955——General feeling of the trade in favour of private slaughter-houses, *Ratcliff* 3748–3750. 3784–3788——Convenience of the present slaughter-houses in the Metropolis, *Baker* 4279. 4286–4289. 4414. 4499–4501.

Conclusion that oxen are worth more by 30*s*. a head, and sheep by 3*s*. a head, to the butcher, when killed at a private slaughter-house, than when killed at a public slaughter-house; data for this conclusion considered, *Giblett* 4568. 4763–4799——Excellent manner in which the butchers generally manage the work in their own slaughter-houses; great importance of their personal inspection, *ib*.——More cleanly treatment, and more satisfactory disposal of the offal, through there being private slaughter-houses, *ib*. 4568. 4779–4788.

Convenience and advantage of the present system whereby the cattle from the Metropolitan Market are distributed among numerous private slaughter-houses, and are killed under the butchers' personal inspection, *Woodley* 4855–4863——Importance to the butchers of the control and security under the present system, *ib*. 4858–4863——Limited nuisance arising from the slaughter-houses as compared with the evils to be created by their abolition, *ib*. 4943–4952.

Convenience and benefit to the public at large, as well as to the butchers, in the latter having private slaughter-houses where they can kill at any moment, according to the demand or the state of the weather, *Pickworth* 4956. 4965–4975. 5011–5015——Number of animals slaughtered weekly by witness: character of his accommodation for the purpose, *ib*. 4957–4960. 4969–4974. 5006, 5007——Clean and wholesome state in which the private slaughter-houses are generally kept, *ib*. 5015, 5016.

Statement as to the importance of butchers having private slaughter-houses under their personal supervision, *Slater* 5166–5179. 5199–5204——Considerable quantities of prime roasting beef supplied to witness's firm from private slaughter-houses, *ib*. 5199–5202——Frequent instances of live stock being consigned direct to witness: practice as to the disposal and slaughter of these, without their going through the market, *Bonser* 7693–7705.

3. Evidence in favour of Public Slaughter-houses or Abattoirs exclusively:

Great advantage if there were a large public slaughter-house attached to the Islington Market, *Read* 1605–1612——Evidence strongly in favour of a limited number of public slaughter-houses, or abattoirs, under proper regulations, and with proper appliances for disposing of the offal manure, *Letheby* 3844. 3859 *et seq*.——The consumers of meat and the public health would be benefited by the proposed abattoirs, the only difficulty being with the butchers: these should be compensated, *ib*. 3860–3863. 3877–3881——Very satisfactory operation of the system of abattoirs in Paris, and in various large towns in France, Prussia, &c., *ib*. 3864–3867. 3890.

Conclusion that the trade would soon conform without inconvenience to the regulations in public slaughter-houses, *Letheby* 3890–3894. 3899–3902——Opinion as to the sufficiency of two or three abattoirs for the Metropolis, *ib*. 3944–3946. 3971–3978——Tendency of public slaughter-houses to lower rather than to enhance the price of meat, *ib*. 3984–3987.

Approval of a system of public slaughter-houses in London, if a sufficient number be provided, *Swan* 5546–5548——Grounds for concluding that butchers in large towns would not suffer if required to use public slaughter-houses, *J. Higgins* 7072–7083.

4. Objections to the foregoing Proposition:

Limited advantage as regards disposal of the offal, hides, &c., by having one large slaughter-house, *Hönck* 1764–1779——Inconvenience and loss to butchers beyond a distance of three miles or so, if compelled to slaughter at a public slaughter-house; feeling of the trade on this question, *Ratcliff* 3655–3661. 3733–3736. 3748–3750. 3784–3788——Decided objection to its being imperative to use public slaughter-houses exclusively; injurious monopoly in such case in the hands of the larger buyers, *Hicks* 4062, 4063. 4103–4125.

Evidence strongly opposed to public slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, which it should be imperative upon contractors and butchers to use exclusively, *Baker* 4280–4300. 4409–4415. 4472–4477. 4483–4490. 4502–4522. 4538–4558——Great inconvenience to butchers, as well as contractors, if compelled to use a public slaughter-house, *ib*. 4409–4415. 4472–4477. 4502–4509——Importance of a central market for live cattle, whilst a centralization of slaughter-houses is very objectionable, *ib*. 4489, 4490——Necessity of public slaughter-houses at several points of the metropolis, or of very

, Report, 1866—*continued.*

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES—continued.

I. *In the Metropolis*—4. Objections to the foregoing Proposition—*continued.*

very extensive accommodation at the Cattle Market, in the event of the private slaughter-houses being abolished, *Baker* 4538–4558——Difficulty in hot weather in distributing the meat to all parts of London from a central slaughter-house, *Baker* 4538–4546. 4558; *Giblett* 4566, 4567.

Impracticability, without increased expense, of slaughtering all live cattle in London in public slaughter-houses at the Metropolitan Market, *Giblett* 4566-4568. 4581——Serious loss through the fat being largely purloined when the slaughtering takes place at the slaughter-house at the Islington Market, *ib.* 4568. 4789-4799——It would be a confiscation of property if the butchers were deprived of the power of killing the meat on their own premises, *ib.* 4568——With regard to the system of abattoirs in Edinburgh, witness has a decided objection to its application to London, even if there were power in the butchers to hire the abattoirs, and if there were two or three, instead of only one, at the cattle market, *ib.* 4571–4584.

Conclusion as to the impracticability of all the slaughtering in the Metropolis being carried on at public slaughter-houses at the Islington Market, *Woodley* 4845–4854. 4861——Decided objection to being compelled to use public slaughter-houses, even though there were several in convenient localities: the wants of the public could not in fact be satisfactorily met, *Pickworth* 4965–4968. 5008–5015—— Difficulty in the butchers identifying their own animals at public slaughter-houses, *ib.* 5009-5011.

Ground for objecting to its being compulsory to slaughter in public slaughter-houses: inconvenience and injury to the butchers generally, who now have private slaughter-houses, *Bannister* 5250–5255. 5268–5295. 5006——Butchers would be largely robbed in public slaughter-houses, *ib.* 5253. 5269——Considerable inconvenience if butchers were compelled to use public slaughter-houses, *Herbert* 6002-6009.

Injury and expense if it were compulsory to use public instead of private slaughter-houses, *Bonser* 7688. 7706–7726——Injurious effect upon the foreign trade, if it were necessary to incur the increased expense of public slaughter-houses, *ib.* 7714, 7715.

5. Suggested Regulations for Private Slaughter-houses:

Conclusion that the slaughter-houses of retail butchers cannot be done away with; regulations proposed to be applied to these, *Rudkin* 6592–6601.

Conclusions of Dr. Letheby as to the great importance of increased checks upon slaughter-houses in the Metropolis, *App.* 319.

6. Question of compelling Carcase Butchers to use Abattoirs:

Suggestion that all carcase butchers be required to use the slaughter-houses at Islington Market: grounds for this recommendation, *Rudkin* 6595–6627——About half the slaughtering in London is done by carcase butchers, *ib.* 6603, 6604——Several slaughter-houses of carcase butchers in the City and its vicinity, *ib.* 6618–6627.

Any concession, as regards private slaughter-houses, should be in favour of retail butchers, rather than of carcase butchers, *J. Higgins* 7077, 7078——Difficulty in distinguishing between the carcase butcher and the retail butcher, in regard to the retention of private slaughter-houses, *Bonser* 7723–7726.

7. Fees at the Islington Slaughter-houses; extent to which these are used:

Amount of fees for slaughtering at the Metropolitan Cattle Market; prejudice of the butchers against the use of these slaughter-houses, *Letheby* 3882, 3883——Number of cattle slaughtered weekly at Islington Market, and rates charged, *Herbert* 6000, 6001. 6008.

8. Discontinuance of Slaughtering at the Dead Meat Markets.

Slaughter-houses for oxen are no longer used at Newgate or Leadenhall Markets, the dead meat being supplied to those markets, and to Aldgate Market, from other slaughter-houses in London, or from the country, *Woodley* 4872–4882.

II. *In the Country and in Large Towns:*

Way in which slaughter-houses might be established in country places, if there were a general system of dead-meat markets, *Clarke* 1536–1539.

Expediency of public slaughter-houses not only in London but in every large town in the kingdom, *Letheby* 3875. 3884–3887. 3978–3983 —— Contemplated erection of slaughter-houses by the municipalities, after which they would be self supporting by the fees, *ib.* 3876——The regulations and control should rest with the municipal bodies or local board of health, *ib.* 3954, 3955——Injury to health from private slaughter-houses in large towns, *J. Higgins* 7071, 7072——Advantage of slaughter-houses near the railway stations in the country, *Fair* 7162–7166.

III. *In*

Report, 1866—*continued.*

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES—continued.

III. *In Foreign Countries:*

Particulars in report by Dr. Letheby relative to the regulations and instructions in foreign countries on the subject of slaughter-houses, *App.* 316–318.

IV. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Great inconvenience of cattle driving in the streets of London through the animals being driven to private slaughter-houses; suggestion hereon, *Rep.* v.——Statement as to slaughter-houses if properly kept not being unhealthy, *ib.*——Advantage if the slaughtering by carcase butchers were carried on at a public slaughter-house adjoining the live market, *ib.*——Great hardship by abolishing the slaughter houses of the retail butchers, *ib.*

Advantage to the public interests by adopting as far as practicable a system of public slaughter-houses, *Rep.* v——Expediency of slaughter-houses being placed under regulations and proper inspection, *ib.*——Suggested power in local authorities to acquire land for the erection of slaughter-houses, *ib.*

See also *Edinburgh. Inspection*, 2. *Leeds* 3. *Liverpool*, 5. *Paris. Vienna.*

Slaughtering of Cattle. Sundry Orders in Council with reference to the import, transit, and slaughtering of cattle, *App.* 339 *et seq.*——Order in Council dated 9th May 1866, continuing until 30th June the provisions of "The Cattle Diseases Prevention Act, 1866," relating to the slaughtering of cattle, with reference to the cattle plague, *ib.* 370.

See also *Aldershot. Butchers. Cattle Plague. Dead Meat. Dutch Cattle. Foot and Mouth Disease*, 3. 4. *Foreign Cattle*, 8–10. *Harwich. Inspection. Leeds*, 1, 2. *Leith. Metropolitan Cattle Plague. Quarantine. Scotland. Slaughter-houses. Transit of Cattle.*

Slinging (*Embarkation and Landing of Cattle*). Objection to its being required to sling the cattle on board; increased expense thereby, *Daniels* 236——Injury to the store beasts when landed in slings, *Valentine* 2608. 2617–2619——Arrangements in the Tyne cattle ships as to slinging the cattle in landing them, *Stephens* 8382–8386.

Abandonment, to a great extent, of the practice of slinging, the animals being chiefly made to walk on and off board, *Rep.* iii.

Smithfield Market. Great advantage if the Great Eastern and other railways had a direct communication with the Smithfield dead meat market; obstacle in the case of the Great Eastern line, *Moseley* 323–333. 340–347. 350–356——Undue delay on the part of the corporation in converting Smithfield into a dead meat market, *ib.* 329–334. 352, 353——Inconvenience of a large dead meat market in the heart of the City, *ib.* 348–352——Defective arrangements in connection with the new dead meat market in Smithfield; want of a much larger area of siding accommodation, *Clarke* 1506–1514. 1559–1566——Want of a central meat market, into which the railways should run, *Ratcliff* 3732. 3737–3739.

Cause of the delay in the erection of the new market at Smithfield, *Letheby* 3937, 3938——Improved regulations contemplated as regards tolls and stallage in the new market, *Rudkin* 6533–6542. 6552——Prospect of the new market being opened in the summer of 1868, *ib.* 6543, 6544——Open question at present whether there is to be an afternoon retail market, *ib.* 6553, 6554——The tolls of the new market will be required to pay the bonds, *ib.* 6762.

Spanish Cattle. Large consignments of cattle from Oporto to witness's firm at Liverpool; excellent quality of these, and very good condition in which they arrive, *Cullen* 496–509——Very large vessels in which cattle from Oporto are conveyed, every care being taken of the animals during the voyage, *ib.* 500. 504–507. 595–610——Effect of the present restrictions upon transit by railway in greatly decreasing the importation from Oporto to Liverpool, *ib.* 526–529. 543, 544. 682–687——High prices fetched by the animals, *ib.* 592, 593——Entire extinction of the Oporto trade if a quarantine were imposed, *ib.* 594.

Good condition in which the cattle from Oporto arrived at Liverpool, the animals being of a valuable class, *Hall* 775–784——Better condition in which Spanish cattle arrive than Irish cattle, *Bradbury* 1054–1056——Healthy and excellent condition in which the cattle from Oporto arrive at Liverpool; they might, without danger, at once be forwarded into the country, *Ellis* 1397–1404. 1456–1459——Very good fat cattle which come from Spain, there being no store cattle, *Read* 1577, 1578. 1656–1658——Better condition in which cattle arrive at Liverpool from Spain than from Ireland, *Aungier* 2896–2902.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Spanish Cattle—continued.

Stop to the import of animals from Oporto to London, through the Government restrictions, *Robinson* 3393–3396 ——The cattle from Spain have been very healthy, *Holmans* 3621——Light weight of the Spanish cattle, though very showy looking animals, *Herbert* 5901–5910—— Cattle from uninfected countries, like Spain or Portugal, should have the same facilities of transit as Irish cattle, *Fair* 7544. 7555. 7598.

Better condition in which cattle arrive from Oporto than from Ireland, *Rep.* iii—— Practice in the vessels from Oporto as to each animal being allowed space to lie down, and being fed with compressed food, and watered, *ib.*——Objection to quarantine being applied to cattle from Spain, as not only being free from rinderpest, but not being a channel for the exportation of cattle from infected inland countries, *ib.* vii.

STEAMERS (SEA PASSAGE):

1. *Accommodation in the Cattle Vessels to London, Harwich, Hull, &c.*
2. *Question of Feeding and Watering the Cattle during the Passage.*
3. *Suggested Regulations as to the Number of Cattle in each Steamer, and the means of Ventilation.*
4. *Practice as to Cleansing the Vessels after each Voyage.*
5. *Condition of the Animals during the Passage, and on Arrival.*

1. *Accommodation in the Cattle Vessels to London, Harwich, Hull, &c.:*

Way in which the cattle are accommodated on board the vessels from Rotterdam to Harwich: check upon overcrowding, *Daniels* 16–48. 80–90——The vessels of the Great Eastern Railway Company are exceedingly well adapted for the purpose of conveying cattle, *ib.* 18. 31——Objection to limiting the number to be conveyed by the vessels from Rotterdam to Harwich, *ib.* 82——Statement as to the character of the ships and of the accommodation on board in the case of the Oporto cattle; due care taken of the animals during the voyage to Liverpool, *Cullen* 500. 504–507. 595–610——Advantage in the steamers having coverings on deck for the cattle, *ib.* 730–733.

Disadvantage when cattle are crowded in the holds of steamboats, *Ellis* 1422——Good ventilation and careful treatment in the vessels bringing foreign cattle to Liverpool, *ib.* 1423, 1424——Suitable boats now used for bringing cattle from abroad, *Read* 1648–1651 ——Very suitable character of most of the vessels in which the animals are conveyed to London, so that there is not much suffering or injury except when the weather is very stormy, *Hönck* 1676–1692——Exceptional instances of the employment of vessels not properly fitted, *ib.* 1910. 1982–1992.

Particulars as to the accommodation in the cattle vessels of witness's firm, and as to the stowage and care of the animals during the passage from Germany, &c. to Hull, *Malcolm* 2305–2311. 2359–2381——Interest of the firm to bring the cattle without injury or loss on the voyage, *ib.* 2308–2310. 2347–2349——Provision as to ventilation in the holds of the vessels, *ib.* 2371–2373——Modes of arranging the cattle in the holds; suggestion hereon, *Lockwood* 2428–2440——Very few drovers with the cattle landed at Hull, *ib.* 2495–2503.

Conveyance of merchandise as well as cattle in most of the ships in which witness is interested, *Robinson* 3281——Regulations as to the space allowed to each beast, and as to the arrangements on board, *ib.* 3303–3306, 3414——Careful construction of the vessels in the cattle trade, it being the interest of the owners to bring the animals in good condition, so that Government regulations on the subject are not required, *ib.* 3385–3392 ——Arrangements as to the ventilation of witness's ships, *ib.* 3413——Reference to a plan showing the way in which the animals are accommodated on deck, *ib.* 3414.

Due care already taken by shipowners in the matter of ventilation, no expense being spared for the purpose, *Simmonds* 3464, 3465. 3518——Very little room for improvement in the accommodation for cattle on board ship, *Holmans* 3613–3620.

Excellent accommodation in the cattle vessels coming into the Tyne; very little overcrowding or injury on board, *Wilkinson* 8158–8161. 8229——Details relative to the accommodation, ventilation, &c., in the vessels from Hamburgh, &c., to the Tyne, *Stephens* 8344–8359. 8378, 8379.

Conclusion of the Committee, that with the exception of some cases in the Irish and Bremen trade, the vessels do not appear to be overcrowded, *Rep.* iii.——Statement as to the vessels being, with some exceptions, specially fitted up, and having means to secure ventilation, *ib.*

2. *Question of Feeding and Watering the Cattle during the Passage:*

Opinion as to its not being necessary to feed and water the animals on the voyage to Harwich, *Daniels* 233–235——Suggestion that it be compulsory to provide water and hay, during the voyage from abroad, *Simmonds* 3458–3460. 3510–3519——Advantage if it were compulsory to supply hay and water on short voyages as well as on long voyages, *ib.* 3549–3555——Advantage if the cattle could always be fed and watered on board; impracticability of this, when there are large numbers close together, *Holmans* 3614–3618.

The

Report, 1866—*continued.*

STEAMERS—(*SEA PASSAGE*)—continued.

2. *Question of Feeding and Watering the Cattle during the Passage*—continued.

The provision of water and hay on board ship should be rendered compulsory universally, *Giblett* 4600–4602——Preference of steamers to railways for conveying the live animals from Aberdeen to London, there being no provision of hay or water in the latter case, as in the former, *ib.* 5828–5837——Importance not only of the ventilation of the vessels being attended to, but of its being compulsory to water the animals on the voyage, *Strangeways* 7006–7015.

3. *Suggested Regulations as to the Number of Cattle in each Steamer, and the means of Ventilation:*

Expediency of vessels being built expressly for the transport of cattle, and of their being limited to a certain number, *Read* 1588——Approval of a Government inspection of all vessels in the cattle trade: interest however of the owners to have suitable and well fitted vessels, *Hönch* 1909–1914. 1999–2003——Advantage of a restriction upon the number of cattle to be carried in the vessels, *Coulson* 2147, 2148. 2156; *Valentine* 2610–2616——Restriction suggested as to the number of cattle, according to the space in each vessel, *Lockwood* 2421–2432.

Occasional injury and suffering from overcrowding, so that witness suggests that it be imperative to allow a certain space to each animal, *Simmonds* 3435–3437. 3466–3471——Suggested inspection as to the space to be allotted to the animals on board, *Giblett* 4603–4607——Expediency of regulations relative to the accommodation and treatment of cattle on board ship, *Simon* 5054–5060——Recommendation that cattle ships be registered to carry a certain number of cattle, according to the breed or size, *Strangeways* 6999–7005.

Regulations suggested as to the space to be devoted in the cattle vessels to each animal, as to the means of ventilation, arrangements for watering the animals, &c., *Wilkinson* 8228, 8229. 8237–8254. 8309–8312——Approval of compulsory regulations as to ventilation, the space to be allotted to the animals, &c., *Stephens* 8360–8376——Difficulty of enforcing regulations as to the space of cubic feet to be allotted to each animal in the cattle ships; way in which the number carried might, however be checked, *Hunt* 8403–8410——Means of enforcing proper ventilation, and of alleviating the distress from overcrowding, *ib.* 8404. 8411–8414.

Recommendation that provision be made under Government inspection, for the proper ventilation of all vessels employed in carrying cattle by sea, *Rep.* iv.

4. *Practice as to Cleansing the Vessels after each Voyage:*

Regulations as to cleaning the vessels from Rotterdam to Harwich after each Voyage, as soon as the cargo is out, *Daniels* 91–97. 166——Practice of cleaning the vessels of witness's firm each voyage; approval of its being compulsory to use disinfectants, *Malcolm* 2351–2356——Suggested use of disinfectants before a vessel takes any fresh cargo on board, *Lockwood* 2493, 2494——Practice as to cleaning the vessels conveying cattle to Hull, *Valentine* 2631–2634.

Careful cleaning of witness's ships after the discharge of each cargo, *Robinson* 3298–3302. 3332, 3333——Expediency of each vessel being thoroughly cleansed and disinfected after each voyage; this is now generally done, *Simmonds* 3461–3463. 3584–3589——Disinfection of the vessels to Granton and Leith after each passage, *Strangeways* 7019——Thorough cleansing of the Tyne vessels after each voyage, *Wilkinson* 8162–8164.

5. *Condition of the Animals during the Passage and on Arrival:*

Suffering chiefly during the last three or four hours of the passage from Rotterdam, &c., the animals being then worn out by fatigue, *Daniels* 113. 234, 235——Greater suffering of the cattle when sent direct to London by sea, than when landed at Harwich, *ib.* 113——Better condition generally in which cattle arrive at Harwich from Rotterdam than from Antwerp, *ib.* 229——Conveyance of the cattle from Holland to Harwich in boats belonging to the Great Eastern Company without the animals suffering much during the passage, *Moseley* 253–255.

Suffering of the animals imported at Hull, when the weather is very stormy, but not on ordinary occasions, *Malcolm* 2331–2333——Length of the passage from different parts to London, *Pratt* 3040——Comparatively little suffering of the animals from Oporto, or from Holland during the voyage, unless the weather is very severe, *Robinson* 3310–3325.

Frequency of accidents on board from fractured limbs, *Strangeways* 7016–7018——Wretched state in which witness has seen some foreign cargoes arrive at Blackwall, *Wilkinson* 8229–8234——Distress generally from bad weather, rather than from overcrowding or defective ventilation, *Hunt* 8411–8422——Opinion that the animals do not suffer more when coming up the river than when at sea, *ib.* 8419–8422.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

STEAMERS—(*SEA PASSAGE*)—continued.

5. *Condition of the Animals during the Passage and on Arrival*—continued.

Good condition generally of the sea-borne cattle on arrival, *Rep.* iii.

See also *Bremen.* *Dublin Steam Packet Company.* *Foreign Cattle*, 2. *General Steam Navigation Company.* *Irish Cattle*, 3, 4. *Tyne Steam Shipping Company.*

Stephens, William Davies. (Analysis of his Evidence).—Is managing director of the Tyne Steam Shipping Company, 8334——Total of Six vessels employed by the Company in the import of cattle to Newcastle, 8335, 8336——Length of the passage from Hamburg, there being no delay in landing, 8337, 8338——Practice of feeding and watering the cattle on board, 8340, 8341——Details relative to the accommodation in the Tyne cattle boats, the arrangements for ventilation, the space between decks, &c., 8344–8359. 8378, 8379.

Approval of compulsory regulations as to ventilation, the space to be allotted to the animals, &c., 8360–8370——Almost entire absence of complaint as to the condition in which the cattle arrive, 8371, 8372——Strict inspection of the cattle before they are shipped at Hamburg and Rotterdam, 8373–8377——Witness has never seen any case of rinderpest in foreign cattle, 8380–8382——Arrangement in the Tyne ships as to slinging the cattle in landing them, 8382–8386.

Steppe Murrain. See *Cattle Plague.*

Stewart, James. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher at Aberdeen; has been long engaged in sending dead meat to the London market, 5722–5725——Prime character of the meat sent from Aberdeen to London, 5727——Interval between the killing of the animal in Aberdeen and the sale of the meat in London, 5728, 5729——Diminished trade in the summer months, it being sometimes stopped in very hot weather, 5730–5734. 5794–5798——Sale of the offal chiefly in Aberdeen; price fetched by it, and mode in which finally disposed of, 5735–5744——Practice for many years to send meat to London by steamboats, 5747–5750.

Expense of conveyance by boat and railway respectively: difference between the cost of conveyance of the dead meat and of the live animal, 5751–5763. 5837——Practice of the farmers as well as of the Aberdeen butchers, to consign meat to the London market, 5764–5773——Very little mutton sent from Aberdeen to London, 5774–5775——Way in which the meat is packed to go by railway, 5776–5787——Very few complaints of the condition of the meat on arrival, 5799–5802——Advantage in the animals being killed in a cool and quiet state, and of the meat being allowed to set before it is placed in the trucks, 5803–5813.

Similar quality of meat forwarded whether as dead meat or as live cattle, 5821–5825——Preference of steamers to railways for conveying the live animals, there being no provision of hay or water in the latter case, 5828–5837——Expediency of improved arrangements by railway, 5830–5834——Very little loss of meat through being spoilt on the journey, 5844–5847——Use by witness of the corporation slaughter house, there being also six private slaughter houses, 5848–5851——Difference of about 2 *d.* per pound between the retail price of meat, and the wholesale price of the bullock, 5852, 5853.

Store Cattle. Difficulty anticipated in supplying the grazing districts with store cattle, *Clarke* 1481——Contemplated continuance of the import of store cattle to London by railway, *ib.* 1567–1569——Very few store cattle from France, whilst there are not any from Spain or Portugal, *Read* 1577, 1578—— Consignment of both fat stock and store cattle to witness at Hull, there being an increasing demand for the latter, *Coulson* 2056–2073——Few store cattle imported by witness's company direct to London, *Pratt* 3250.

Considerable quantity of store cattle imported from Holland, *Robinson* 3268–3280——Witness would like to see the stores done away with altogether, *Simmonds* 3591——Very few store cattle or milch cows coming into the London market, *Herbert* 5962–5969——Increased prices of store cattle as compared with their price a year ago, *Torr* 7193–7196.

Detriment to the Scotch farmers by the recent regulation as to the compulsory slaughter of all foreign cattle at the port of discharge, thus preventing the importation of any store cattle or sheep, *Rep.* vi.——Advantage in large towns of separating the markets for store cattle, and for fat cattle, *ib.* vi, vii.

See also *Cheshire.* *Fairs and Markets.* *Farmers and Graziers.* *Lincolnshire.* *Quarantine.* *Scotland.*

Strangeways, Professor Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Government Inspector for the port of Granton; is conversant with the slaughterhouse system of Edinburgh and Leith, 6891–6894——Particulars as to the regulations under which the public slaughter-houses in Edinburgh are conducted; satisfactory operation of the system whereby both carcase and retail butchers make use of them, 6894–6936. 6979–6984——Way in which the offal is disposed of from the slaughterhouses, 6920–6930.

Very

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Strangeways, Professor Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Very healthy character of the cattle landed at Leith and Granton, so that every facility should be granted to their import, 6937-6956——Increased import to Scotland if the cattle were allowed to be taken to the interior for slaughter, 6951-6954——Check to the import of store stock, 6954——Statement as to the rinderpest having been brought to Edinburgh by some milch cows from the Metropolitan Market, 6956-6961——Careful manner in which the inspection at Granton is conducted by witness, 6962-6967——Opinion as to murrain or eczema being one of the worst diseases imported, 6967, 6968.

Expediency of foreign store cattle being quarantined whenever there is disease in the countries whence they came, 6969-6973——Suggested separate markets for all foreign stock, 6969. 6989-6997——Contemplated slaughtering of fat sheep and beasts from abroad, either at the port of landing or in the towns, within a certain time, 6974-6978. 6994-6998——Large supply of mutton to London from the Edinburgh slaughter-houses, 6985-6987——Objection to store stock and fat stock in the same market, 6997.

Recommendation that cattle ships be registered to carry a certain number of cattle, according to the breed or size, 6999-7005——Importance of the ventilation of the vessels being attended to, and of its being compulsory to water the animals on the voyage, 7006-7015——Frequency of accidents on board from fractured limbs, 7016-7018——Disinfection of the vessels to Granton and Leith after each passage, 7019——Suggestions for watering the animals in the railway trucks between Aberdeen and London, 7020-7023.

Streets (*Driving of Cattle*). Route taken in driving the animals from Blackwall to the Cattle Market; complaints made on this score, *Hönck* 1728-1731——Importance, more especially with reference to driving the cattle through the streets, of abolishing the private slaughter-houses as far as possible, *Rudkin* 6589-6591——Obstacle to any improvement in the practice as to the animals being driven through the streets, *ib.* 6743-6748——Regulation that the animals are not to be driven through the streets between the hours of twelve and seven in the day, *ib.* 6746-6748——Various directions to which cattle are now driven from slaughter, in addition to their being driven to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, *Bonser* 7689-7692.

Recommendations by the Committee with reference to the evils arising from cattle driving through the streets, *Rep.* v.

Supply of Cattle. Difficulty of supply in the London market when the prohibition upon the movement of cattle by railway was in force, *Slater* 5122, 5123——Opinion as to there being a decrease every year in the number of English beasts and sheep, *Herbert* 5943-5957. 5980-5983——Reference to return (App. 326) showing the number of cattle in the Metropolitan Market, and in the lairs attached to the market, in the eight weeks from 16th April to 10th June in 1865 and 1866 respectively, *Rudkin* 6452-6461——Conclusion as to the great falling off in the English supply, *ib.* 6709-6711.

See also *Foreign Cattle. Kent. Leeds. Prices.*

Sussex. Belief as to the limited spread of the cattle plague in Sussex, *Betts* 6146-6148.

Swales, John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher, at Leeds, 5549, 5550——Supply of nearly a million of people from Leeds cattle market, 5551, 5552. 5622-5625——Very inadequate supply of live cattle in Leeds since the restrictions upon transit from Hull to Leeds; consequent advance in the price of meat, there being every prospect of a further advance, 5553-5578. 5587. 5600-5603. 5616-5621. 5640-5645——Supply of dead meat to Leeds from Hull, in order to make up for the deficient supply of live cattle; impracticability of this arrangement during the hot weather, 5564-5568. 5593-5598. 5604-5608. 5660-5665.

Witness submits that healthy live cattle should be allowed to come from Hull to Leeds, there to be slaughtered for the supply of Leeds and the adjacent towns, 5579 *et seq.*——Accommodation in Leeds for slaughtering the cattle; willingness of the local authorities to provide improved facilities, if there were a large increase of slaughtering, 5581, 5582. 5588. 5622-5639. 5666-5669——Establishment of a cattle market at Bradford since the restrictions upon transit of foreign cattle, 5590-5592——Obstacle to supplying Leeds with dead meat from London, Newcastle, &c., in hot weather, 5604-5608. 5615. 5646, 5647——Approval of public slaughter-houses exclusively in Leeds, if the convenience of the different localities be considered, 5654-5659——Arrangements now in force for conveying dead meat from Hull to Leeds, 5660-5665——Circumstance of the supply of Irish cattle in Leeds market having ceased, 5670-5674.

Very large quantity of cattle from Denmark and Germany consigned to witness's firm at the ports of Granton and Leith, 5357-5362——Sale of the cattle at the ports, where they are slaughtered before removal, 5363-5365——Transmission of the cattle alive to Edinburgh, Glasgow, &c., until the restrictions upon transit in consequence of the plague, 5366, 5367——Dealings of witness's firm in both store and fat cattle from Ireland, 5368-5370——Excellent and healthy condition in which the Danish cattle always arrive,

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Swales, John. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

5371, 5372——Frequency of the foot and mouth disease in the case of cattle from Hamburgh, 5371. 5373. 5502.

Very good inspection of foreign cattle at the port of Leith, 5374, 5375——Large number of foreign store cattle which used to be imported through Leith, 5376, 5377——Approval of a quarantine in the case of store cattle from Germany, 5379, 5380——Great loss to the farmers and graziers in Scotland, through the present restrictions, it being most desirable to exempt cattle and sheep from Denmark from these restrictions, 5379 *et seq.*——Large area of land in Scotland now not stocked, 5379. 5448, 5449——Very strict regulations in Denmarrk for preventing the plague, 5380. 5388.

Proposition that the Danish cattle and home cattle should come to Granton, to be sold at a market there, and that facilities be given for their removal by the butchers, under certain regulations, 5385 *et seq.*——German cattle should come to Leith, and should for the present be slaughtered there or at Edinburgh, 5385. 5387, 5388. 5406, 5407. 5453——Excellent accommodation available at Granton, 5386. 5397, 5398——Enhanced price of meat at Glasgow, through the foreign cattle not being allowed to pass through from Leith, 5389. 5440. 5450–5453——Limited import of foreign cattle to Edinburgh since the present restrictions, 5390–5392. 5433–5445.

Information relative to the importation of fat and store cattle to Glasgow from Ireland; scarcity at the present season of the year, 5393–5395. 5454–5469——Strict regulations in force as to the slaughtering of animals landed at Leith, 5396——Deficient slaughtering accommodation at Leith for all the cattle landed, 5397. 5422——Importance of Glasgow, Airdrie, and other towns being supplied by means of live meat received from Granton, in lieu of the present system of slaughtering at Leith and Granton, and removing the dead meat to the towns, 5398–5409. 5417–5420. 5426–5433. 5440. 5450–5453.

Increasing demand for meat in Scotland; large supplies sent to London adverted to hereon, 5410–5416——Great injury to the meat when sent to Glasgow, &c., by railway in warm and wet weather, 5426–5432——Very satisfactory operation of the public slaughter-houses in Edinburgh and Leith, 5442, 5443. 5538–5542——Good breed of the Danish sheep, 5448. 5510——Danger at present in holding large cattle fairs in Scotland, 5470–5473——Proposal that store cattle should be kept out of the fat cattle market at Edinburgh and Glasgow on account of the foot and mouth disease being very prevalent in those markets; the same objection does not apply to fat cattle being sent to the store markets, 5474–5500.

Satisfactory arrangements in the transport of cattle from Denmark, 5503–5507——Prices fetched by the Danish cattle, 5508——Opinion that sheep should not be stopped from any foreign port at the present time, 5510, 5511——Information relative to the several kinds of disease in sheep, 5511–5514. 5517–5520——Statement as to the cattle plague having been introduced into Scotland by some cows from the Metropolitan Market, 5515, 5516. 5521–5525.

Summary measures proposed by witness on the first appearance of the plague in Scotland; advantage in the infected animals being at once slaughtered, compensation being given to the owners, 5525. 5529–5537——Endeavour made last year to combine the three public slaughter-houses in Glasgow in one; inconvenience and expense thereby, 5542–5546——Approval of a system of public slaughter-houses in London if a sufficient number be provided, 5546–5548.

Swedish Cattle. Very poor character of some cattle from Sweden, *Read* 1580——Statement as to the heavy loss suffered upon a cargo of cattle from Sweden in August 1865 through the inspector having reported that two of the animals had rinderpest, so that the whole cargo was quarantined; sound state of the cattle suspected of the disease, *Hicks* 5319–5330. 5341–5343.

Switzerland. Regulations in force as to the inspection of cattle and dead meat, *App.* 317.

T.

Thames Haven. Objection to Thames Haven, as compared with the Isle of Grain, as the landing place for foreign cattle, *Nelson* 6424–6428——Suggestions with a view to all foreign cattle being landed at Thames Haven; facilities for a quarantine and market in this locality for store cattle, *Rudkin* 6687–6694. 6731–6740. 6750–6755.

Tonning. Large trade in fat cattle and sheep from Tonning to London, this being only a summer trade, *Pratt* 2985. 2989–3000——The voyage from Tonning to London is from forty to forty-four hours, *ib.* 3040——Special arrangement by which cattle from Tonning are insured by the General Steam Navigation Company, *ib.* 3110. 3227–3232.

Torr, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Occupies more than 2,000 acres of land in Lincolnshire, and is interested largely in both breeding stock and grazing stock, 7104–7107——Is supplied with grazing stock chiefly from the breeders within the county, 7108–

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Torr, William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

7108-7110——The cattle when fat are sent mostly to the markets of Leeds and Wakefield, 7111-7113——A large number of carcases are also sold by witness locally, the animals being slaughtered by himself, 7114-7116——But few carcases are sent to London on account of the risk of injury, 7117-7119.

Expediency of some restriction in regard to the small markets for live cattle in country towns, these being a fertile source of the spread of disease, 7120-7125. 7134——Opinion that all foreign fat stock should be slaughtered at the port of landing, 7126-7130——Facility of supplying Leeds, Manchester, and other large towns throughout the year with dead meat from Hull and Liverpool, 7129. 7136-7148. 7157 7173——Witness has never bought foreign stock to graze, nor are many bought in Lincolnshire, 7131, 7132. 7248——Contemplated quarantine for all foreign store stock and milch cows, 7133. 7135. 7238.

Evidence as to the improvements which might be adopted in the supply of country-killed meat to the towns, witness anticipating that London and the large towns may be supplied throughout the year, without the meat being deteriorated, 7136-7148. 7157-7173——Witness contemplates the supplies being ordered beforehand by the butchers in London, 7136, 7137. 7143-7145. 7216-7234. 7272-7281——Facility for advantageously disposing of the offal in country places, 7137-7140. 7147. 7160, 7161——The dead meat supply to large towns should only be supplementary to live stock markets, 7142, 7143. 7235-7237——Excellent meat obtained from Aberdeen in large quantities under contract for the army, 7147, 7148.

Enhanced price and value of foreign store cattle, if quarantined, 7149-7153. 7200. 7207-7213——Considerable supply formerly of store cattle from Holland and Germany for Lincolnshire, 7154-7156——Economy feasible in the conveyance of dead meat by railway, 7159-7161——Advantage of slaughter-houses near the railway stations in the country, 7162-7166——Excellent state in which the meat may be brought by railway, 7166-7177——Great advantage in the animal being killed when in a cool state, instead of after long journeys by railway, &c., 7173-7179.

Objection to fat cattle that have been once in the Metropolitan Market going into the country for slaughter, 7180-7187. 7238——Store cattle should be excluded from the Metropolitan Market, 7188-7193——Increased price of store cattle as compared with their price a year ago, 7193-7196——Consideration of objections to quarantining foreign store cattle on account of the risk to be incurred by healthy cattle in the quarantine ground, 7197-7215——Absence of any undue limitation of markets if the butchers in Leeds, Manchester, &c., had to supply themselves largely from the ports in the shape of dead meat, 7216-7225. 7235-7237.

Losses from the cattle plague in Lincolnshire, though witness has fortunately escaped it, 7239-7241——There are still some villages in the county which are treated as infected districts, 7242——Increased price of beef and mutton in witness's district adverted to with reference to the shortness of the supply, 7243-7247. 7259-7271——Improved condition of foreign cattle lately on arrival at Hull, 7249, 7250——Difficulties in the way of watering the animals in the railway trucks, 7251-7253——Way in which the small country markets for live stock operate very injuriously, so that they should be prohibited in the smaller towns, 7254-7258.

Difficulty in the supply of stock for grazing in witness's county, 7267-7271——Large quantity of fat stock now killed on Lincolnshire farms without being consigned to the markets, the butchers arranging to take so many per week or month, 7276, 7277. 7287, 7288——Loss sometimes sustained by graziers when the markets for fat cattle are not good, 7282-7284——Different class of sheep sent by witness to Manchester and to London, 7284-7286.

Transit of Cattle. Restriction still in force upon the movement of foreign cattle from markets, *Bradbury* 975-983. 991, 992——Approval of live stock going from Liverpool to Manchester and the other places of their destination and being there killed within a few days, *Ellis* 1419-1421. 1438-1440——Tendency of the prohibition upon the transit of foreign live stock in checking importation, *Dickenson* 2855-2859——Disapproval of restrictions in regard to the disposal of the live animal if not diseased, *Letheby* 3874. 3932-3936.

Very prejudicial effect upon the import of foreign cattle through the restrictions as to the transit save in the form of dead meat, *Robinson* 3993-3997——Evidence in favour of its being permitted to remove cattle from the London market into the country for slaughter, under certain restrictions, *Rudkin* 6660-6686——Prejudicial operation of the restrictions upon transit from Liverpool as regards the Irish trade, *Walsh* 7788-7795; *Garnett* 7927-7934; *Watson* 8005-8008.

Summary by the Committee of the regulations and practice as to the transit of cattle, &c., and their treatment on board the vessels and on the railways, *Rep.* iii, iv——Recommendations on the score of cleansing and disinfecting the trucks, steamboats, &c., and

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Transit of Cattle—continued.

in regard to the provision of proper ventilation on board all vessels employed in carrying cattle by sea, *Rep.* iv.

Considerable inconvenience through the recent prohibition upon the removal of cattle from London, &c., to the private premises of the butchers in the suburbs or in neighbouring towns, *Rep.* v——Conditions subject to which it is recommended that butchers be allowed to remove cattle from the Metropolitan Market to their own places for slaughtering, *ib.*

See also *Aldershot. Butchers. Cattle Plague. Danish Cattle. Dead Meat. Dutch Cattle. Foreign Cattle*, 8–10. *Glasgow. Ireland. Irish Cattle*, 5. *Leeds*, 1, 2. *Leith. Liverpool*, 8. *Manchester, &c. Metropolitan Cattle Market. Newcastle-on-Tyne. Prices*, 1. *Railways. Scotland. Spanish Cattle. Steamers. Wakefield. West of England.*

Trench, Dr. William Stewart. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is medical officer of the borough of Liverpool, 358, 359——Information relative to the private slaughter-houses in Liverpool and the public slaughter-house or abattoir; compensation necessary before removing them, 360, 361——Statement as to the excessive mortality of Liverpool, and as to this being partly owing to the slaughter-houses being in the town, and their effect in contaminating the sewers, 362–384. 427–429——Great advantage if all the slaughter-houses were removed from the town, and if there were but one abattoir, to be erected on corporation land near Stanley Market, 385–399. 439–443. 450.

Great inconvenience experienced through there being no lairs for the cattle before they are slaughtered, after leaving Stanley Market, 399–414——Inconvenience also through there being only one cattle market and one market day in the week, 414–418. 423, 424——Weekly return of cattle slaughtered in the borough in 1865 and 1866; also of cattle slaughtered at the public abattoir in the first three months of 1865 and 1866; 418——Unduly large amount of work done in the abattoir, Manchester and Salford being largely supplied with dead meat from Liverpool, 418–422.

Difficulty in obtaining land at or near Liverpool for placing cattle in quarantine, 425, 426. 437–443——Arrangements as to the removal of manure from the slaughter-houses and cow-houses, 430–434——Inspection of foreign cattle and of Irish and Scotch cattle on their landing, 445–447——Great number of cow-houses in Liverpool, over which some control is urgently required, 450——Statement as to the corporation not having taken action towards removing the slaughter-houses and cow-houses out of the town, 451–454.

Suggestion that the proposed abattoir outside the town be let off to a company, instead of being managed by the corporation, 455, 456——Arrangement as to the payment by the butchers for the use of the present abattoir, 457——Large quantity of unsound meat condemned every week, the killing butchers not being to blame in this matter, 458–462——Facility of preventing bad meat coming in if there were but one public slaughtr-house, 463, 464——Impracticability of supplying Liverpool with meat coming already killed from Ireland, &c., 468–470.

Doubt as to any disease being traceable to over-kept meat, though it is doubtless unwholesome, 471–476. 480–485——Opinion as to its being feasible to supply not only all Liverpool but Manchester and Salford by means of one large slaughter-house near Liverpool, 477. 479——Very bad slaughter-houses in Manchester, 478——Check upon diseased meat being got rid of by being potted and preserved, 486–492.

Trichina. Insufficiency of the present system of inspection for preventing the sale of trichinous pork, *Simon* 5046–5050.

Tyne Steam Shipping Company. Total of six vessels employed by the Company in the import of cattle to Newcastle, *Stephens* 8335, 8336——Practice of feeding and watering the cattle on board, *ib.* 8340, 8341——Details relative to the accommodation in the Company's boats, the arrangements for ventilation, space between decks, &c., *ib.* 8344–8359. 8378, 8379——Almost entire absence of complaint as to the condition in which the cattle arrive, *ib.* 8371, 8372.

U.

Ulster. Order in Council of 11th June 1866 with reference to the certificate to be required in respect of cattle brought to Great Britain from the province of Ulster, *App.* 381, 382.

V.

Valentine, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is inspector under the Local Board of Health at Hull, 2571, 2572——Ample and satisfactory accommodation in the slaughter-houses at Hull; disapproval of their being superseded by a public slaughterhouse, 2573–2583. 2664–2667——Good state of public health in the town, 2584–2586——Very efficient

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Valentine, William. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

efficient inspection of foreign cattle on arrival, 2587, 2588. 2599-2602——Practice to slaughter any animals having the foot and mouth disease, the rest of the cargo being allowed to be sold, 2587, 2588. 2635-2639——Inspection by witness of all the dead meat; very rare instances of any unfit or condemned meat, 2589-2593. 2647-2661.

Supply of large quantities of dead meat from Hull to Manchester and other towns; obstacle to these towns being thus served in hot weather permanently, 2591-2598. 2650-2663——Excellent condition generally of the cattle when landed, 2599-2603——Very crowded and dirty state formerly of the Bremen boats, the ventilation also having been very bad, and the animals greatly neglected; improvement since last year, 2603-2608——Injury to the store beasts when landed in slings, 2608. 2617-2619.

Expediency of a restriction upon the number of cattle to be conveyed in the vessels, 2610-2616——Want of an improved landing-place at Hull, 2620-2623——Overcrowding and ill usage of fat cattle as well as store cattle in the boats from Bremen, 2624-2630. 2668——Practice as to cleaning the vessels, 2631-2634——Condemnation of any animal with pleuro-pneumonia, the rest of the cargo being allowed to be sold, 2640-2646——In the Hamburgh trade the arrangements and accommodation are excellent, the Hull vessels generally being now of a very suitable character, 2669-2673.

Ventilation (Cattle Vessels). See *Steamers, &c.*

Vienna. Statement as to private slaughterhouses having been abolished in Vienna, there being public abattoirs close to the cattle market, *Hirschler* 4216-4228.

See also *Austria.*

W.

Wakefield. Approval of a supply of live cattle from Hull to Wakefield and other towns, as well as to Leeds, *S. Higgins* 5678. 5703-5709.

Wakefield, George. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Butcher at Maidstone; supplies the troops, and the gaol, &c. by contract, 6149-6154——Frequent complaint made about witness's supply to the troops, since he has been obliged to procure dead meat from Newgate Market, 6155-6177——Amount of contract price for the troops and for the gaol, 6178-6180——Very bad condition in which meat slaughtered in London has arrived at Maidstone in the hot weather; mode of packing and of conveyance adverted to hereon, 6181-6193——Very few beasts now to be brought in Kent from the marsh districts, 6197-6199.

Wall, James Cresswell. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is goods manager of the Bristol and Exeter Railway, on which line there is a large cattle traffic both in store beasts and fat beasts, 2674-2678——Practice of cleansing the trucks on the line previously to the cattle plague, disinfectants not having been used till prescribed by the Orders in Council, 2679-2681——Limited extent to which cattle traffic on the line has been resumed since the removal of the restrictions on railway transit, 2682. 2748——Arrangements made in January last for conveying carcases from the country to Bristol; successful operation thereof though opposed by the butchers, 2682-2693. 2719-2721.

Encouragement given to the carriage of dead meat over the Bristol and Exeter Railway in the belief that it will ultimately be more profitable to the company than the carriage of live cattle; particulars hereon as to the rates and cost in each case, 2693-2697. 2777, 2778. 2784-2787——Information relative to the arrangements for conveying the meat, it being sometimes hung in the vans, and sometimes placed in hampers, 2698-2718——Statement as to dead meat having been carried all through last summer between Cornwall and London, and being still carried in large quantities, without any complaint of injury or loss; special trains used for the purpose, 2698, 2699. 2724-2734. 2782, 2783.

There have been no claims for compensation through injury to the meat, 2703, 2704. 2718. 2775, 2776. 2779——About equal claims for loss of market in the case of live stock as of dead meat, 2705——Practice as to the slaughtering of the animals, and as to the loading of the carcases in the trucks, 2706-2723. 2779-2781——Increasing construction of meat vans for the Bristol and Exeter Company, 2718——The system does not cause any public complaint, 2718. 2775, 2776——Advantage to cattle owners and graziers, but not to butchers, by the railway traffic in dead meat from the West of England to London, 2735-2740——Large quantity of dead meat traffic from the west of Bristol and to London, 2741, 2742.

Facility of meeting the demand in London, and of arranging the supply with reference thereto, 2743-2748——Injury to owners and graziers in the West of England through the restriction upon transit of live stock by rail, 2749-2754——Practice as to cleansing and disinfecting the trucks on witness's line; effectual manner in which carried out, 2758-2764. 2768-2774——Difficulty as to flooring the trucks with asphalte, 2765-2767——Satisfactory operation of the system of dead meat traffic on the line further adverted to, 2775-2787.

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Walsh, Richard. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a cattle salesman and grazier in the counties of Meath and Dublin, 7750–7752——Sells fat cattle exclusively, 7753–7755——Suggested inspection of the cattle ships between Dublin and England, so as to prevent overcrowding; satisfactory character, however, of the arrangements in most of the Irish cattle ships, 7756, 7757. 7764–7767. 7821–7823——Good condition in which the cattle are brought to the port of Dublin for shipment; various parts of Ireland whence they come, 7758–7761——Some cattle are consigned to salesmen in Dublin, by whom they are sold to dealers, and some go direct to salesmen in Liverpool, 7762, 7763.

Very bad treatment to which Irish store cattle have been subjected both on the Irish railways and on board ship, more especially on the railways, 7768–7774. 7805–7832. 7866–7877——Undue detention of the cattle in the railway trucks, whilst they are constantly overcrowded and are badly treated by the railway servants, 7768–7771. 7780–7785. 7805–7815. 7824–7832. 7870–7877——Suggested restriction upon the number in each truck, 7772. 7826–7832——Watering and feeding of the cattle before they are placed on board, 7774.

Good prices fetched by store cattle in Ireland during the spring of the present year, 7775, 7776——Increased price of fat cattle; serious rise recently, 7777–7779. 7786, 7787——Prejudicial interference with the Irish trade through the restrictions upon the transit of live stock from Liverpool, 7788–7795——Objection to an inspection of Irish cattle at English ports with reference to pleuro-pneumonia, or the foot and mouth disease, 7796–7801. 7880, 7881——Very little lung disease now in Ireland, 7800–7804——Restrictions are not required for the foot and mouth disease, 7800.

Rough treatment of the cattle in Ireland by drovers, 7813–7816——Better treatment in the steamers than on the railways, 7821–7824——Trade in dead meat from Dublin to Glasgow but not to Liverpool, 7833–7837——Transmission of grass-fed cattle to England for about seven months in the year, and of stall-fed cattle for the rest of the year, 7838–7846——Practice generally of consigning the fat cattle to salesmen in Dublin or Liverpool instead of sending them to fairs, 7847–7855——Way in which the trade in Irish store cattle is carried on; that is, irrespectively of salesmen, 7856–7864.

Opinion that the live stock in the country is larger than usual at the present time, 7865——Instances of fat cattle not being properly conveyed on the Irish railways, 7861–7871——Obstacle to watering the cattle in the trucks, 7872, 7873——Very little import of foreign cattle to Ireland, 7878, 7879——Difficulty as to a satisfactory inspection of fairs and markets in Ireland, with a view to preventing the spread of disease, 7882–7884.

Watering and Feeding of Cattle during Transit. See *Railways*, 1. 3. *Steamers*, 2.

Watson, William. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is managing director of the Dublin Steam Packet Company, 7988——Conveyance by the company of cattle between Dublin and Liverpool only, 7989–7992——Every care is taken to prevent overcrowding; difficulty in always avoiding this, 7993. 8015–8021——Conveyance of other cargo besides cattle, there being ten vessels devoted to the trade, 7994–7996. 8037——Information relative to the general accommodation and arrangements on board, 7996–8002. 8009 *et seq.*

Effect of the restrictions upon transit from Liverpool in regard to the export of fat stock from Ireland, 8005–8008——Practice of cleansing the vessels without disinfecting them, 8009–8011——Very slight risk of loss on board, there being hardly any claims for compensation, 8033–8037——Self-interest of the company to make the vessels safe, 8036. 8038——Responsibility of the company in the event of its being necessary to throw cattle overboard from overcrowding, 8038–8041.

Very good facilities for debarkation at Liverpool, 8042——Doubt as to the advantage of a market at Liverpool close to the place of landing, 8043–8045——Willingness of the company to encourage a dead-meat traffic; way in which the meat might be packed on board, 8046. 8055–8060——Arrangements of the company with English railways for sending cattle thus to London, Manchester, &c., 8047–8049——Doubt as to any great convenience by bringing the Irish railways down to the place of embarkation, 8050–8054.

West of England. Injury to the owners and graziers in the West of England through the restriction upon transit of live stock by rail, *Wall*, 2749–2754.——*See also Dead Meat*, 4.

West Riding of Yorkshire. Details as to the facilities for the conveyance by railway of dead meat from Hull to the several towns in the West Riding, *O'Brien* 6022 *et seq.*——There was a tolerably large trade in live cattle between Hull and the West Riding before the restrictions upon transit, *ib.* 6074.

Wharves (*Landing of Foreign Cattle*). Importance of the landing wharves for the cattle being disinfected; practice hereon at Harwich, *Daniels*, 164, 165. 220, 221.

Wilkinson, Henry Etridge. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is Customs inspector of foreign cattle at Newcastle; inspects also for the corporation, 8139–8143——Reference to certain returns showing the number of cattle imported into Newcastle in the years ended 30 June 1865 and 30 June 1866, the number of accidents, and the cases of rinderpest, 8144–8155——Very good condition in which the foreign cattle generally arrive, 8156–8161——Excellent

Report, 1866—*continued.*

Wilkinson, Henry Etridge. (Analysis of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Excellent accommodation in the cattle vessels coming to Newcastle; very little overcrowding or injury on board, 8158–8161. 8229——Thorough cleansing of the vessels after each voyage, 8162–8164.

Large shedding accommodation for the cattle when landed, with ample slaughter-houses attached, 8165–8169. 8191——Facility for quarantining the animals at the sheds, 8170. 8190——Very few store animals imported, 8171——Number of cows that have died or been slaughtered on account of the rinderpest; the disease was not imported by foreign cows, 8171–8177——Absence of any cases of rinderpest among the cattle in the town since March last, 8179——Necessity of a quarantine of fourteen days in order to make it effectual, 8180–8183——Approval of store cattle being quarantined unless they come from a country free from disease, 8184, 8185——Enhanced price of store cattle if quarantined, 8186, 8187.

Statement in favour of foreign fat stock being allowed to be removed by railway to the towns near Newcastle, 8188, 8189. 8192. 8255–8266. 8298, 8299——Present practice of slaughtering in Newcastle for the towns in the district; inconvenience and injury involved in supplying the dead meat to these places, 8192, 8193. 8264–8287. 8321, 8322——Care taken in cleansing the cattle market at Newcastle, as well as the landing-places for the cattle, 8194–8199——Slaughter of the whole of the cargo if there are any cases of pleuro-pneumonia, 8200, 8201——Prompt landing of the cattle, 8202–8204.

Defective accommodation and bad treatment of the cattle in the vessels from Ireland to England, 8205–8213——Healthy condition in which sheep are landed in Newcastle, 8215, 8216——Rise of prices in the Newcastle market through the short supply of stock, 8217–8220. 8235, 8236. 8323–8333——Fairness of the quoted prices of dead meat in the market; way in which ascertained, 8221–8227——Regulations suggested as to the space to be devoted in the cattle vessels to each animal, as to the means of ventilation, the arrangements for watering the animals, &c., 8228, 8229. 8237–8254. 8309–8312——Wretched state in which witness has seen some foreign cargoes arrive at Blackwall, 8229–8234.

Very satisfactory operation of the public-slaughter-houses in Newcastle, 8288–8296——Check to the import trade at Newcastle by the restrictions relative to the cattle plague, 8300–8302——Overcrowding of cattle in the railway trucks, 8303–8308——Depreciation of foreign fat stock if not killed shortly after being landed, 8313–8315——Difficulty in supplying water in the railway trucks, it not being necessary however to water the cattle unless the journey is very long, or the weather very hot, 8316–8320.

Woodley, Thomas. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Is a wholesale carcase butcher in the City; is well acquainted with the wholesale meat trade of London, 4826–4832——Absolute necessity of a live cattle market in London, it being impracticable to keep up a regular supply of dead meat all through the year, 4833, 4834——Great importance of there being but one market for foreign cattle and home cattle; interference with prices, as well as with the foreign trade, if there were separate markets, 4833–4844. 4894–4896. 4937–4942.

Conclusion as to the impracticability of all the slaughtering in the metropolis being carried on at public slaughter-houses at the Islington market, 4845–4854. 4861——Convenience and advantage of the present system whereby the cattle from the Metropolitan Market are distributed among numerous private slaughter-houses and are killed under the butchers' personal inspection, 4855–4863——Slaughter by witness of from 80 to 100 oxen weekly at his premises in Aldgate High-street, the carcases being sold on the premises to the East End retail butchers, 4864–4871. 4912–4914. 4934–4936.

Discontinuance of slaughter-houses for oxen at Newgate or Leadenhall markets, the dead meat being supplied to those markets and to Aldgate market from other slaughter-houses in London or from the country, 4872–4882——Way in which the prices are regulated, there being three different markets for dead meat, 4881–4887——Greater cheapness of the dead market in London than in the country, especially for the lower classes, owing to the foreign supply, 4888–4899. 4909–4914——Good and healthy character of the foreign meat, 4891. 4909–4916——Practice as to the disposal by witness of the offal and hides, 4900–4908. 4951, 4952.

Very few unhealthy animals among the large number of foreign cattle passing through witness's hands, 4915, 4916——Healthy character generally of the Dutch cattle, 4915–4933——Careful examination by the Jews of the carcases used by them, all animals with the lung disease being rejected, but not animals with the foot and mouth disease, 4917–4925. 4932, 4933——Slight importance attached to the foot and mouth disease, the meat not being affected by it, 4926–4933——Limited nuisance arising from the private slaughter-houses as compared with the evils to be created by their abolition, 4943–4952.

Woolwich. Supply of the troops at Woolwich with cattle killed in the Government slaughter-houses, *Baker* 4532–4537.

INDEX

TO THE

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TRADE IN ANIMALS.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
19 *July* 1866.

[*Price* 10 *d.*]

427—I.

Under 8 *oz.*